I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Furlong called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Present:  Council Member Thorsen  
          Council Member Petersen  
          Council Member Walczak  
          Council Member Sonnek  
          Mayor Furlong

Staff:    City Manager Scott Duddeck, Interim Fire Chief Jason Mallinger, Deputy Clerk Mary Mills, Interim Finance Director Jason Zimmerman.

IV. ADOPT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Sonnek, seconded by Council Member Thorsen, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the agenda as submitted.

V. PRESENTATIONS

A. Fire Department Badge Pinning for Giacomo DiGiacomo, Mitch Griser and Quinn Zins

Interim Fire Chief Jason Mallinger introduced three new Firefighters to the City of North St. Paul Fire Department: Giacomo DiGiacomo, Mitch Griser, and Quinn Zins. He stated they have completed over 200 hours of classroom training as well as training in the field and are ready to serve the City of North St. Paul.

Fire Chief Mallinger presented Giacomo deGiacomo, who was accompanied by his family – his wife Emily, mother-in-law Mary, and his children Joseph, Mia and Jackson.

Fire Chief Mallinger stated Giacomo is a Sergeant First Class in the Minnesota National Guard and has received various State and Federal achievement awards. He has been a full-time National Guardsman for more than 11 years and a full-time Marine soldier for over 17 years.

Fire Chief Mallinger presented Mitch Griser, accompanied by his parents, John and Joyce Griser, his children Logan and Peyton, and his girlfriend Jessica.

Fire Chief Mallinger stated Mitch has lived in North St. Paul since he was 5 years old and graduated from North High School in 2011. He joined the Fire Department after being inspired by his grandfather, a former Firefighter for the City of South St. Paul.
Fire Chief Mallinger presented Quinn Zins, who was accompanied by his mother Dawn, his wife Lauren, and his children Colton, Braden and Jackson.

Fire Chief Mallinger stated Quinn serves in the Minnesota National Guard as an Aircraft Electrician. He works full-time for Great Lakes Coca-Cola as a Compliance Technician. He aspires to further his career as a firefighter.

City Manager Duddeck welcomed the new Firefighters and thanked them for joining the Fire Department, bringing their skills sets to serve the City of North St. Paul.

A. Rainbow Tree Care on Emerald Ash Borer

Mr. Duddeck welcomed Jeff Heffner, Rainbow Treecare, and invited him to address the City Council.

Jeff Heffner, Rainbow Treecare, reviewed the City’s contract with his company for emerald ash borer treatment and mitigation. He added Rainbow Treecare is committed to making Minnesota the most educated and prepared State in the country for emerald ash borer impacts. He noted, with that goal in mind, Rainbow Treecare created municipal homeowner programs to help municipalities manage ash borer infestations.

Mr. Heffner stated the premise of Treecare’s program is the transition of urban forests due to the rate at which emerald ash borer kills trees. He added the emerald ash borer is an introduced pest with no native control and unlimited food supply. He noted a big part of the solution is to increase the number of treated trees in an environment to reduce pest pressure in the community and slow the rate of tree deaths.

Mr. Heffner stated Rainbow Treecare has many municipal programs and employs a high degree of customer service, responding to community requests as they come up. He added GIS data is tracked for each treated tree. He noted a dedicated hotline has been set up for the City, and postcards were sent to all residents.

Council Member Sonnek asked what signs would be visible in a mature tree that would indicate it should be treated and not destroyed. Mr. Heffner stated it is difficult to determine the amount of decay or when a tree will fall. He added it is easy to misidentify a d其中ated tree based on its branches. He noted some signs of emerald ash borer presence are woodpecker activity, cracks in the bark, and thinning from the canopy inward.

Mr. Duddeck asked how late in the year treatment can be done. Mr. Heffner stated once a tree’s leaves start to turn yellow, the treatment process is not effective. He added it is best to get treatments done by the end of September.

Mayor Furlong asked whether Rainbow Treecare has had any response from North St. Paul residents from their postcard mailing. Mr. Heffner confirmed that many residents have contacted Rainbow Treecare with questions and requests for information.
VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Walczak requested that the topic of future waste collection rates be included in Consent Agenda Item J related to items to be added to the July 30, 2019 Special Meeting.

On motion by Council Member Petersen, seconded by Council Member Sonnek, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the consent agenda, Resolution No. 2019-093 consisting of:

A. July 2, 2019 workshop meeting minutes
B. July 2, 2019 regular meeting minutes
C. General accounts payable: $1,373.307.34
D. HRA accounts payable: $20,137.88
E. Authorize creation of a Park Plan for Polar Park with funding from the Park Fund
F. Special Event Permit – North Haven Church – Saturday July 27, 2019, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Resolution No. 2019-094.
G. Authorize the extension of the current Comcast Cable Franchise from August 31, 2019 to February 28, 2020.
H. Resolution approving the Landscape Partnership Agreement No. 1034919 between the City of North St. Paul and the State of Minnesota, Department of Transportation, authorized at the July 2, 2019 City Council meeting. Resolution No. 2019-095.
I. Schedule two budget meetings with the department heads on Wednesday July 24, 2019 and Wednesday July 31, 2019 from 5:00-7:00 p.m.
J. Request to add items from July 18, 2019 Planning Commission meeting to agenda for Special City Council meeting on Tuesday July 30, 2019. (Amended to add garbage rate fees).

VII. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

Tanya Peloquin, 1650 McAfee Street, stated she bought her home in North St. Paul three years ago, but lived in East St. Paul her whole life. She expressed her support of the City of North St. Paul’s waste pick-up service. She added she would be willing to pay for the service. She noted she hopes that it would work out to have a fee-based waste pick-up service.

Judy McDonald, 2596 3rd Avenue E, stated she has been a proud property owner in North St. Paul for 40 years. She thanked the City Council and City Staff for their hard work and effective decision-making, as well as countless hours both now and in the past. She noted she appreciates the commitment it takes to ensure that the community is well-informed.

Ms. McDonald stated she does not support moving forward with the waste hauler contract. She asked whether attempts have been made to gather community input and strategize to solve problems. She urged the City Council to pause on the contract and consider the implications and facilitate collaborative problem-solving to meet as many needs as possible.

Mayor Furlong stated bulk pick-up will still be available, but a reduced program is proposed. He added the City Council intends to have that conversation in the next few weeks.

John Schmahl, 2750 Chisholm Avenue, stated the 4th of July celebration at Casey Lake Park was very loud and disruptive. He added there was a lot of activity after the fireworks. He
suggested a police car could be parked in the parking lot to deter activity. He asked whether there is a noise limit related to renting the park facility.

Mayor Furlong stated there is a noise ordinance that is complaint-based, and police will respond to that.

Mr. Duddeck stated park shelter rentals can be in the park until 11:00 p.m.

Donald Bieniek, 2146 Belmont Lane E, stated cars are parking along the street by Cowern School, and the branches are hanging very low at that location. He expressed concern about traffic that will use that route as a detour on Friday nights.

Romac Franklin, representing Republic Services, thanked the City of North St. Paul for the opportunity to provide their waste removal services over the years. Mr. Duddeck thanked Mr. Franklin for Republic’s years of service.

Paul Houliston representing History Cruzers, thanked City Staff and the City Council for their support on Friday, July 16, 2019. He added the City did an amazing job supporting the event which was a huge success. He thanked K&J Catering, Elizabeth and Greg Kolbeck from BakkenWood, Victoria and Danielle from Perkins on North St. Paul Road; Chris Thorsen from Old National Bank, Maddie, Courtney Jeff, Adam and Kelly; Councilmember Petersen, Mayor Furlong, and the 3M Automobile Aftermarket Division. He noted History Cruzers is pleased to present $3,500 donations to the local food shelf and North St. Paul Veterans.

Mayor Furlong thanked Mr. Houliston for his hard work on the History Cruzers events.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no scheduled hearings.

IX. CITY BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Trash Hauler Contract

Mr. Duddeck reviewed the potential acceptance of a new contract with Tennis Sanitation Services. He thanked Republic Services for their years of service. He stated a 5-year contract is proposed with many service changes and enhancements, including weekly recycling pick-up. He added City Staff recommends City Council approval of a contract with Tennis Sanitation Services.

Mr. Duddeck stated new customer rates are being considered for the bulk program along with adjusted rates, which will be discussed at the City Council’s July 30, 2019 council meeting.

Mr. Duddeck stated the City will be purchasing trash containers to reduce costs to residents. He added grant funding of $100,000 will assist with purchase of the recycling carts, which will be delivered City-wide beginning the week of August 19, 2019.

Council Member Sonnek asked whether aspects of the 5-year agreement can be negotiated, such as bulk pick-up, if the City Council votes to support the agreement. Mr. Duddeck confirmed
this, adding the recycling program is very comprehensive. He added City Staff intends to get information out to residents in a timely manner about the new sanitation service.

On motion by Council Member Walczak, seconded by Council Member Thorsen, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to authorize City Staff to finalize and enter into a 5-year agreement with Tennis Sanitation LLC to provide trash, recycling and yard waste hauling services for the City of North St. Paul.

Mr. Duddeck invited Greg and Willie Tennis to address the City Council.

Mr. Willie Tennis stated Tennis Sanitation Service is excited to be operating in the City of North St. Paul. He added Tennis recycles more items than their competition, including scrap metal. He noted bulk items can be taken as recycling, which will be done weekly.

Mr. Duddeck asked whether there will be textiles recycling available. Mr. Tennis confirmed this, adding all residents will receive an orange bag which can be filled with textiles and left on the recycle bin on collection day. He stated the driver will give residents a replacement recycling bag.

X. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTS

Mr. Duddeck stated, as a reminder, street maintenance work on 15th Avenue N and Spirit Lane is taking longer than anticipated. He added paving will be complete by July 26, 2019 at the latest.

Mr. Duddeck stated City Staff have contacted Excel Energy regarding their staging area near Cowern School. He added road closure is imminent.

Mr. Duddeck stated an open house was held recently at the new student-built home at 2046 1st street. He added the event was attended by approximately 200 people, and many positive comments were received. He thanked Tom Spain for overseeing the program, which is in its 10th year.

XI. REPORTS OF COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Council Member Sonnek stated the Planning Commission will have two meetings in July 2019. He added the July 22, 2019 meeting will include an application for site building plan approval for the Margaret Street and 7th Avenue N development.

Council Member Petersen stated Silver Lake Splash will be held Sunday, July 21, 2019. She added Mayor Furlong and Councilmember Sonnek will take their turn in the dunk tank.

Council Member Petersen stated the Park and Recreation Commission will hold their July 24, 2019 meeting from 6:00-6:30 p.m. at Hause Park. She added parks projects will be discussed.

Council Member Petersen stated the Design Review Commission met recently and discussed the 7th Avenue N and Margaret Street development.

Council Member Petersen stated she attended the Municipal Revenue Policy meeting hosted by Metro Cities, at which local government aid was discussed.
Mayor Furlong stated National Night Out will be held Tuesday, August 6, 2019. He added representatives of the Police and Fire Departments will visit NNO parties that have been registered with the City. He noted City Council Members can attend all the parties.

XII. GENERAL BUSINESS

Council Member Petersen stated Polar Explorers’ Pinata in the Parks is scheduled for July 23, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. at Hause Park.

Council Member Petersen stated Music in the Park will be held July 24-25, 2019 at Casey Lake from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. featuring “The Empty Pockets”.

Mayor Furlong stated National Night Out conflicts with the City Council’s first August meeting. He added the Special Meeting will happen as proposed, and then a regular meeting will be scheduled for August 20, 2019.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION

There was no closed session.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

*There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Walczak, Seconded by Council Member Sonnek, with all present voting aye (5-0), Mayor Furlong adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.*

/s/ Terrence J. Furlong, Mayor

Attest: /s/ Scott A. Duddeck, City Manager