

**MAHTOMEDI CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES
JUNE 21, 2022**

Council President Richard Brainerd convened the regular City Council meeting at 7:00 p.m. with Council members Lilly Melander, Luke Schlegel, and Jane Schneeweis in attendance. Mayor Jud Marshall was absent with prior notice. City Administrator Scott Neilson, City Attorney Bridget Nason, City Engineer John Sachi, City Planner Kim Lindquist, Public Works Director Bob Goebel, Fire Chief Terry Fischer, and City Clerk Jerene Rogers were also in attendance.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Administrator Scott Neilson asked to add Approval of a Seasonal Market Park Use License Agreement for the Farmer's Market at Veteran's Memorial Park to the Consent Agenda as item 6e.

City Council member Schlegel moved and City Council member Melander seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE JUNE 7, 2022 CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION MEETING MINUTES AND THE JUNE 7, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES.

City Council member Schneeweis moved and City Council member Schlegel seconded the motion to approve the June 7, 2022 City Council work session meeting minutes and the June 7, 2022 City Council meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

4. **PRESENTATIONS – None**
5. **DISCUSSION FROM THE AUDIENCE - None**
6. **CONSENT AGENDA**

City Council member Schlegel moved and City Council member Melander seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion was unanimously approved.

- 6a. **CONSIDER APPROVAL – Resolution Regarding the Sufficiency of a Petition and Authorizing Preparation of a Feasibility Report for Local Improvements on Juniper Street from East Avenue to Cul-De-Sac related to the Street and Storm Sewer Reconstruction.**

Resolution No. 2022-40 a Resolution Regarding the Sufficiency of a Petition and Authorizing Preparation of a Feasibility Report for Local Improvements on Juniper Street from East Avenue to Cul-de-sac related to the Street and Storm Sewer Reconstruction was approved. On May 18, 2022 property owners petitioned the City for a public improvement project for the reconstruction of Juniper Street.

- 6b. **CONSIDER APPROVAL – Resolution 2022-37 Appointing Election Judges for the August 9, 2022 Primary Election and the November 8, 2022 General Election.**

Resolution 2022-37 a Resolution Appointing Election Judges for the August 9, 2022 Primary Election and the November 8, 2022 General Election was approved. The City Council may appoint additional judges within 25 days before the election if needed.

6c. CONSIDER APPROVAL – Firefighter Leave of Absence Request.

Anthony Pabst requested and received permission for a 90 leave of absence effective June 22, 2022 from the fire department.

6d. CONSIDER APPROVAL – I.R.S. Mileage Rate.

The I.R.S. mileage rate is increasing to 62.5 cents effective July 1, 2022. While the City has very little personal vehicle use, staff requested and received permission to increase the allowable rate to the current I.R.S. rate.

6e. CONSIDER APPROVAL – Seasonal Market Park Use License Agreement Between the City of Mahtomedi and Mahtomedi Community Builders, Inc. dba Mahtomedi Area Farmer’s Market for the Use of Veteran’s Memorial Park.

Resolution No. 2022-42 a Resolution Approving Seasonal Market Park Use License Agreement between the City of Mahtomedi and Mahtomedi Community Builders, Inc. dba Mahtomedi Area Farmer’s Market for Use of Veteran’s Memorial Park for a Seasonal Farmer’s Market was approved. The agreement will expire on April 20, 2026.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

8. STAFF REPORTS

8a. CONSIDER APPROVAL – Request from Miles and Jennifer Tristani for two Variances to allow an addition to the principle structure at 317 Wedgewood Drive and described as PID 30.030.21.31.0006.

City Administrator Neilson said the City is in receipt of an application from Miles and Jennifer Tristani for two variance requests to allow for an addition to the principle structure at their home located at 317 Wedgewood Drive.

City Planner Kim Lindquist said the applicant is requesting a rear and corner side yard variance to construct a 20’ X 24’, 480 square foot addition to their home. She said the lot is 80 feet wide at the front property line and 130 feet wide at the rear property line. The lot is a total of 11,767 square feet, where 10,400 square feet is required in the R1-D Low Density Residential Zoning District. The irregular shape of the lot and the existing configuration of the home on the lot, makes it difficult to make improvements to the home without requesting a variance.

City Engineer John Sachi said the erosion control plan will be dealt with at the time of building permit review. He said there will not be any sight line issues created as a result of the addition location.

Applicant, Jennifer Tristani thanked staff and the City Council for their time. She stated that they have not had any opposition to this request from their neighbors.

8. STAFF REPORTS - Continued

City Council member Melander moved and City Council member Schneeweis seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2022-35 a Resolution Approving two Variances for the Purpose of Constructing an Addition to the Principle Structure on the Property Located at 317 Wedgewood Drive, PID 30.030.21.31.0066. The motion was unanimously approved.

8b. **CONSIDER APPROVAL – Request from John Anderson, on behalf of property owner, Melissa Herskowitz for a Conditional Use Permit to construct a two-story accessory dwelling structure at 1728 Park Avenue and described as PID 20.030.21.23.0027.**

City Administrator Neilson said the City is in receipt of an application from John Anderson, on behalf of Melissa Herskowitz for a conditional use permit to construct a two-story accessory dwelling structure at her home located at 1728 Park Avenue.

City Planner Lindquist said the applicant is proposing to construct a two-story accessory dwelling structure at her property. The main level would be garage space and the upper level will be used for storage. She said the structure is proposed to be 720 square feet and would be the only accessory structure on the property. She indicated that an accessory dwelling unit is not proposed for this structure. She explained that the structure will be located between the home on the property and a neighboring home, which will mitigate any negative impact on views.

City Engineer Sachi said the sediment and erosion control plan will be reviewed with the building permit. He said the gravel driveway off of Rose Street will be paved as part of the permit. He said the gutters will be directed to the front of the property where there is an adequate storm sewer to handle the water.

City Council member Schlegel asked if this will be turned into an accessory dwelling unit in the future.

City Planner Lindquist said at this time that is not the plan. She said the property owner would be required to go through this process again and it would be costly to bring in utilities after the building is constructed.

City Council member Melander moved and City Council member Schneeweis seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2022-34 a Resolution Approving a Conditional Use Permit for a Two-story Accessory Structure at the property located at 1728 Park Avenue, PID 20.030.21.23.0027. The motion was unanimously approved.

8c. **CONSIDER APPROVAL – Resolution Restricting Parking on Grove Street West of Warner Avenue.**

City Administrator Neilson said representatives from St. Jude's Church expressed their concern over the parking of cars on Grove Street.

8. STAFF REPORTS - Continued

City Engineer Sachi said in 2004 the roadway was reconstructed and parking was prohibited on the north side of the roadway. He said with growth of the day care and school enrollment, pedestrian trail traffic, and church services there is a concern over the access along the roadway. He said the new streetcar trail dead ends at Fir Street and pedestrians and bicyclists are using the roadway to get to Warner Avenue. He said the City Council could look at lowering the speed limit in this area to 15 mph as it is a school zone. He also stated the City Council could create No Parking at certain times of the day, however that may cause confusion and enforcement issues with parking being allowed sometimes and not others. He said if there were to be a change to No Parking, staff would recommend that parking be prohibited at all times on both sides of the street.

Council President Brainerd said the City received email correspondence from Ron Broen of 675 Warner Avenue N. Mr. Broen would prefer to leave the parking on Grove Street as it is today and not make it no parking on both sides.

Jeffrey Lundstrom, 136 Grove Street stated he is here to defend parking on one side of Grove Street. He stated the City broke its own rules by not notifying residents 10 days in advance of this change. He said he purposefully parks his vehicles on the street to slow the traffic. He said this request only benefits St. Jude's not anybody else. He feels any Council member that is a member of St. Jude's should recuse themselves from voting for this resolution.

Mr. Lundstrom read an email from Chris Peterson who is the property owner of 129 Grove Street and could not attend the meeting. Mr. Peterson asked if St. Jude's could direct all of their traffic onto Mahtomedi Avenue. He said Grove Street serves 3 houses and he believes the neighbors would prefer the street be deemed a dead end instead of losing parking on both sides of the street.

Mr. Lundstrom said he has tried for 18 years to get the police to ticket and/or tow the vehicles parked in front of the no parking signs to no avail.

LaVonne Lundstrom, 115 East Avenue said she parks on the south side of Grove every time she visits her son. She said there are always children playing and riding bikes, the issue is the vehicles on the street going through the church parking lot. She said the church uses this as an exit and entrance to their property.

Jonquil Shipman, 8600 Jewel Avenue said she has a child that attends St. Jude's. She said Highway 244 can't handle the volume of traffic at drop off and pick up times. She said the traffic gets backed up and vehicles sit idling for long periods of time. She said the parked vehicles on the corner of Grove Street and the church parking lot make it difficult to see.

City Council member Schneeweis asked City Attorney Nason about the legalities of public notices.

City Attorney Nason said the City would be required to provide notice at least 10 days before amending an ordinance. She said we are not amending an ordinance here, this is a resolution. She also said that unless a council member has a financial interest in the church there is no reason, unless they want to, to recuse themselves from voting for items regarding the church.

8. STAFF REPORTS - Continued

City Council member Schlegel asked about the width of the street and the right-of-way.

City Engineer Sachi said the street was constructed to a 24' width and we have a 60' right-of-way on Grove Street.

City Council member Schlegel asked if it is acceptable to have two-way traffic and one side of on-street parking on a road this size.

City Engineer Sachi said no, it would normally be built to 28' to allow for on-street parking on one side.

Washington County Deputy Ryan Corniea said he does not recall receiving a complaint call about parking or traffic in this area during his shifts over the 3 years he has worked this area.

City Council member Melander moved to reduce the speed limit on this section of roadway to 15 mph, but to leave the parking as it is today.

The motion failed due to not receiving a second.

City Council member Schlegel moved and City Council member Melander seconded the motion to table this item until the full council and representatives from St. Jude's Church can be present at a regularly scheduled council meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.

8d. DISCUSSION – Strategic Priorities for 2022-2023.

City Administrator Neilson reviewed the top six strategic priorities the City Council and City Staff established for 2022-2023 during a work session held in May. He reviewed the City Council's role and City Staff's role in each priority.

Council President Brainerd said one of the overriding items both the council and staff agreed upon is communication. He said with the rate of inflation we will need to pay attention to our plans and reconsider what we can afford. We will need to pay attention to our budget and project costs.

8e. CONSIDER APPROVAL – Bill List.

City Council member Schneeweis moved and City Council member Schlegel seconded the motion to approve the bill list as presented. The motion was unanimously approved.

9. REPORT FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR

City Administrator Neilson said he attended a meeting regarding the purple line. He said a representative from Metro Transit would like to make a presentation to the Council at an upcoming Council meeting. He said they are considering having the route end at Century College.

9. REPORT FROM CITY ADMINISTRATOR - Continued

City Engineer Sachi said the County Road 12 project is moving along. He said the contractor will begin installing concrete curbing on June 24 and they are predicting to begin paving the north side on July 5. He said there will be a complete overnight closure of Lincolntown Avenue on July 5 from 10:00 p.m. – 5:00 a.m.

City Engineer Sachi said the curb has been removed on Warner Avenue and replacement will begin this week. He said the contractor will be replacing the curbs and pedestrian ramps first, then they will do the roadway. The contractor is expecting the project to be complete by the end of August.

Public Works Director Bob Goebel said they pulled data from one of the speed trailers this morning. He said while the average speed is a little above the posted speed, it's not nearly as bad as some residents have indicated. He said the deputies have been ticketing speeders.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL - None

11. CLOSED SESSION - None

12. ADJOURNMENT

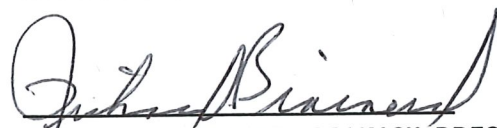
City Council member Schneeweis moved and City Council member Melander seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:10 p.m. The motion was unanimously approved.

ATTESTED:



JERENE ROGERS, CITY CLERK

APPROVED:



RICHARD BRAINERD, COUNCIL PRESIDENT