



CITY COUNCIL MEETING
City Hall—Council Chambers, 3989 Central Ave NE
Monday, February 12, 2024
6:00 PM

Mayor
Amada Márquez Simula
Councilmembers
Connie Buesgens
Kt Jacobs
Rachel James
Justice Spriggs
Interim City Manager
Kevin Hansen

AGENDA

ATTENDANCE INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC

Members of the public who wish to attend may do so in-person, or by using Microsoft Teams Meeting ID 286 466 516 904, Passcode cjnZoS. For questions please call the Administration Department at 763-706-3610. Auxiliary aids or other accommodations for individuals with disabilities are available upon request when the request is made at least 72 hours in advance. Please contact Administration at 763-706-3610 to make arrangements.

WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

MISSION STATEMENT

Columbia Heights is a vibrant, healthy and connected City. We are here to actively support the community, deliver equitable services, build and strengthen connections, improve upon our past, and uphold our successes. We strive to be better and ensure Columbia Heights is a great place for everyone, today and in the future.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: "I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all."

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

(The Council, upon majority vote of its members, may make additions and deletions to the agenda. These may be items submitted after the agenda preparation deadline.)

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, RECOGNITION, ANNOUNCEMENTS, GUESTS

- A. Black History Month Proclamation.**
Kiki Latham singing the Black National Anthem.
Zelia Hoke accepting the Black History Month Proclamation.
- B. World Hijab Day Proclamation.**
Mena Elbadawi and Naatii Ahmed accepting the World Hijab Day Proclamation.
- C. Maria Lourey-Bowen and Darcy Hokkanen from Anoka County Job Training Center.**
- D. Laura Palmer, School Board Member and Council Liaison.**
- E. Recognition of Building Official Ryan Smith.**

CONSENT AGENDA

These items are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted as part of the Consent Agenda by one motion. Items removed from consent agenda approval will be taken up as the next order of business. (The City Council will make motion to approve the Consent Agenda following the statement of all items.)

1. **Approve the January 22, 2024 City Council Meeting Minutes.**
MOTION: Move to approve the January 22, 2024 City Council Meeting minutes.
2. **Approve the January 29, 2024 Joint City Council School Board Meeting Minutes.**
MOTION: Move to approve the January 29, 2024 Joint City Council School Board Meeting minutes.
3. **Approve the February 5, 2024 City Council Work Session Meeting Minutes.**
MOTION: Move to approve the February 5, 2024 City Council School Board Meeting minutes.
4. **Accept the October 19, 2023 Charter Commission Meeting Minutes.**
MOTION: Move to accept the October 19, 2023 Charter Commission Meeting Minutes.
5. **Accept the December 06, 2023 Park & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes.**
MOTION: Move to accept the December 6, 2023 Park & Recreation Commission Meeting minutes.
6. **Accept the September 5, and October 23, 2023 Regular EDA Meeting Minutes.**
MOTION: Move to accept the September 5, and October 23, 2023 Regular EDA Meeting Minutes.
7. **Adopt Resolution 2024-16, Updating the Solid Waste Operating Policy (SWOP).**
MOTION: Move to waive the reading of Resolution 2024-16, there being ample copies available for the public.
MOTION: Move to adopt Resolution 2024-16, being a Resolution approving the updates for the Solid Waste Operating Policy (SWOP).
8. **Adopt Resolution 2024-017 being a Resolution Ordering Preparation of a Report for 2024 Alley Reconstruction.**
MOTION: Move to waive the reading of Resolution 2024-17, there being ample copies available for the public.
MOTION: Move to adopt Resolution 2024-17, being a Resolution ordering preparation of a feasibility report for 2024 Alley Reconstruction, Project 2406.
9. **Contract for Curbside Organics Collection Pilot Project.**
MOTION: Move to approve a contract with Better Futures MN to conduct a pilot test for organics collection services; and authorize the Mayor and City Manager to enter into an agreement for the same.

- 10. Capital Equipment Replacement of Unit #250: 4x4 7.3 Liter Cab and Chassis.**
MOTION: Move to approve the acquisition of a 2024 Ford F-350 XLT 4x4 pickup truck through alternative quotes from Midway Ford, along with necessary attachments from state-contracted vendors, for a total expenditure of \$85,000. Fund 431-5200-45150.
- 11. Capital Equipment Replacement of Unit #250: 4x4 7.3 Liter Cab and Chassis Upfit and Accessories.**
MOTION: Move to authorize the purchase of one (1) Switch-n-go model 11-4016-15E-10T system, truck bodies, and related accessories from Stonebrooke Equipment off of the State of Minnesota Purchasing contract in the amount of \$137,578.33, to be installed on new 2024 Ford F-550 XLT 4x4 7.3 Liter cab and chassis.
- 12. Rental Occupancy Licenses for Approval.**
MOTION: Move to approve the items listed for rental housing license applications for February 12, 2024, in that they have met the requirements of the Property Maintenance Code.
- 13. License Agenda**
MOTION: Move to approve the items as listed on the business license agenda for February 12th 2024, as presented.
- 14. Review of Bills.**
MOTION: Move that in accordance with Minnesota Statute 412.271, subd. 8 the City Council has reviewed the enclosed list to claims paid by check and by electronic funds transfer in the amount of \$2,651,461.38.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

This is the public's opportunity to speak regarding this matter. Speakers that are in-person are asked to complete a Speaker Form and submit it to the City Clerk. Speakers attending virtually should send a request to speak with this information to the moderator using the chat function and wait to be called on to speak. When speaking, virtual attendees should turn their camera on. Any comments made after the public hearing is closed will not be considered by the City Council and will not be included as part of the formal record for this matter as the item will have been voted on and the item formally closed by the Council.

- 15. Consideration of Resolution 2024-011, Vacation of Existing Utility Easement Serving 1650 40th Avenue NE.**
MOTION: Move to close the hearing and waive the reading of draft Resolution No. 2024-011, there being ample copies available to the public.
MOTION: Move to recommend that the City Council approve Resolution No. 2024-011, vacating the sanitary sewer easement at 1650 40th Avenue NE as presented.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

- 16. Consideration of Resolution 2024-012, a Variance for 1650 40th Avenue to allow an attached garage within the Front Yard Residential Setback.**

MOTION: Move to close the hearing and waive the reading of draft Resolution No. 2024-012, there being ample copies available to the public.

MOTION: Move to recommend that the City Council approve Resolution No. 2024-012, a residential variance for 1650 40th Avenue NE to allow a five (5) foot, five (5) inch encroachment of an attached garage into the front yard setback as presented.

17. Approve Purchase of 675 37th Avenue NE.

MOTION: Move to waive the reading of Resolution 2024-15, there being ample copies available to the public.

MOTION: Move to approve Resolution 2024-15, a resolution approving purchase agreement to acquire the property located at 675 37th Avenue, NE, Columbia Heights.

Ordinances and Resolutions

18. Consideration of a Rental License Exemption for 3815 2 ½ Street NE.

MOTION: Move to waive the reading of Resolution 2024-014, there being ample copies available to the public.

MOTION: Move to adopt Resolution 2024-014, a resolution approving the single-family rental exemption request for the rental application at 3815 2nd ½ Street NE, Columbia Heights, MN 55421.

Bid Considerations

New Business and Reports

CITY COUNCIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Report of the City Council

Report of the City Manager

COMMUNITY FORUM

The Community Forum is the public's opportunity to address the Council regarding any matter that has not had a public hearing earlier in the meeting.

Speakers that are in-person are asked to complete a Speaker Form and submit it to the City Clerk.

Once called to the podium, the speaker should state their name and connection to Columbia Heights.

Speakers attending virtually should send a request to speak as well as their address and connection to Columbia Heights to the moderator using the chat function and wait to be called on to speak.

When speaking, virtual attendees should turn their camera on.

All speakers should limit their comments to five (5) minutes.

Personal attacks, threats, the use of profanity, and other disrespectful comments are prohibited.

The City Council will listen to the public comments, ask clarifying questions, and if needed, request staff to follow up or direct the matter to be added to an upcoming agenda. Generally, the City Council will not take official action on items raised at the Community Forum at the meeting on which they are raised.

ADJOURNMENT

Auxiliary aids or other accommodations for individuals with disabilities are available upon request when the request is made at least 72 hours in advance. Please contact Administration at 763-706-3610 to make arrangements.