

**CITY OF HAM LAKE
CITY COUNCIL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2020**

The Ham Lake City Council and Economic Development Authority met for its regular meeting on Monday, April 20, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at the Ham Lake City Hall located at 15544 Central Avenue NE in Ham Lake, Minnesota.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Mike Van Kirk and Councilmembers Tom Johnson, Jim Doyle, Brian Kirkham and Gary Kirkeide

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: City Attorney, Joe Murphy; City Engineer, Tom Collins; and City Administrator, Denise Webster

1.0 CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 P.M. – Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Van Kirk called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all in attendance.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT – None

3.0 SPECIAL APPEARANCES/PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA

These items are considered to be routine and will be enacted in one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Councilmember or citizen so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered in normal sequence. (All items listed on the Consent Agenda are recommended for approval.)

4.1 Approval of minutes of April 6, 2020

4.2 Approval of claims in the amount of \$399,341.67

Motion by Kirkeide, seconded by Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda, removing Item 4.1. All in favor, motion carried.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Doyle, to approve Item 4.1, minutes of April 6, 2020, with corrections as noted. All in favor, motion carried.

5.0 PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS – None

6.0 PARK AND TREE COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS – None

7.0 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – None

8.0 APPEARANCES – None

9.0 CITY ATTORNEY – None

10.0 CITY ENGINEER – None

11.0 CITY ADMINISTRATOR – None

12.0 COUNCIL BUSINESS

12.1 Committee Reports – None

12.2 Discussion of reducing the 10 acre threshold in City Code Article 10-103 to 5 acres

Mayor Van Kirk stated that he received a request by a citizen to reduce the lot subdivision requirements from 10 or more acres to 5 or more acres. Engineer Collins stated that Article 10-103 of the City Code currently states that when a lot is subdivided and the resulting lots are all 10 acres or more in size, those lots shall not be required to have to access onto a paved public road. Engineer Collins stated that reducing the lot acreage to 5 or more would only affect about 10 properties, with 5 of them accessing Naples Street NE. Engineer Collins stated that the property owners would not be required to upgrade the sand or gravel road. There was discussion that half of the street right-of-way counts as lot acreage. **It was the consensus of the City Council to direct Attorney Murphy to amend the City Code Article 10-103 Other Requirements from 10 or more acres to 5 or more acres.**

12.3 Announcements and future agenda items

Mayor Van Kirk stated that he wanted to thank City Staff for dealing with COVID-19. Mayor Van Kirk stated that he and Councilmember Doyle worked with City Staff extensively to create a COVID-19 separation package of each department and they immediately implemented the changes. Mayor Van Kirk stated that he has written an article for the May Ham Laker which will explain a lot of the changes during this time for City Hall and the Fire Department. Mayor Van Kirk stated that all departments are divided up and some employees have been working from home one week and switching off the next week with another employee. Mayor Van Kirk stated that the Fire Department has separated into Fire Station #1 and Fire Station #2 and they have stopped with their weekly drills unless it's the once a month vehicle maintenance inspection. Mayor Van Kirk stated that of course if there is a structural fire, all members of the department will respond. Mayor Van Kirk stated that firefighters are responding to reduced medical calls and only going to the life threatening calls. Mayor Van Kirk stated that the building department is open, even though not to the public, and all permits are being processed through internet, fax, phone, and email. Mayor Van Kirk stated that if someone does come to City Hall, staff will meet them at the door to take whatever they need to drop-off or pick-up. Mayor Van Kirk stated that all inspections are continuing except at occupied homes. Mayor Van Kirk stated that the separation of staff and departments will help keep departments open if someone does get COVID-19. There was discussion if the Governor decides to remove the "stay at home" order on May 4th how will staff proceed, will they go back to normal procedures or would it make sense to continue doing what they are doing now. Mayor Van Kirk stated that he had thought of that and feels that we shouldn't rush into going back to normal operations and continue to watch what is happening. Councilmember Kirkeide stated that he suggests that we wait to see if there could be a possible second wave before going back to normal operation. Councilmember Kirkeide stated that in the City of Blaine the building inspectors are doing occupied home inspections with Zoom or Skype. Mayor Van Kirk stated that commonsense will prevail and that at some point the weak, elderly and vulnerable are going to have to stay more isolated and the rest of America is going to have to get back to work, otherwise there won't be any jobs to get back to. Councilmember Kirkeide stated that people are going to have to think of their own situations and work places in general as we have all worked in places where other people have come in sick and it shouldn't be allowed and it has to change. Councilmember Johnson stated that things can begin to open back up and the City will continue to take the steps to protect themselves. Councilmember Doyle stated that

people in Minnesota are relatively intelligent and the numbers are representing that and people should still continue abiding by the distancing rules.

Motion by Kirkeide, seconded by Kirkham, to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 p.m. All in favor, motion carried.

Denise Webster, Administrator