I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Furlong called the meeting to order at 6:31 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, City Engineer Morgan Dawley, Finance Director Jason Zimmerman, City Attorney Shana Conklin, Deputy Clerk Mary Mills.

IV. ADOPT AGENDA

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

V. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

VI. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Walczak, seconded by Council Member Sonnek, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to approve the consent agenda, Resolution No. 2019-137 consisting of:

A. October 1, 2019 regular meeting minutes.
B. General accounts payable: $2,325,973.08.
C. HRA accounts payable: 415,408.87.
E. Set Enterprise Funds budget meeting for Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.
F. Resolution and Memorandums of Understanding between the City and all City Unions, which outlines Insurance Terms for 2020-2021. Resolution No. 2019-139.
G. Resolution approving the 2020 and 2021 insurance for non-union employees. Resolution No. 2019-140.
H. Authorize the City Manager to apply for the temporary construction easement from the State of Minnesota DNR in order to complete the Anchor Block Commons improvements. Resolution No. 2019-141.

I. Authorization to enter into Grant agreement with the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services for the Inflow and Infiltration Grant Agreement (MCES I&I). Resolution No. 2019-142.

VII. MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

John Schmahl stated an online resource, the Community Crime Map, has been removed as of September 10, 2019. He appreciated this resource as residents could register for a daily email to receive crime reports from participating Police Departments. He noted the local report included information from the Ramsey County Sheriff’s Office, Maplewood and North St Paul Police Departments. He expressed his frustration that this valuable online resource was removed.

Mr. Schmahl stated he has tried to access the Community Crime Map through its parent website, Raid Online, but has not been successful. He added he spoke with a North St. Paul Police Department representative who was going to get back to him, but he never heard back. Mr. Duddeck agreed to look into it.

Mr. Schmahl stated a letter was sent to residents in his neighborhood regarding the City’s decision to address only one of two street reconstruction projects. He added residents of the Casey Lake neighborhood should have received more information about the process, and the fact that it was a financial decision. He noted the letter was missing important information that would have helped residents understand the process of selecting projects.

VIII. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Special Assessment Hearing for unpaid bills and authorizing the City of North St. Paul to certify to the County Auditor’s Office all unpaid fees.

Mr. Duddeck stated a Special Hearing is required related to assessments from the County Auditor’s office. The fees for services provided on the referenced rolls remain unpaid. The referenced rolls are current as of October 9, 2019. The owners of the affected properties have until November 15, 2019 to pay the proposed assessment without penalty. Therefore the rolls are subject to change prior to certification.

Staff is requesting authorization to certify to the County Auditor’s Office all unpaid fees related to the following:

* Services provided for water, waste water, surface water, recycling, street lights, fiber optic, and solid waste, both in North St. Paul and Maplewood;
* Central Business District sidewalk snow removal services for the 2018-2019 winter season.
* Nuisance abatements for residential snow removal

Fees that remain unpaid 30 days after this public hearing will be assessed to the taxes of the property affected. This would be a one (1) year assessment with a 6% interest rate for solid waste and 10% (ten percent) interest rate for all other fees.
Mayor Furlong opened the Public Hearing at 6:41 p.m.

There were no comments.

Mayor Furlong closed the Public Hearing at 6:42 p.m.

Council Member Walczak requested clarification regarding assessments in the downtown area. She added some addresses are listed more than once. She noted there are some assessments of a specific amount of $25.

Mr. Duddeck stated some assessments are flat fee while others are priced per foot.

Finance Director Jason Zimmerman stated property addresses are obtained from Ramsey County through their property database. He added there are a number of parcels in the downtown area that share an address but have different identification numbers, because of aggregation of addresses. He noted often the properties were acquired together.

Deputy City Clerk Mary Mills stated there are four Resolutions associated with this Special Hearing, and they can be covered under one motion. The City Attorney agreed.

*On motion by Council Member Walczak, seconded by Council Member Sonnek, with all present voting aye (5-0), motion carried to adopt the following Resolutions:*


**IX. CITY BUSINESS ACTION ITEMS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

None.

**X. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER AND DEPARTMENTS**

Mr. Duddeck stated the audiovisual and presentation equipment in Council Chambers is being updated, as the old equipment is outdated, and technology has changed. He added the new system will be up and running by November 5, 2019.
Mr. Duddeck stated construction has started on the Anchor North site with grading and pad preparation. He added some buried debris has been found that is not widespread, and mitigation is being carried out on that portion of the site.

Mr. Duddeck stated construction on the City Hall project is scheduled to begin in late November or early December. He added development projects are continuing to move forward in preparation for a very busy construction season in 2020. He noted a workshop is planned to address communication, signage, and online information to assist downtown businesses and keep residents informed.

Mr. Duddeck stated the City Council approved a new insurance plan for union and non-union City Staff through the Public Employers Insurance Program. He added this is a significant change which will result in 14-15% savings for employees, with an average increase of 2.5%. He added it is a positive step and a great program for the City’s employees.

XI. REPORTS OF COUNCIL, COMMISSIONS & COMMITTEES

Council Member Sonnek stated the Planning Commission met on October 3, 2019, at which two items were discussed: amendments to the Street Parking Ordinance as well as the redevelopment proposal by Paul Bruggeman for townhomes at 17th Avenue E and Delaware Avenue. He added the Planning Commission continues to struggle with the Ordinance amendments, and asked City Staff to review standard language from the League of Minnesota Cities as well as other nearby cities and to report back on their findings.

Council Member Sonnek stated the townhome development has gone through significant changes, and a high-level plan was submitted by Paul Bruggeman and reviewed by the Planning Commission. He added the new submittal, which is smaller in scale, was generally agreeable to the Planning Commission.

Council Member Sonnek stated the Planning Commission’s next meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2019.

Council Member Petersen stated the Trick or Treat Trail is planned for October 26, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. at Casey Lake. She added all residents are welcome and no registration is required.

Council Member Petersen stated the next Park and Recreation Commission meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2019 at City Hall at 6:30 p.m. She added the public are welcome to attend.

Council Member Petersen stated the Ramsey County League of Local Government will host a presentation on SCALE on October 24, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. at the Roseville Oval. She added SCALE is a group of County Commissioners, City Councilmembers and School Board representatives.
Council Member Petersen stated the Annual Golf Tournament was held at Town and Country Club, and funds were raised for youth scholarships. She added The Ponds at Battle Creek Golf Course is scheduled to close in 2021. She urged residents and City Council Members to contact their local County Commissioner to express support for The Ponds Golf Course.

Council Member Thorsen expressed support of having the Planning Commission meetings recorded and available for viewing on the City website. He expressed the importance of residents being able to see that the process is not a done deal, that their comments are heard, and development plans can be revised. He added, with regard to the proposed townhome development on 17th Avenue E, residents expressed their opinions at the public hearing, and the builder acknowledged that and presented a scaled-down version. He urged residents to watch the meetings online if they have questions or concerns, to stay informed about development projects.

**XII. GENERAL BUSINESS**

Council Member Petersen stated she attended the Veterans Park Memorial Service, which was a wonderful event despite the rainy conditions. She thanked City Staff for their hard work in putting it together.

Council Member Petersen stated the Wine Tasting at Silver Lake was held on Friday, October 11, 2019, and it was a successful fundraiser. She thanked all the residents and supporters who came out on a cold and rainy night.

Council Member Thorsen stated he was unable to attend the Booya, but he heard they sold out within 45 minutes. He thanked everyone who came out and supported the Fire Department.

Mr. Duddeck stated the Booya was a big success and the Fire Department had extra help from any volunteers, including the North High School Football Team and members of the National Guard. He thanked the community for their show of support for the Fire Department.

Mayor Furlong stated the wine tasting was a success. He thanked the Fire Department and City Manager Duddeck for their assistance with the event.

Mr. Duddeck stated Veterans Park has received a lot of positive press lately and is viewed as one of the premier Veterans Memorials in the Twin Cities area. He thanked the Veterans group for their hard work and dedication.

Mayor Furlong stated he gathers with residents, Council Members and the City Manager every first Monday of the month from 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. He stated all residents are welcome to come and discuss any issues of importance to them.

**XIII. CLOSED SESSION**

There was no closed session.
XIV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, on motion by Council Member Sonnek, Seconded by Council Member Petersen, with all present voting aye (5-0), Mayor Furlong adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

/s/ Terrence J. Furlong, Mayor

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