

1 CITY OF ST. ANTHONY  
2 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
3 JANUARY 11, 2022  
4

5 **CALL TO ORDER.**

6 Mayor Stille called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.  
7

8 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

9  
10 Mayor Stille invited the Council and audience to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.  
11

12 **ROLL CALL.**

13  
14 Present: Mayor Stille, Councilmembers Jenson, Randle, Walker and Webster.

15 Absent: None

16 Also Present: City Manager Charlie Yunker

17 Guests:  
18

19 **CONSIDERATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ALL OF THE FOLLOWING**  
20 **ITEMS.**

21  
22 **I. APPROVAL OF JANUARY 11, 2022 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA.**

23  
24 Motion by Councilmember Webster, seconded by Councilmember Randle, to approve the City  
25 Council Meeting Agenda of January 11, 2022 as revised.

26 **Motion carried 5-0.**  
27

28 Motion by Councilmember Webster, seconded by Councilmember Randle, to add a discussion  
29 item prior to Information and Announcements – Steps the City Council can take to ensure the  
30 health of our First Responders who live and work in St. Anthony.  
31

32 Mayor Stille stated he believes this is already being done.  
33

34 Councilmember Jenson stated he checked on the website to see what the City of Edina is doing  
35 and weekly, their leadership team contacts the Minnesota Department of Health and Hennepin  
36 County Emergency Management Group. He suggested this could be done by St. Anthony, if  
37 desired.  
38

39 **Motion carried 5-0.**  
40

41 **II. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS.**

42  
43 A. Swearing in of Councilmember Jan Jenson

44  
45 City Manager Yunker administered the Oath of Office to Councilmember Jan Jensen.  
46

47 B. Swearing in of Councilmember Wendy Webster

48  
49 City Manager Yunker administered the Oath of Office to Councilmember Wendy Webster.

1  
2 C. Water Conservation Poster Contest Winners.

3  
4 City Manager Yunker presented the Water Conservation Poster Contest Winners as:

5 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Hazel Melancon – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Wilshire Elementary

6 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Ceci Dallmeyer – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Wilshire Elementary – present at the meeting.

7 3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Louise Hieserich – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Wilshire Elementary – present at the meeting.

8 Runner Up – Bernie Urdahl – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade St Charles

9  
10 Photographs were taken with the two winners present with Mayor Stille.

11  
12 **III. CONSENT AGENDA.**

13  
14 A. Approve December 14, 2021, Council meeting minutes.

15 B. Licenses and permits.

16 C. Claims.

17 D. Resolution 22-001 – Accepting Donations and Grants for the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of 2021.

18 E. Resolution 22-002 – Approving Participation in Opioid Litigation Settlements.

19 F. Resolution 22-003 – Designating Bernard Walker as Mayor Pro-Tem for the Calendar  
20 Year 2022.

21 G. Resolution 22-004 – Authorizing the Mayor, City Manager and Finance Director to Make  
22 Certain Financial Transactions Regarding City Financial Accounts.

23 H. Resolution 22-005 – Designating US Bank, N.A. of St. Anthony Village as the Official  
24 Depository for City Funds for the Calendar Year 2022.

25 I. Resolution 22-006 – Designating the Star Tribune the Legal Newspaper for the City of  
26 St. Anthony Village for the Calendar Year 2022.

27 J. Resolution 22-007 – Adopting the Standing Rules of Conduct for City Council Meetings  
28 for 2022.

29 K. Resolution 22-008 – Adopting the Elected Officials Travel Policy for 2022.

30 L. Resolution 22-009 – Designating Steve Carlson of Hedbeck, Arendt and Carlson as the  
31 Prosecuting Attorney for the City of St. Anthony Village for 2022.

32 M. Resolution 22-010 – Street Improvement Bond Reimbursement.

33  
34 Mayor Stille reviewed the consent agenda items, adding detail to some of the items.

35  
36 Motion by Councilmember Jenson, seconded by Councilmember Walker, to approve the Consent  
37 Agenda items.

38  
39 **Motion carried 5-0.**

40  
41 **IV. PUBLIC HEARING – NONE.**

42  
43 **V. REPORTS FROM COMMISSION AND STAFF – NONE.**

44  
45 **VI. GENERAL BUSINESS OF COUNCIL.**

1 A. 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Goals Update

2  
3 City Manager Yunker reviewed the Strategic Initiatives for Environmental Stewardship, Quality  
4 Infrastructure, Robust Technology, Quality Housing & Commercial/Industrial Businesses,  
5 Welcoming “Village”, and Safe, Sound & Progressive Community goals and provided the 4<sup>th</sup>  
6 Quarter Updates.

7  
8 Mayor Stille stated this is the product of 3 days of work at the beginning of 2021. This will be  
9 done again in 2022.

10  
11 **VII. REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND COUNCIL MEMBERS.**

12 Councilmember Walker had no report.

13  
14 Councilmember Jenson had no report.

15  
16  
17 Councilmember Randle stated January 5, 2022 he attended the Sports Boosters meeting.

18  
19 Councilmember Webster stated to prepare for the goals setting session, she has outlined some of  
20 the themes she heard from residents while door-knocking this Fall.

21  
22 The City Manager had no report.

23  
24 Mayor Stille stated he attended the Mississippi Water Management Organization meeting earlier  
25 today. A recruiting firm was hired to find the executive director replacement. On January 10,  
26 2022, he and the City Manager attended the Regional Council of Mayors Meeting. The  
27 consensus of the meeting is that there is a great need for affordable housing and all housing. The  
28 second part of the meeting focused on crime.

29  
30 **VIII. COMMUNITY FORUM.**

31  
32 A. Steps the City Council can take to Ensure the Health of our First Responders who Live  
33 and Work in St. Anthony.

34  
35 Councilmember Webster stated currently the Omicron virus is highly contagious and is affecting  
36 first responders and many others. She asked for Council discussion to determine what the City  
37 Council can do to provide support to our first responders short term to help ensure the health of  
38 people in our community. Councilmember Webster asked what might be some options that can  
39 be taken such as having a mask mandate in St. Anthony through the end of January.

40  
41 Mayor Stille stated we are nearly two years in the pandemic and a good job has been done on  
42 education and endorsing practices. Mayor Stille stated he is not really prepared to speak to this as  
43 it was added to the agenda this evening.

44

1 City Manager Yunker stated the City's communication channels have been used to communicate  
2 CDC guidance and the importance of remaining diligent especially through this recent Omicron  
3 virus. He stated another video could be done or communication through the website.  
4

5 Councilmember Randle asked what can be done from a healthcare facility standpoint. What can  
6 be done to stress to the facilities about wearing a mask and to take COVID seriously and they are  
7 affecting the lives of other people. This has been on his mind for a while and he doesn't know  
8 how to address it. He has noticed some of the healthcare facilities are lax in wearing masks.  
9

10 Councilmember Webster stated she appreciates Councilmember Randle's perspective. Within the  
11 community, there are vulnerable residents and how can we ensure those that care for vulnerable  
12 residents can help each other. She noted that as staff becomes ill, some vulnerable residents will  
13 not be cared for adequately.  
14

15 Mayor Stille asked if it is the City's responsibility to govern actions in facilities. Councilmember  
16 Randle stated probably not but he was just trying to think of ways to encourage people to  
17 practice safely, noting the City cannot monitor as to how people are taken care of in a facility.  
18 Councilmember Randle stated he wished there was more the City could do to make them  
19 comply.  
20

21 Councilmember Walker stated Omicron will most likely peak out in February. Many people  
22 think once they have the booster the sky is the limit. A video could provide the actual facts for  
23 people when dealing with Omicron. He asked Councilmember Webster to speak more about the  
24 mandate.  
25

26 Councilmember Webster stated she is thinking about the data on community transmission which  
27 creates illness among our front workers. She suggested a short-term mask mandate to try to keep  
28 the City's essential personnel as healthy as possible.  
29

30 Councilmember Jenson asked how a City-wide mandate would be created and how would it be  
31 enforced. Councilmember Webster stated on stores in Northeast Minneapolis, there are signs that  
32 state masks are required. She suggested asking the community to mask-up and stay home if they  
33 are sick. Mayor Stille stated asking is okay but a mandate that isn't enforced eliminates the need  
34 for a mandate.  
35

36 Councilmember Walker stated if he sees a sign that a mask is recommended versus a mask  
37 required sign is taken more seriously, noting there seems to be a more morale obligation.  
38

39 Councilmember Jenson asked whose job is it to communicate that to the City-wide  
40 organizations.  
41

42 Mayor Stille asked Mr. Yunker his thoughts about enforcement. Mr. Yunker stated enforcement  
43 would be difficult as the City leans on voluntary compliance and education is normally done. He  
44 agreed a message of recommended versus required is different. Staff could possibly visit a  
45 facility and recommend and educate.  
46

1 Mayor Stille stated at the Regional Council of Mayors, it was indicated that other cities have  
2 been discussing this. As of now, just Minneapolis and St. Paul have taken steps of mandating.  
3

4 Councilmember Randle stated he would be in favor of whatever would get the word out whether  
5 it is education or communication. He agrees it would be problematic for enforcement. Anything  
6 the Council comes up with he would be fine with whether it be education or re-education.  
7

8 Mayor Stille stated a video has been done and it was a lot of work. If Council thinks it would  
9 really help he would be willing to do it.  
10

11 Councilmember Webster suggested mandating masks in all City-owned facilities. Mr. Yunker  
12 stated in the Liquor Stores staff wears masks and it is recommended that patrons wear masks.  
13 We are in compliance with the CDC. Councilmember Webster stated there could still be a focus  
14 on education and at the same time putting signs on doors as required rather than recommended.  
15 If the Council is not in favor of something community wide it could be modeled in the City-  
16 owned facilities.  
17

18 Councilmember Walker stated since the pandemic there have been inconsistencies where  
19 personnel have not worn masks. The education component and what can be augmented to add to  
20 the education. He thinks it would be a good idea to do that.  
21

22 Councilmember Jenson thinks from a mandate standpoint, who is supposed to enforce it. It may  
23 end up as the City and we do not want our police force to be chasing after someone for not  
24 wearing a mask. If we were to mandate it for three weeks, it will take businesses a long time to  
25 be compliant.  
26

27 Councilmember Walker stated issuing a mandate in public buildings would not be a big deal. He  
28 is not as concerned about enforcement as he is about communicating. If someone sees a sign that  
29 shows masks required he believes the majority of people would comply.  
30

31 Mayor Stille stated he is not prepared to debate this, draft a resolution, noting we are here to  
32 discuss this and he is not suggesting any action be taken tonight. Mr. Yunker stated he did not  
33 want to suggest people would be chased down for people not wearing a mask. It is more about  
34 staff time to address telephone calls and the time responding to the call. This would add to their  
35 call volume. Masks in public facilities is straight forward. If someone comes to a public meeting  
36 without a mask, would they be turned away? Staff could do a video rather quickly.  
37

38 Mayor Stille stated he does not know the unintended consequences would be.  
39

40 Councilmember Walker stated he was not thinking about staff responding to calls. People who  
41 want to do the right thing will wear a mask when a sign says required. There would be a benefit  
42 to mandating in public facilities and some will not wear a mask and staff will not address that.  
43

44 Councilmember Webster stated if someone comes to a public meeting and won't wear a mask,  
45 there are other avenues that people can participate in City Meetings. She asked Council for their

1 thoughts on mandating in City-owned businesses. Mayor Stille stated he would like to speak  
2 with City Staff and first responders to see if they feel they need protection.

3  
4 Councilmember Jenson agreed to get input from the City Staff department leads to get their  
5 opinions. Mr. Yunker stated all Emergency Managers contact the CDC often to get updates.

6  
7 Councilmember Webster asked Council to think about preparing for some staff shortages and  
8 how to deal with them. Mayor Stille stated that is something the City Manager will deal with and  
9 let the Council know if their help is needed. City Manager Yunker can speak with the  
10 Emergency Managers to get their opinions. Mayor Stille stated he could call a State of  
11 Emergency but every day we see updates on the news about Omicron. This can also be discussed  
12 during goal setting.

13  
14 **IX. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

15  
16 There were none.

17  
18 **X. ADJOURNMENT.**

19  
20 Mayor Stille adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

21  
22  
23 Respectfully submitted,  
24 Debbie Wolfe  
25 *TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*

26  
27 \_\_\_\_\_  
28 Mayor

29 ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
30 City Clerk  
31