

1 CITY OF ST. ANTHONY
2 CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
3 JUNE 22, 2021
4

5 **CALL TO ORDER.**

6
7 Mayor Stille called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
8

9 **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.**

10
11 Mayor Stille invited the Council and audience to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.
12

13 **ROLL CALL.**

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

16 Absent: None

17 Also Present: City Manager Charlie Yunker, Water Resources Director, Mississippi Watershed
18 Management Organization Udai Singh and Brittney Faust, Redpath Representative
19 Andy Hering, Lona Doolan, CFS and Finance Director Shelly Rueckert.
20
21

22 **CONSIDERATION, DISCUSSION, AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON ALL OF THE FOLLOWING**
23 **ITEMS.**
24

25 **I. APPROVAL OF JUNE 22, 2021 CITY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA.**

26
27 Motion by Councilmember Randle, seconded by Councilmember Jenson, to approve the City
28 Council Meeting Agenda of June 22, 2021 as presented.
29

30 **Motion carried 5-0.**

31
32 **II. PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS.**

33
34 **A. St. Anthony Regional Stormwater Research Facility Performance Evaluation**

35
36 Water Resources Director Udai Singh reviewed a power point presentation – Performance
37 Evaluation of St. Anthony Regional Stormwater Treatment and Research Facility. Ms. Brittney
38 Faust was also in attendance via zoom. Mr. Singh provided some basic information about the
39 MWMO stating it is a joint power watershed management organization consisting of 25,000
40 acres. The total area of St. Anthony Village is 1,507 acres. The watershed area of St. Anthony
41 Village that drains to SART Facility is 610 acres or 40.5%.
42

43 SART is one of its kind innovative regional stormwater Treatment and Research facility. It is a
44 joint collaboration between MWMO, St. Anthony Village, City of Minneapolis, and Hennepin
45 County. It is instrumented for long term monitoring of the performance of the system. Two
46 secondary Treatment Chambers can be used as plug and play to test the performance of various
47 system in real life situation. Inspections, operations, and maintenance are a joint effort by City of
48 St. Anthony Village Public Works Staff and MWMO's Project and Water Resources Monitoring
49 Staff. A map showing the area was displayed.

1
2 Mr. Singh reviewed this facility is one of the original stormwater outfall monitoring sites. The
3 system went online in 2016 and baseline data was most useful in designing the capacity of the
4 system. From 2017 – 2000 – MWMO staff performed operations, inspection and maintenance of
5 the facility with collaboration and assistance from the City’s Public Works Staff. From 2020
6 onward the City’s Public Works Staff will take over the operation, inspection and maintenance
7 of the system with collaboration and assistance from MWMO staff. The MWMO staff will
8 continue to collect the monitoring data and secondary treatment chambers will be continually
9 used for testing other stormwater management and treatment systems.

10
11 Mr. Singh provided a yearly precipitation and volume graph and how the load calculation is
12 achieved. Charts showing total suspended solids and total phosphorus were provided. The
13 readings are taken year-round. Mr. Singh summarized with the following:

- 14
- 15 • City and MWMO collaboration and team work is an example in itself.
- 16 • SART is truly an innovative project.
- 17 • It is performing well.
- 18 • MWMO is committed to work together with the City to advance the mission of the City
19 and MWMO.
- 20 • Project is great investment for the future.

21
22 Mayor Stille thanked Mr. Singh for his presentation.

23
24 Councilmember Randle stated he toured the facility in 2017 with former Mayor Faust. He asked
25 are there any other cities that have similar systems and Mr. Singh stated not at the scale of the St.
26 Anthony system.

27
28 Councilmember Walker asked why there was a spike in 2019. Mr. Singh stated there were three
29 events including a four-inch rain

30
31 Councilmember Webster thanked Mr. Singh for his presentation. She asked about the
32 phosphorus. Mr. Singh stated if one pound of phosphorus was found the entire pond would be
33 covered with algae.

34
35 Councilmember Jenson asked when stormwater goes in what happens to the pollutants. Mr.
36 Singh stated it is a centrifugal system and provides settling. This facility needs to be maintained
37 every two years. The pollutants are trucked to a landfill if deemed not hazardous.

38 Councilmember Jenson stated the City sweeps the streets often and does that have an effect on
39 the stormwater pollutants and Mr. Singh stated it does. The timing and frequency of the street
40 sweeping reduces the pollutants going into the system.

41
42 Mayor Stille stated this is 610 acres that the City is cleaning. The facility is located in
43 Minneapolis. 23,000 pounds of solids are created per year. These pollutants are not going into
44 the Mississippi River. The facility is completely underground. The wateruse facility is used for
45 irrigation for Central Park. Mayor Stille thanked Mr. Singh and Ms. Faust for the presentation.
46 Mr. Singh thanked his staff.

1
2
3 **III. CONSENT AGENDA.**

- 4
5 A. Approve June 8, 2021, Council meeting minutes.
6 B. Licenses and permits.
7 C. Claims.
8

9 Motion by Councilmember Randle, seconded by Councilmember Webster, to approve the
10 Consent Agenda items.

11
12 **Motion carried 5-0.**

13
14 **IV. PUBLIC HEARING - NONE.**

15
16 **V. REPORTS FROM COMMISSION AND STAFF – NONE.**

17
18 **VI. GENERAL BUSINESS OF COUNCIL.**

19
20 A. Presentation of 2020 Audit

21
22 Mr. Andy Hering from Redpath reviewed the results of the 2020 Audit. The following reports
23 were issued: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (including the Independent Auditor's
24 Report), State Legal Compliance Report, Report on Internal Controls and Communication with
25 those charged with governance.

26
27 The audit process opinion on financial statements included:

- 28
29 • Audit Fieldwork – auditor performs tests to verify:
30 ○ Occurrence: recorded transactions and events pertain to the City
31 ○ Completeness: all transactions and events that should have been recorded have
32 been recorded.
33 ○ Accuracy, Cutoff, Classification: amounts are accurately recorded in the correct
34 year and in the correct accounts.
35 • Data mining techniques:
36 ○ Journal entries.
37 ○ Disbursement register.
38 • Unmodified (“clean”) opinion on the financial statements.
39

40 The State Legal Compliance Report is required by Minnesota Statute §6.65. The OSA audit
41 guide covers seven categories and there were no compliance findings. Mr. Hering reviewed the
42 Report on Internal Control during which they gained an understanding of internal controls in
43 place and their effectiveness in order to design the audit procedures for expressing an opinion on
44 the financial statements. They did that by obtaining narratives of controls on each major class of
45 transaction and account balance and performing walkthroughs and other tests to determine
46 adherence to controls in place and effectiveness. The result - no internal control findings.

1
2 For Communication with Those Charged with Governance – no new accounting standards were
3 adopted by the City, net pension liability is an estimate, sensitive footnotes: Note 6 – long-term
4 debt, no difficulties encountered during the audit, no disagreements with management and there
5 were no corrected misstatements identified during the audit. Mr. Hering noted the audit was done
6 virtually.

7
8 Mr. Hering provided financial results for the General Fund, the Water and Sewer Enterprise
9 Fund, and the Liquor Fund. He reviewed the financial reports in detail.

10
11 Mayor Stille clarified that Redpath works for the City and the residents.

12
13 Councilmember Jenson stated with a net balance of 48% while the target is 30-35%, will that
14 have an impact on the Standard and Poors rating. Mr. Hering stated he assumes this will be seen
15 in all or most of the cities. They will understand this is a one-time thing.

16
17 Mayor Stille stated he believes the balance should be higher to allow for a cushion for
18 emergencies. Mr. Hering agreed 35% is on the lower side for a target.

19
20 Mayor Stille reiterated this was a clean report with no findings. No inconsistencies were found.
21 This is not the same as what a bond agency reviews. The City is still AA rated based on S&P
22 rating.

23
24 B. Resolution 21-054 Approving Solar Demonstration Installation at Central Park. Grant for
25 Solar Demonstration.

26
27 City Manager Charlie Yunker reviewed on behalf of the Citizens for Sustainability (CFS) Lona
28 Doolan has been working with the City, St. Anthony-New Brighton School District and
29 Hennepin County to secure a grant for a solar demonstration installation on the Central Park
30 Pavillion.

31
32 The objective of this project is to provide St. Anthony residents and students a learning and
33 teaching tool on solar energy. The site was identified by former City Manager Mark Casey and
34 former Public Works Director Jay Hartman as the overall best facility to install the panels. The
35 system allows for Internet access to information on electricity being generated by the panels,
36 which can be used for educational purposes for the school district and for CFS programming on
37 environmental sustainability.

38
39 Ms. Doolan has secured the grant to cover the install costs of the panels and related equipment,
40 which is \$4,000. The equipment will then be owned by the City and have an expected useful life
41 of 25 years. The installation can also be scaled to include more panels if that is desired by the
42 City sometime in the future.

43
44 On June 7, 2021, Ms. Doolan presented the proposal to the Parks and Environmental
45 Commission for feedback and a formal recommendation to the City Council. The Commission
46 supported the demonstration project and recommended that the project be approved. The Parks

1 & Environmental Commission and staff recommends approval of the Solar Demonstration
2 Installation on the Central Park Pavilion.

3
4 Ms. Doolan presented the same power point she gave to the Parks and Environmental
5 Commission on June 7.

6
7 Mayor Stille thanked Lona for the presentation.

8
9 Councilmember Jenson stated the project will start with two panels and increase to more panels
10 in the future. Ms. Doolan stated two panels would be installed now and the increase could be
11 considered in the future. Councilmember Jenson asked how snow affects the solar panels. Ms.
12 Doolan stated since the facility has a metal rooftop the snow will slide off of the roof and not
13 affect the solar panels. Councilmember Jenson asked if storage batteries were considered.

14
15 Councilmember Walker asked about the three possible sites. Ms. Doolan stated the contract
16 allowed the panels to be put on the roof.

17
18 Councilmember Webster thanked Ms. Doolan for her presentation. She feels it is important for
19 the residents to understand the use of solar and the amount of energy that can be obtained. Ms.
20 Doolan stated recently a different Hennepin County grant was applied for that would allow for
21 outreach to the community.

22
23 Mayor Stille stated there is an existing contract with Community Solar Gardens. The City was
24 limited as to where the solar demonstration could be placed. Mayor Stille asked if Ms. Doolan
25 spearheaded this herself and Ms. Doolan stated she worked with Mr. Dunoff. Mayor Stille
26 thanked and congratulated Ms. Doolan on this project on behalf of the City Council.

27
28 Motion by Councilmember Jenson, seconded by Councilmember Walker, to approve Resolution
29 21-054; a Resolution Approving Solar Demonstration Installation at Central Park.

30
31 **Motion carried 5-0.**

32
33 C. St. Anthony Finance Department Annual Report.

34
35 Finance Director Shelly Rueckert reviewed the 2020 St. Anthony Finance Department Annual
36 Report. The Mission Statement is Ensure that City resources and assets are managed effectively
37 to provide residents with the City services desired and to sustain the City's infrastructure for
38 current and future residents. The Finance Department Organizational Chart was provided along
39 with a review of the Finance Staff. Ms. Rueckert reviewed the Core Accounting Functions. A
40 chart showing the Path to the 2021 Tax Levy was presented.

41
42 Ms. Rueckert reviewed the finance activity unique to 2020 explaining the Use of Cares Funding
43 (\$683,110), Cares Act Reporting and Street Improvement Planning expansion to include mill and
44 overlay projects. Technological Advances included electronic deposit technology which saves
45 time and vendor bill approval process now is paperless. Additional modules were added to
46 financial software and the City contracted with Invoice Cloud for online credit card processing.

1
2 Long Term Financial Management included “Peak to Plateau” and Comprehensive Review of
3 2021 – 2037 Capital Funds. The Finance Department also provided support staff to agencies
4 both internal and external. Ms. Rueckert stated the complete report can be found on the City’s
5 website.

6
7 Councilmember Jenson thanked Ms. Rueckert and staff for the transparent level of detail
8 provided to the City Council. The City is grateful for the Finance Team.

9
10 Councilmember Webster commended Ms. Rueckert and staff for providing excellent financial
11 services to the City.

12
13 Mayor Stille thanked the entire Finance Department for their work and being customer-oriented.
14 The partnerships expand the City’s capacity. The handling of the CARES funds was another
15 group of tasks that was done by the Finance Department.

16
17 **VII. REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER AND COUNCIL MEMBERS.**

18
19 The NineNorth Programming, Website & Social Media programming was provided for Council
20 review.

21
22 City Manager Yunker had no report.

23
24 Councilmember Webster stated this week is the League of Minnesota Cities virtual conference.
25 She listened to the pre-conference session today.

26
27 Councilmember Randle had no report.

28
29 Councilmember Jenson stated on June 11 he attended the Ramsey County Local League of
30 Governments Board and Executive Meetings. On June 15, he attended the Joint Council and
31 Planning Commission Joint Meeting. On June 16, he attended the History Board of Director
32 Trustees Meeting and the Kiwanis Meeting. On June 17, he attended the Metro Cities Board of
33 Directors Meeting.

34
35 Councilmember Walker stated on June 9, he attended the renaming of a street in Falcon Heights
36 for Philando Castille. He also attended the Ramsey County League of Governments Meeting on
37 June 11. Today, June 22, he attended the pre-conference session for the League of Minnesota
38 Cities.

39
40 Mayor Stille stated on June 15 all Councilmembers were at the Joint Meeting with the Planning
41 Commission. On June 17, he attended the farewell for Kevin Morelli of the Liquor Operations.
42 Mayor Stille also attended the pre-conference session for the League of Minnesota Cities.

43
44 **VIII. COMMUNITY FORUM.**

45

1 Ms. Lona Doolan announced on Saturday, June 26, 19 trees will be planted at Faith Methodist
2 Church.

3

4 **IX. INFORMATION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

5

6 Mayor Stille announced Friday, June 25 and Saturday, June 26 at Pillsbury Elementary School,
7 Hennepin County is sponsoring an event where people can get rid of hazardous waste.

8

9 **X. ADJOURNMENT.**

10

11 Mayor Stille adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

12

13 Respectfully submitted,

14 Debbie Wolfe

15 *TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*

16

17

Mayor

18

ATTEST: _____

19

City Clerk

20

Approved