

**INVER GROVE HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY, JULY 09, 2018- 8150 BARBARA AVENUE**

**1. CALL TO ORDER 2. ROLL CALL:**

The City Council of Inver Grove Heights met in regular session on Monday, July 9, 2018, in the City Council Chambers. Mayor Tourville called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present were: Councilmembers Piekarski Krech, Bartholomew, Hark, and Perry; City Administrator Lynch, City Attorney Kuntz, Public Works Director Thureen, Community Development Director Link, City Clerk Tesser, and Police Chief Schnell.

Absent were: Recording Clerk Yourczek.

**3. PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor Tourville commented that they rarely speak of International Events during meetings, but that their thoughts and prayers for a safe return are with those in Taiwan who are impacted by the events that are currently taking place.

**A. GreenStep Cities Progress Report**

Ally Hillstrom, City Government Intern, presented their progress with the GreenStep Cities Program. She stated that in March 2016 the City Council passed a Resolution to join the GreenStep Cities Program. The program is a volunteer competition and assistance program that allows Cities to meet sustainability and high quality of life goals. She stated that there are 15 different Organizations that define 29 Best Practices for Cities to meet within the following five categories:

- Buildings and Lighting
- Land Use
- Transportation
- Environmental Management
- Economic and Community Development

She stated that meeting these goals assists Cities in determining the best way to provide high quality services and how to operate efficiently. Upon entering the program in 2016, the City of Inver Grove Heights received the Step One Award. She stated that as Cities complete additional Best Practices they move up steps of the five-step program. Due to that achievement, last month at the League of Minnesota Cities Annual Conference they were awarded the Second Step Award. She stated that it is their plan to meet Step Three by May 2019 for the next League of Minnesota Cities Annual Conference.

She stated that in order to accomplish the Step Three Award, Staff would be focusing on the following required actions to attain that Award:

- Best Practice #13: Efficient City Fleets
- Best Practices #15: Sustainable Purchasing
- Best Practices #24: Benchmarks & Community Engagement
- Best Practices #25: Green Business Development
- Best Practice: Building and Lighting Category

Councilmember Piekarski Krech asked if the Environmental Commission was involved.

Intern Hillstrom responded that the Environmental Commission is not currently involved, but that once the Environmental Specialist begins working in their position, they can be a part of the Commission to help prioritize.

Councilmember Bartholomew suggested that they emphasis Community involvement and try to bring in as many Community members as they can.

Mayor Tourville stated that the City of Inver Grove Heights was one of the larger Cities involved with solar use. He commented that they are happy to participate in this program and will follow through with the steps.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech stated that a part of the program was the ability to receive free advice. She asked if we have received assistance from them, and if not, what the benefit was if the advice has not been taken.

Intern Hillstrom responded that everything documented this far has been tasks or actions that have been completed prior to entering the program. She stated that due to that, they can now look at what other Cities have documented on the Open Access Database and learn from that. She stated that right now they have not taken any new actions.

Intern Hillstrom responded that one of the benefits of the program that they have used so far is that they have joined a cohort of the GreenSteps City called Cities Charging Ahead, which is an educational opportunity for Cities who are interested in adding alternative fuels to their Fleet. This will allow them to learn about how to do so in a way that will be cost effective. She stated that there will be other partnership opportunities that would come out of this program over time.

Councilmember Hark commented that the first year was the easy year, but that it would get more difficult as they progress further. He asked what the most difficult items would be to get to the Step Three level.

Intern Hillstrom responded that most of these items would not be difficult, but that it would take more than documentation of what has been done so far. It would be a collaboration of the Council, Staff members, and Community involvement.

City Administrator Joe Lynch responded to Councilmember Piekarski Krech's comment and stated that they are receiving a benefit from Xcel which is funding their telematics, which are devices that are being placed in a variety of vehicles to determine their use. He stated for example, that they need to address the idling of vehicles as well as which vehicles could be converted to the alternative fuel.

He stated that he agrees that attaining the Step Three level would not be difficult, but that Fleet Management would be the most comprehensive part in that they have relied on gasoline and diesel fuels for a long time and that it is time to look at what they need to use differently.

Mayor Tourville stated that the best part of the program is that it helps them accomplish goals in an organized way.

## **B. New Police Officer**

Police Chief Schnell stated that Commander Otis is with him this evening as he was gone for three months at the FBI Academy in Quantico, Virginia. He stated that Commander Otis has passed the program and that they are glad to have him back.

He stated that they will be swearing in a new Police Officer. He introduced Jacob Lindgren and stated that they have spent several months looking to fill the current opening after the retirement of Police Officer Joe Gelhaye. The new Police Officer comes highly recommended. He stated that the candidate has been subjected to interview panels, and a comprehensive background investigation, which is highly intrusive. The candidate was made a conditional offer which results in another round of assessments. Having passed all of the requirements established by the City of Inver Grove Heights, they are prepared to present and introduce their newest Police Officer. He stated that in doing so, there are three responsibilities as follows:

1. Promote Community Peace.
2. Maintain Order.
3. Enforce the Law.

Chief Schnell stated that the Oath of Office is the newest Police Officers commitment to serving this Community and his faithful discharge of his duty as a Police Officer for the City of Inver Grove Heights. He presented Jacob Lindgren for the Administration of the Oath of Office.

The Oath of Office was performed by Mayor Tourville.

Chief Schnell introduced Dale Lindgren, Officer Jacob Lindgren's father, who pinned on his Badge.

Officer Lindgren introduced his family and pictures were taken with the City Council.

Chief Schnell commented that Officer Lindgren is fully fluent in Spanish, which is an important skillset to have and that they look forward to having him with the Department.

#### **4. CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A.** Minutes of June 25, 2018 City Council Meeting.
- B. Resolution 18-138** Approving Disbursements for Period Ending July 2, 2018.
- C. Resolution 18-139** Making an Election Not to Waive the Statutory Tort Limits for Liability Insurance Purposes.
- D. Resolution 18-140** Authorizing Application to the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) for 2018 Regional Solicitation Grant Funds to Support Construction of an Off-Street Trail Along Babcock Trail.
- E.** Approve **Resolution 18-141** Appointing Election Judges for the 2018 Primary and General Elections.
- F.** Approve Custom Grading Agreement for 6818 Argenta Trail (East ½ of the Southwest ¼ of Section 6, Township 27, Range 22, Dakota County, Minnesota).
- G.** Approve Easement Encroachment Agreement for 11332 Apennine Way (Lot 2, Block 1, Broadmoor).
- H.** Approve Letter of Support for Regional Solicitation Grant Application.
- I. Resolution 18-142** Approving Amendment to Proposal for Professional Services for Preliminary and Final. Design and Construction Plans and Specifications for City Project No. 2015-03 – 65th Street between Trunk Highway 3 and Argenta Trail.
- J.** Approval of a Negotiated Settlement Agreement between Bradley S. Lojovich and Lisa J. Lojovich and the City of Inver Grove Heights related to the Acquisition of Easements for the Trunk Highway 3 Intersection Improvements for the 65th Street Project – City Project No. 2017-24 and for the Installation of Trunk Watermain in the NWA Area of the City on 65th Street between Trunk Highway 3 and the Blackstone Ridge – City Project No. 2017-03. **Resolution 18-143.**
- K. Resolution 18-144** Establishing Parking Restrictions on O'Neill Drive from Argenta Trail to the Corporate Boundary with the City of Eagan and on Argenta Trail from the I-494 Bridge to the Driveway for 6261 Argenta Trail.
- L.** Approval of an Agreement with Xcel Energy for Topsoil and Seeding on City Project No. 201509D – Broderick Boulevard Reconstruction. **Resolution 18-145.**
- M.** Consider **Resolution 18-146** Accepting Construction Testing Services Proposal from American Engineering Testing, Inc. (AET) for City Project No. 2018-08 – Fire Station No. 2 Sewer and Water Improvements and City Project No. 2018-11 – Fire Station No. 2 Fiber Optic Improvements.
- N.** Consider **Resolution 18-147** to Accept Separate \$2,000.00 (\$4,000.00 total) Donations to both Inver Grove Heights Fire Department and Inver Grove Heights Police Department from City Resident Emma Morton and Direct Allocation to the Fire Department's Equipment Fund and the Police Department's K-9 Fund.
- O.** Personnel Actions.

**Motion by Hark second by Perry to accept the Consent Agenda.**

**Ayes: 5**

**Nays: 0      Motion carried.**

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no public comments at this time.

**6. PUBLIC HEARING:**

**7. REGULAR AGENDA:**

**A. CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS: Consider Approval of the Second and Third Readings of Amended Ordinance Chapter 2, 4-2-2 and 4-2-10 Pawnbrokers and Precious Metal Dealers and Approve Resolution to Amend the City's Fee Schedule. Resolution 18-148.**

Police Chief Schnell stated that they are proposing a change to the Ordinance with the removal of the reference of the Automated Pawn System as there is a new product they intend to use. The Ordinance change would allow the Police Department to make the change to the new product. He stated that they would also like to reduce the fees from \$1.90 to \$1.75. He commented that they became aware of changes that were not reflected in the last change in the fee schedule and due to that, there will be an adjustment made as Pawn America was billed \$2.00 per transaction instead of the \$1.90 fee. They will be crediting Pawn America the cost of the overbill.

He stated that the proposal is to seek to reduce the fee from \$1.90 to \$1.75 which reflects the reduction in the costs of the new system and covers costs related to audits and non-compliance. He stated that he has spoken with representatives of Pawn America and that they have made a proposal to reduce that fee further, to \$1.50. He stated that they reviewed what other Cities charge and noticed ranges from \$0 up to \$3.00. He stated that they are proposing to reduce the fee to \$1.75 within the Ordinance for now and use the next several months to monitor and ensure compliance. He stated that if compliance is addressed, they would propose with the 2019 fee schedule, a reduction to \$1.50 which is consistent with other Communities within the Metro.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech questioned that since the fees can change, if it had to be the standard, or if could it be the fee charged plus a percentage for administrative fees. She commented that this could result in a lot of Ordinance changes if it stays as it is.

City Attorney Kuntz responded that there could be a stated formula. He stated that the fees are being changed by Resolution, and that there is a timeframe to consider the Resolution, but it would not need to be done with the three readings.

Mayor Tourville commented that these are reviewed on an annual basis.

Chief Schnell agreed that was the way the Ordinance reads and that the fee is set by the City Council. If there is a change in fees, it would be done annually. He stated that the fees are dependent on the issue of compliance. He commented that the change is fair and that they will continue to work with Pawn America over the next several months.

Councilmember Hark commented that they should keep with the yearly review for consistency.

**Motion by Piekarski Krech second by Hark to approve to have two readings instead of three to Consider Approval of the Second and Third Readings of Amended Ordinance Chapter 2, 4-2-2 and 4-2-10 Pawnbrokers and Precious Metal Dealers.**

**Ayes: 5**  
**Nays: 0**      **Motion carried.**

**Motion by Piekarski Krech second by Perry on the second and third reading as amended.**

**Ayes: 5**  
**Nays: 0**      **Motion carried.**

**Motion by Piekarski Krech second by Perry to approve the amended fee schedule to Approve Resolution 18-148 to Amend the City's Fee Schedule.**

**Ayes: 5**  
**Nays: 0**      **Motion carried.**

**8. MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

Public Works Director Scott Thureen stated that they have been waiting to hear from the County on the status of the roundabout. Once they hear back they will have a schedule.

City Attorney Kuntz stated that the court hearing for acquisitions along 65<sup>th</sup> and the Highway 3 intersection is scheduled for Wednesday, July 18<sup>th</sup>.

**9. ADJOURN:**

**Motion by Bartholomew second by Perry to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m.**

**Ayes: 5**  
**Nays: 0**      **Motion carried.**