



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 28,
2025**

6:00 PM

Call to Order/Roll Call/Pledge of Allegiance

The Special meeting of the City Council was called to order by Mayor Tom Spooner 6:00 pm. Councilors in attendance included Mandy Barnes, Adama Doumbouya, Royal Ross, Peter van Sluis and Chuck Thiele. Also in attendance were City Administrator Jessica Kinser, City Clerk Heather Slechta, Parks and Recreation Director Paul Peanasky, Police Chief John Sherwin, Fire Chief Dustin Dienst, Community and Economic Development Director David Wanberg, Public Works Director Travis Block and Human Resources Manager Kevin Bushard.

Approve Agenda

Motion by Ross, seconded by Thiele to approve the agenda as presented and carried unanimously.

Presentations/Introductions

Police Chief John Sherwin introduced Officer Jeff Burbank. Officer Jeff Burbank was promoted to Sergeant and his badge was pinned by his wife and family.

Approve minutes of January 14, 2025 City Council Meeting

Motion by Doumbouya, seconded by van Sluis to approve the minutes of January 14, 2025 City Council Meeting and carried unanimously.

Requests to be Heard – None

Consent Agenda

- A. List of Claims to be Released
- B. Resolution 2025-011 Approve Hiring Police Officers
- C. Approve LG220 Application for Exempt Permit
- D. Resolution 2025-012 Amend Small Cities Development Program Spend Plan
- E. Resolution 2025-014 Approve 2025 Massage Licenses
- F. Resolution 2025-015 Approve 2025 Salvage Dealer Licenses
- G. Resolution 2025-016 Approve 2025 Vehicle for Hire License
- H. Resolution 2025-17 Support Community Action Center Grant Application and Approve Memorandum of Understanding
- I. Resolution 2025-018 Approve Appointments of Board and Commission Members

- J. Approve 2025 CIP Purchase – Replacement Lawn Mower
- K. Accept Quote for Ultraviolet Light Disinfection Equipment at Water Reclamation Facility
- L. Approve CIP Purchase - Replace Toro Lawn Mower for Parks Department
- M. Approve Request to Apply for Hannah Lips Grant for Parks and Recreation
- N. Approve request to apply for the Hannah Lips Grant for the Fire Department
- O. Approve Hangar Rental Agreement Renewals
- P. Approve Agricultural Land Lease at Airport
- Q. Approve Quote for Sanitary Sewer Structure Rehabilitation
- R. Approve Contract for Faribault Woolen Mills Dam
- S. Approve 2025 Scope of Services with Clean River Partners (CRP)
- T. Approve Biomass Grinding Quote
- U. Resolution 2025-020 Approve Hiring Accounting Technician

Motion by Ross, seconded by Barnes to approve Consent Agenda items A-U and carried unanimously.

Public Hearings – None

Items for Discussion

Resolution 2025-013 Terminate Property Tax Abatement and Void the Contract for Private Development for Certain Property in the City of Faribault

Community and Economic Development Director David Wanberg explained that in 2023, Sage Electrochromics, Inc. requested tax abatement to accommodate the move of Vetrotech North America, to the Saint-Gobain North America Building Glass Campus in Faribault. They reported that the project would net 40 new jobs in Faribault, with an average wage of \$37.94 per hour.

On July 11, 2023, the Council approved Resolutions 2023-137 and 2023-138, which approved property tax abatement and the Contract for Private Development for the proposed 10,800-square-foot addition on the Campus at 1 Sage Way in Faribault. The project was completed staff was hired

On December 16, 2024, announced that Vetrotech North America would cease all operations in North America, including Faribault.

The first property tax abatement payment was scheduled for the second half of 2025. However, because the abatement is tied to the project, which is no longer realized, the City should terminate its portion of the tax abatement. At its January 16, 2024, meeting, the Faribault Economic Development Authority (EDA) concurred with City Staff's recommendation.

Wanberg stated that the EDA and the City appreciate the Developer's work in trying to establish Vetrotech North America in Faribault. Often, parent companies must make difficult decisions that are in the best interest of the parent company, and those decisions sometimes affect local employees and operations. We continue to value Saint-

Gobain/Sage Electrochromics in Faribault and look forward to working with them in the future to retain and grow their presence here.

Councilor Ross stated that they finished the project and the City will still get the property taxes on the improvement.

Motion by van Sluis, seconded by Doumbouya to approve Resolution 2025-013 Terminate Property Tax Abatement and Void the Contract for Private Development for Certain Property in the City of Faribault and carried unanimously.

Resolution 2025-019 Approve Appointment of John Rowan to City Council

City Administrator Jessica Kinser stated that with the election of Tom Spooner to the position of Mayor, a vacancy was created on January 7th, 2025, when he submitted his letter of resignation for the remainder of his City Council term. The City Council immediately declared a vacancy at the first meeting of the year. A process to solicit letters of interest was open until noon on Friday, January 17th, and resulted in five interested residents coming forward. The City Council discussed the applicants at the January 21st work session, and determined that John Rowan was the best candidate to fill the remaining time on the City Council term.

Motion by van Sluis, seconded by Doumbouya to approve Resolution 2025-019 Approve Appointment of John Rowan to City Council and carried unanimously.

Bids - None

Boards and Commissions Reports, Announcements and Project Updates

Mayor Spooner stated that the American Legion Super Bowl breakfast is this weekend.

Adjournment

Motion by Ross, seconded by van Sluis to adjourn the City Council meeting and carried unanimously.

The motion carried 6:0.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:13 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

DocuSigned by:

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Heather Slechta
City Clerk