

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING, JULY 13, 2020**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m., in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Mike Kuhle with the following Council Members present: Chad Cummings, Amy Ernst, Alan Oberloh, Mike Harmon, Larry Janssen.

Staff present: Steve Robinson, City Administrator; Jason Brisson, Assistant City Administrator/Director of Economic Development; Jeff Faragher, Acting Director of Engineering; Scott Hain, Public Utilities Manager; Mindy Eggers, City Clerk.

Others present: Justine Wettschreck, Radio Works; Ryan McGaughey, The Globe; Chris Kielblock, Gunner Beckering, Randy & Charlene Heeringa.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA CLOSED / APPROVED

Staff noted there was an addition of Administration Item *G.4. Adopt a Resolution Accepting Donation of \$1,000,000 from JBS USA Food Company for Enhancement of the City's Field House and Recreation Center* to the agenda.

A motion was made by Council Member Harmon, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to approve the agenda with the addition of *Item G.4. Adopt a Resolution Accepting Donation of \$1,000,000 from JBS USA Food Company for Enhancement of the City's Field House and Recreation Center* to the agenda.

**PUBLIC HEARING - RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07-41 CITY OF WORTHINGTON
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (EDA) AMENDED AND RESTATED
ENABLING RESOLUTION**

Pursuant to published notice this was the time and date set for a public hearing on City of Worthington Economic Development Authority (EDA) Amended and Restated Enabling Resolution.

A motion was made by Council Member Cummings, seconded by Council Member Harmon and unanimously carried to open the hearing.

Jason Brisson, Assistant City Administrator/Director of Economic Development, stated staff brought forward a set of proposed reforms for the City's Economic Development Authority (EDA). He said the following changes will take effect if Council approves moving forward with the discussed reforms to the EDA:

- The City EDA will consist of the five sitting members of the Worthington City Council, the Mayor of the City of Worthington, and one member of the Worthington Water and Light Commission. These Authority members are appointed by the Mayor and City Council.
- When the Mayor or a Councilmember leaves their office, a vacancy is created on the EDA

Board. The new Mayor or City Council Member will be appointed to the Board by the Mayor and City Council.

- The Water and Light Commissioner will serve a six-year term. If the Water and Light Commissioner's six-year term expires or they no longer serve as a Water and Light Commissioner before the end of their six-year term, a new Water and Light Commission representative will be presented for consideration by the Mayor and City Council.
- In the case that the Mayor or a City Council Member are removed from the EDA for cause, subject to the terms of Minnesota Statute 469.095 Subdivision 5, a representative from the community may serve on the EDA until a replacement is appointed by the Mayor and Council.
- In the case that the Water and Light Representative is removed from the EDA for cause, subject to the terms of Minnesota Statute 469.095 Subdivision 5, a new representative from the Water and Light Commission shall be appointed to serve on the EDA. • Commissioners must be residents of the City, business owners in the City, or property owners in the City.
- The Council may allocate funds to the EDA for its operations and work. The EDA shall be empowered to expend all its budgeted funds from the City Council or other sources for activities authorized by the Enabling Resolution.
- Any sale of bonds or obligations shall be approved by the City Council before issuance.
- Any tax increment financing (TIF) district shall be approved by the City Council before establishment.
- The EDA shall have all other powers granted to economic development authorities as established by Minnesota Statutes 469.090 - 469.1082. Should the proposed resolution pass, the first meeting of the newly reformed Worthington EDA will be scheduled for Tuesday, July 21. At this meeting, the EDA will be asked to consider a set of bylaws governing the Authority.

Mayor Kuhle asked if there was anyone who wished to present testimony. None was received.

A motion was made by Council Member Cummings, seconded by Council Member Ernst and unanimously carried to close the hearing.

A motion was made by Council Member Oberloh, seconded by Council Member Cummings and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07-41

AMENDED AND RESTATED RESOLUTION ENABLING THE CREATION OF THE CITY OF
WORTHINGTON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED

A motion was made by Council Member Oberloh, seconded by Council Member Harmon and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda as presented .

- City Council Minutes of Regular Meeting of June 22, 2020
- Special City Council Minutes of June 17, 2020
- Emergency Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2020
- Water & Light Commission Minutes July 6, 2020
- Planning Commission Minutes of June 2, 2020
- Center for Active Living Minutes of June 8, 2020
- YMCA Board of Directors Minutes of May 18, 2020
- Application for Parade Permit on to Block Street (s) - and to Block a Portion of a Sidewalk - Worthington Area Chamber of Commerce - Crazy Days
- 2020 Private Dock Application
- Bills payable and totaling \$2,020,840.49 be ordered paid

PRESENTATION BY JENNIFER WEG, SANFORD WORTHINGTON EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, REGARDING SANFORD WORTHINGTON'S RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Jennifer Weg, Executive Director, Sanford Worthington gave a presentation on the COVID-19 response. She said the hospital currently has 25 employed providers and between the clinic and the hospital has 384 additional employees. She gave an overview of the time line the COVID-19 Pandemic started to where we are today. There have been 4,315 tests done in 3 months with 38.2% positive symptomatic and contact exposure cases. They are still offering the drive thru testing clinic. To date, they have had 74 total inpatients, 13 transferred from the Emergency Department and 7 transferred from inpatient. There have been 54 recoveries. Ms. Weg said that 66% had comorbidities of obesity, diabetes type 2 and hypertension. They never ran out of PPE supplies and the state supplied the Remdesivir medication that aided in recoveries. She thanked everyone for the community support they have received during the pandemic.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07-42 APPOINTING ELECTION JUDGES AND ALTERNATES FOR THE AUGUST 11, 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION

State Statute 204B.21 Subd, 2 states that election judges for precincts in a municipality shall be appointed by the governing body of the municipality at least 25 days before the election at which they will serve, which this year is July 17th for the August 11, 2020 state primary election. The

statute provides that municipalities may by resolution authorize the City Clerk to appoint additional or alternate judges should the need arise for the primary election after the July 17th deadline.

A motion was made by Council Member Ernst, seconded by Council Member Janssen and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution appointing election judges and alternates for the August 11, 2020 Primary Election.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07-42

A RESOLUTION APPOINTING ELECTION JUDGES AND ALTERNATES FOR THE AUGUST 11, 2020 PRIMARY ELECTION

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

RELOCATION OF PREVIOUSLY APPROVED SIDEWALK EXTENSION AND CURB RAMPS TO FORM STREET CROSSINGS IN THE HOMEWOOD HILLS RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Steve Robinson, City Administrator, stated City Council previously approved the location of sidewalk extension and curb ramps within the Homewood Hill Street Reconstruction project. The work is being performed to address curb ramps that do not meet current Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards and to further comply with the City's Active Living Plan.

He explained staff requested discretionary authority to relocate curb ramps as deemed necessary due to field conditions. The cost to perform this work has already been determined unit prices and paid by the City's share for non-assessable project costs.

A motion was made by Council Member Oberloh, seconded by Council Member Cummings and unanimously carried to approve the relocation of previously approved sidewalk extension and curb ramps to form street crossings in the Homewood Hills reconstruction project.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07-43 ACCEPTING A DONATION OF \$1,000,000 FROM JBS USA -FOOD COMPANY -FOR ENHANCEMENT OF THE CITY'S FIELD HOUSE AND RECREATION CENTER

Steve Robinson, City Administrator stated staff has received an offer of a \$1.0 million donation from JBS USA Food Company for enhancement of the City's field house and recreation center to be constructed with local option sales tax revenue. The donation is part of JBS's Hometown Strong Initiative investing in communities where their team members live and work. Mr. Robinson said the donation would be in addition to the \$3.5 million in local sales tax revenue the City has earmarked for this project. He explained under the terms of the agreement, JBS will be granted life-long naming rights and that the City shall feature the name and logo on the field house and recreation

center structure as mutually agreed by both parties.

Council Member Oberloh said he has a concern using the word lifelong because a lot of things could change over the years. Mr. Robinson stated he is currently working with the JBS office in Greeley on the particulars and will address it if there would be a name change it would be their expense and if there was to be a sale naming rights would have to be negotiated in the transaction.

A motion was made by Council Member Cummings, seconded by Council Member Harmon to adopt a resolution accepting a donation of personal property. Council Member Cummings amended the motion, seconded by Council Member Harmon and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution accepting a donation and have staff negotiate a clause for an end statement concerning the naming rights in the donation agreement.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07-43

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

(Refer to Resolution File cor complete copy of Resolution)

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07-44 AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WORTHINGTON TO SUBMIT A POINT SOURCE IMPLEMENTATION GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY (PFA) AND TO AUTHORIZE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF WORTHINGTON FOR THE WORTHINGTON MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Scott Hain, Public Utility General Manager, stated the municipal wastewater treatment facility was constructed and started operation in its current location on 27th Street North in 1962. Over the years various improvements have been made to the facility, the last major renovation of the plant was completed in 1989.

Mr. Hain explained in 2016, Bolton & Menk was retained to conduct an asset inventory and evaluation of the facility. The study was followed by the development of a facility plan which was completed in March of 2019. The facility plan is a 20-year planning document that considers existing plant assets, historical plant performance, 20-year design conditions and anticipated future permit regulations. He explained the facility plan also includes recommended alternatives and cost estimates for improvements. The plan indicated that much of the existing plant infrastructure was beyond its useful life and that the existing trickling filter technology was ill-suited to meet anticipated future permit conditions. The recommended alternative in the plan was to convert the current process to suspended-growth biological treatment and included rehabilitating the existing flow equalization system, the existing pre-treatment system, the existing influent pump station and the existing disinfection system and upgrading the biosolids processing system. The current estimated cost range for the improvements is \$18.5 - \$22.6 million.

He said earlier this year, Bolton & Menk was instructed to begin preliminary design engineering of the improvements identified in the facility plan. The preliminary design work will be completed by October. While the schedule for initiating construction has not been decided, it is possible that construction could begin as early as the summer of 2021.

Mr. Hain said one potential source of funding for the improvements is through the Point Source Implementation Grant (PSIG) program. Through this program, funds are appropriated to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority to be awarded as grants toward eligible improvements to wastewater treatment facilities. Applications are taken on an annual basis and the deadline for accepting applications for this funding cycle is July 31. While submitting an application does not commit the City to anything, it just gets the project in line for possible PSIG funding. The Water & Light Commission formally recommended that the City Council adopt the resolution at their July 6th meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Oberloh, seconded by Council Member Harmon and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution authorizing the City of Worthington to submit a point source implementation grant application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority and to authorize city officials to execute a grant agreement on behalf of the City of Worthington for the Worthington Municipal Wastewater Treatment facilities improvements.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07-44

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF WORTHINGTON TO SUBMIT A POINT SOURCE IMPLEMENTATION GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MINNESOTA PUBLIC FACILITIES AUTHORITY (PFA) AND TO AUTHORIZE CITY OFFICIALS TO EXECUTE A GRANT AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF WORTHINGTON FOR THE WORTHINGTON MUNICIPAL WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07-45 ADOPTED RECEIVING REPORT AND CALLING FOR HEARING ON PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT

Jeff Faragher, Acting Director of Engineering, stated a feasibility report has been received on the improvement of Cherrywood Addition together with that part of the Southeast Quarter of Section 28, Township 102 North, Range 40 West, lying east of South Crailsheim Road and south of Cherrywood Addition, all in the City of Worthington, Nobles, County Minnesota, or parts thereof, by extension of the municipal storm water collection and management system.

Staff recommends that Council receive the report and pass the resolution receiving the report and calling for hearing on the improvement and set the hearing for 7:00 pm at the August 10, 2020 Council meeting.

A motion was made by Council Member Harmon, seconded by Council Member Oberloh and unanimously carried to receive the report and adopt the following resolution receiving report and calling for hearing on proposed improvement.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07-45

RESOLUTION RECEIVING REPORT AND CALLING FOR HEARING ON PROPOSED IMPROVEMENT

(Refer to Resolution File cor complete copy of Resolution)

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07-46 ADOPTED TRANSFERRING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY'S REVOLVING LOAN FUND TO THE CITY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Jason Brisson, Assistant City Administrator/Director of Economic Development stated the City of Worthington has an existing revolving loan fund (RLF) with approximately \$1.33 million in assets. \$853k of the fund balance is unrestricted cash, \$341k is restricted cash, and \$130k are receivables. The purpose of the fund is to provide "gap" financing for projects that further the economic development goals of the City. A revised resolution was distributed with a minor change that the restricted \$341,000 cannot be transferred at this time.

Mr. Brisson explained the fund is controlled by the City Council but administrated by the City's Economic Development Revolving Loan Fund Committee . The Committee consists of 2 City Council members (the same two that are appointed to the City's Finance Committee), 2 members from Worthington Regional Economic Development Corporation, 2 members from financial institutions, and two citizens. The Mayor of the City of Worthington serves as the Chair. The City's Manager of Economic Development and Planning and WREDC staff serve as ex-officio members. The Committee makes funding recommendations to the City Council, who ultimately allocates funding for any projects.

Since the fund is controlled by the City of Worthington, the fund is subject to additional restrictions that do not apply to the revolving loan funds administrated by WREDC, the Southwest Regional Development Commission, and the Southwest Initiative Foundation, each of whose funds are much more active than the City's RLF. This will allow the City EDA to offer gap financing for projects that support the goals of the EDA and allow the fund to be more flexible. The goal is to target more activity and encourage additional private investing.

A motion was made by Council Member Oberloh seconded by Council Member Cummings and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution transferring authority of the City's Revolving Loan Fund to the City's Economic Development Authority moving everything but the restricted funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-07-46

RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY'S REVOLVING LOAN FUND
TO THE CITY'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(Refer to Resolution File cor complete copy of Resolution)

COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mayor Kuhle - Attended a short meeting with Senator Amy Klobuchar in Worthington.

Council Member Jansen - Also attended the meeting with Senator Klobuchar. Contacted by a couple of constituents about mandating face masks in public places. The Mayor said it is good for everyone to wear a mask if they wish.

Council Member Oberloh - No report.

Council Member Cummings - Asked if the Centennial Park docks were going to be put in, Council Member Oberloh replied that the Park & Rec Board had decided not to with all of the construction going on. Staff will look into putting it in on the other side of the swim area. A constituent asked about the plans on the bike path where it is eroded. Mr. Robinson said Engineering staff is working with the contractor that had previously fixed it since they still have a punch list to finish. The WREDC Steering Committee is currently exploring options on what the structure of WREDC will look like moving forward, hoping to have something soon.

Council Member Ernst - No report.

Council Member Harmon - The Water & Light Commission appointed Randy Thompson to serve on the EDA Authority.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Steve Robinson, City Administrator, asked Council's thoughts on starting the Honorary program again, it had been suspended due to the pandemic. Council agreed to move forward and have individuals start serving again.

ADJOURNMENT

The motion was made by Council Member Ernst, seconded by Council Member Janssen and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m.

Mindy L. Eggers, MCMC
City Clerk