

A regular meeting of the City Council for the City of Fairfax, Minnesota was held on September 8th, 2020 at 7:00pm in the Community Center at 300 Park Street South.

Members: Brad Augustin, John Schaefer, Brad Bastian, Steve Schmidt

Absent: Josh Bunkers

Visitors: Nicholas Johnson, City Administrator
Joel Grejtak, Utilities Superintendent
Scott Froehlich, Police Chief
Denise Bonsack, Standard-Gazette & Messenger
Jim Cuff
Justin Winch

The meeting was called to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The agenda was reviewed. Staff requested the removal of #13 – Consider Approval of Street Striping Quote as well as the addition of approving contracting with the MMRDC for CARES Act grant funding administration. A motion was made by Schmidt and seconded by Schaefer to approve the agenda with the amendments. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

The consent agenda was reviewed. A motion was made by Bastian and seconded by Schmidt to approve the consent agenda. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Consent Agenda
2. Consider Approval of Minutes
 - a. August 12th, 2020 Council Meeting Minutes
3. Consider Approval of Claims for Payment
4. Consider Approval of Annual MMUA Safety Contract

Nicholas Johnson presented a recommendation to initiate an alley vacation abutting the western property line of the parcels located west of 3rd Street Southwest. The first step is scheduling a public hearing. The alley is not improved and does not contain any utilities. City staff do not foresee any future use for the alley. A motion was made by Schmidt and seconded by Bastian to adopt Resolution 2020-15. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

City of Fairfax

Resolution 2020-15

A Resolution Setting a Public Hearing on the Proposed Vacation of an Alley

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute §412.851

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Fairfax, pursuant to Minnesota Statute §412.851, desires to consider the vacation of an alley legally described as:

That portion of the platted alley existing between Lots 11 and 12, Block 1, of Carver & Rieke's First Addition to the City of Fairfax; and

That portion of the platted alley abutting the western line of Lots 1 through 13, Block 1, of Carver and Rieke's First Addition to the City of Fairfax;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRFAX, MINNESOTA AS FOLLOWS:

The City Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed alley vacation described above on the 13th day of October, 2020, in the Community Center located at 300 Park Street South at 7:00 p.m., and thereafter the City Council will consider the alley vacation.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Administrator is hereby directed to give published, posted, and mailed notice of such hearing as required by law.

Passed by the City Council of Fairfax, Minnesota this 8th day of September, 2020.

Attest:

Mayor

City Administrator

Nicholas Johnson presented a recommendation to initiate a rezoning of parcels located in the western half of the block of 4th Avenue Southwest and 1st Street Southwest. Justin Winch purchased the southwest corner property and wishes to construct a storage building for his construction business. The parcels are currently zoned Residential. The recommendation is to rezone the parcels to Residential/Commercial. A motion was made by Schaefer and seconded by Schmidt to adopt Resolution 2020-17. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

City of Fairfax

Resolution 2020-17

A Resolution Setting a Public Hearing on the Proposed Rezoning of Parcels

Pursuant to Minnesota Statute §462.357

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Fairfax, pursuant to Minnesota Statute §462.357, is required to hold a public hearing to consider the rezoning of parcels described as follows from Residential R-1 to mixed use Residential R-1/Commercial C-3:

Lots 11, 12, 13, Block 4, of the Original Plat to the City of Fairfax; and

Lot 19, Block 4, of J. Welsh's Addition to the City of Fairfax;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRFAX, MINNESOTA AS FOLLOWS:

The City Council will hold a public hearing on the proposed alley vacation described above on the 13th day of October, 2020, in the Community Center located at 300 Park Street South at 7:15 p.m., and thereafter the City Council will consider the rezone request.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Administrator is hereby directed to give published, posted, and mailed notice of such hearing as required by law.

Passed by the City Council of Fairfax, Minnesota this 8th day of September, 2020.

Attest:

Mayor

City Administrator

Nicholas Johnson presented the 2021 health insurance renewal rates. The City's premium increase will be 9.8%. A motion was made by Bastian and seconded by Schaefer to approve the 2021 health insurance renewal. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

The Council reviewed Ordinance 425, an ordinance amending the City Code regulating animals. A motion was made by Schaefer and seconded by Schmidt to adopt the ordinance. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

Fairfax City Ordinance 425

An Ordinance Amending Code Section 78 Regarding Animals

The City Council of Fairfax Ordains:

Fairfax City Code Chapter 78-6 regulating kennels shall be repealed and replaced with the following:

Kennels.

- A. Definition of kennel. The keeping of four or more dogs on the same premises, whether owned by the same person or not and for whatever purpose kept, shall constitute a kennel; except that a fresh litter of pups may be kept for a period of three months before such keeping shall be deemed to be a kennel.
- B. Kennel as a nuisance. Because the keeping of four or more dogs on the same premises is subject to great abuse, causing discomfort to persons in the area by way of smell, noise, hazard, and general aesthetic depreciation, the keeping of four or more dogs on the premises

is hereby declared to be a nuisance and no person shall keep or maintain a kennel within the City.

ADOPTED AND PASSED by the City Council of the City of Fairfax, Minnesota, this 8th day of September, 2020.

Attest:

Mayor

City Administrator

Nicholas Johnson presented the application and guidelines for the Coronavirus Relief Fund Program. He also requested approval to contract with the MMRDC to administer the grant funds as part of the program. A motion was made by Schmidt and seconded by Schaefer to approve the program and grant administration. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

The Council reviewed the 2021 Budget along with the resolution proposing the preliminary levy for 2021. A motion was made by Schmidt and seconded by Bastian to adopt Resolution 2020-16. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

**City of Fairfax
Resolution 2020-16**

State of Minnesota)
County of Renville)
City of Fairfax)

Resolution Adopting the 2021 Preliminary Levy and 2021 Preliminary Budget

Be it resolved by the City Council of the City of Fairfax, County of Renville, State of Minnesota, that the following sums of money be levied in 2021, upon the taxable property in the City of Fairfax, for the following purposes:

General Fund	\$326,866.00
2015A Bond	\$32,503.00
2018A Bond	\$26,457.00
2019A Bond	\$89,174.00
Total Tax Levy	\$475,000.00

Be it further resolved by the City Council that the preliminary 2021 budget is hereby adopted.

Be it further resolved by the City Council that a public hearing be called for the purpose of receiving public comment on the 2021 proposed levy and budget. Said public hearing is set at 7:00pm on the 8th of December, 2020.

The City Administrator is hereby instructed to transmit a copy of this resolution to the Auditor of Renville County, Minnesota.

Adopted by the City Council for the City of Fairfax, Minnesota this 8th day of September, 2020.

Attest:

Mayor

City Administrator

Staff reports and financial information was received.

The Council requested information on procedure for sidewalk repair and replacement as well as a preliminary assessment of areas with deficient sidewalk.

A motion was made by Bastian and seconded by Schaefer to adjourn the meeting. All voted in favor. None voted against. The motion was carried.

Attest:

Mayor

City Administrator