



MINUTES

COHASSET CITY COUNCIL

305 NW FIRST AVENUE, COHASSET, MN 55721

TUESDAY, JULY 9, 2024 – 7:00 P.M.

6:30 PM Work Session

Data Center

Greta Nelson provided the Cohasset City Council with some information regarding a client of hers that is interested in property to put a data center. They are looking for 100 acres and there are two parcels available in the Cohasset Industrial Park that would accommodate the data center. The data center would require parcels that are zoned for commercial industrial use, 75 megawatts of power, and dark fiber lines that run the communication systems to operate. The data center would employ approximately 200 people.

Cannabis Use in Public Ordinance

A Work Session was held to discuss the Planning Commission recommendation to enact an ordinance prohibiting the use of cannabis in public. The proposed City of Cohasset Ordinance 51 prohibiting the Use of Cannabis in Public; the City of Cohasset Ordinance 5 - Amended, Concerning Regulations for all Park Access Areas; The City of Grand Rapids Ordinance 42-81 Use of Cannabis in Public; and the printout from MN Office of Cannabis Management were included in the Work Session and can be reviewed in the archived City Council Agenda Packet on file in the City of Cohasset Office. Discussion was held regarding the proposed ordinances which would include all parks and public areas. There were some questions and comments from the City Council regarding the enforcement of this ordinance being difficult. Discussion was held regarding the proposed ordinances being in line with neighboring communities.

7:00 PM City Council Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** Councilor Kevin Tinquist called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Present: Councilors Kevin Tinquist, Kevin Ott, Terry Bartz and Andy Haarklau.

Absent with Notice: Mayor Andy MacDonell

Non-Officio Members: City Administrator, Max Peters, Zoning Officer, Tony Valtinson, and Security Officer, Dean Scherf

Other: None

3. **Resident Input:**

4. **Council Info / Liaison Reports:** None

5. **Approve Agenda**

Additions: 6C 2024 Industrial Park Mass Payment Grading Payment Request #5 and 6D Appoint 2024 Election Judges

Deletions: None

A motion was made by Councilor Kevin Ott to approve the agenda as written with the addition of item 6C 2024 Industrial Park Mass Payment Grading Payment Request #5 and item 6D Appoint 2024 Election Judges. Councilor Andy Haarklau seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Councilors Kevin Ott, Andy Haarklau and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: Mayor Andy MacDonell; Motion carried.

6. Administration

A. Public Hearing – Cannabis Use in Public Ordinance

7:05 P.M.

Public hearing to act on Planning Commission recommendation to enact an ordinance prohibiting the use of cannabis in public. Zoning Officer Tony Valtinson presented the items in the packet as follows: The proposed City of Cohasset Ordinance 51 prohibiting the Use of Cannabis in Public; the City of Cohasset Ordinance 5 - Amended, Concerning Regulations for all Park Access Areas; The City of Grand Rapids Ordinance 42-81 Use of Cannabis in Public; and the printout from MN Office of Cannabis Management were included in the Public Hearing packet and can be reviewed in the archived City Council Agenda Packet on file in the City of Cohasset Office.

Councilor Andy Haarklau stated that the main part of this is for the City of Cohasset to follow what the surrounding communities are doing. Councilor Andy Haarklau added that this is really going to be a matter of enforcement and he believes it is a good idea for Cohasset to adopt ordinances that are identical to the City of Grand Rapids as they are our neighboring community.

Councilor Kevin Tinquist asked for more City Council comments on the issue. No additional comments were made.

Councilor Kevin Tinquist asked if there were any comments from the public. A member of the public questioned if this would address tobacco smoking and cannabis use. Councilor Andy Haarklau explained that this is all going to be a work in progress and the City of Cohasset will address issues with tobacco smoking vs. cannabis use as they arise, and modification can be made to address any issues.

Councilor Kevin Tinquist asked all those for the ordinance one, two and three times. One member of the public was for the ordinance.

Councilor Kevin Tinquist asked all those against the ordinance one, two and three times. No members of the public were against the ordinance.

A motion was made by Councilor Terry Bartz to approve the Planning Commission recommendation to enact an ordinance prohibiting the use of cannabis in public. Councilor Kevin Ott seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Councilors Kevin Ott, Andy Haarklau and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: Mayor Andy MacDonell; Motion carried.

B. Tioga Boat Landing Lighting - CPUB Ernie Braunschweig

Cohasset Public Utility Board Member Ernie Braunschweig explained that the CPUB was asked to research solar lighting at Tioga Boat Landing for security purposes. The CPUB approached Lake Country Power for an estimate, and they wanted \$12,000.00. The CPUB reached out to a solar company in Pheonix that provided an estimate of around \$7,000.00. The CPUB then went out to the Tioga Bike area and looked at the solar light there and found that it gives off quite a bit of light.

The Cohasset Public Utility Board made a recommendation to install a single solar powered area light to illuminate the Tioga Boat Landing with the goal of improving security. This light is like the lights currently installed at the Tioga Beach Bike Recreation Area.

An estimated cost of \$1,175.00 was received from Langy Solar Street Lights and this includes the motion activation function.

The City Council thanked the CPUB for the research done on solar motion lighting.

A motion was made by Councilor Kevin Ott to approve the quote purchase of solar motion light from Langy Solar Street Lights in the amount of \$1,175.00. Councilor Andy Haarklau seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Councilors Kevin Ott, Andy Haarklau and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: Mayor Andy MacDonell; Motion carried.

C. 2024 Industrial Mass Grading Payment Request #5

S.E.H. presented pay request #5 to approve the payment to Casper Construction, Inc. for Mass Grading at the Industrial Park in the amount of \$49,597.71.

A motion was made by Councilor Andy Haarklau to approve the payment to Casper Construction, Inc. for the Mass Grading at the Industrial Park in the amount of \$49,597.71. Councilor Kevin Ott seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Councilors Kevin Ott, Andy Haarklau and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: Mayor Andy MacDonell; Motion carried.

D. Appoint 2024 Election Judges

A motion was made by Councilor Kevin Ott to approve the hiring of 2024 election judges for the Primary and General Election. Councilor Terry Bartz seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Councilors Kevin Ott, Andy Haarklau and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: Mayor Andy MacDonell; Motion carried.

7. Miscellaneous Announcements, Reports, and FYI'S:

Safety Officer Dean Scherf provided an update on the Benson Bog Days. Park and Recreation Coordinator Stephanie Kessler updated that she just attended goat yoga at Portage Park, and it was in high attendance.

All matters listed under the consent agenda are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered separately.

8. Consent Agenda

- A. Approve Claims in the Amount of \$157,734.15
- B. Acknowledge June 3, 2024, CPUB Minutes
- C. Acknowledge June 3, 2024, Planning Commission Minutes
- D. Approve June 25, 2024, City Council Minutes

A motion was made by Councilor Andy Haarklau to approve the consent agenda as written. Councilor Kevin Ott seconded the motion. Voting in favor: Councilors Kevin Ott, Andy Haarklau and Kevin Tinquist; Voting against: None; Absent: Mayor Andy MacDonell; Motion carried.

Adjourned: Councilor Kevin Tinquist adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

Submitted by: Senior Deputy Clerk Treasurer Dorie LaShomb
Approved: