

MINUTES
CITY OF DELANO
City Council/Economic Development Authority
Tuesday, May 26, 2020
5:00 PM

1. *Due to COVID-19, the meeting was conducted via Zoom webinar as allowed under Minnesota Statutes, Section 130.021. All motions were approved by roll call vote.*

2. Call to Order

Mayor Graunke called the special workshop of the Delano City Council/Economic Development Authority of Tuesday, May 26, 2020 to order at 5:00pm.

3. Roll Call

Members Present: Dale Graunke, Mayor; Councilmembers Betsy Moran, Holly Schrupp, Jason Franzen and Jon Sutherland

Also Present: Phil Kern, City Administrator; Paula Bauman, Administrative Services Coordinator

4. Special Order of Business

A. Approve Liberty Landing park equipment purchase

Phil Kern stated staff is requesting approval to purchase a play structure for the Liberty Landing development from Landscape Structures. Landscape Structures has gone the extra mile to provide a very desirable structure at a reduced rate. The Park Commission has reviewed and is recommending approval. The cost of the equipment will come from the developer's park dedication contribution.

Last week, the developer completed the installation of the surface for the basketball court. The basketball standard/hoop is on order and will be installed by public works in the coming weeks. By the end of June, this park will be essentially complete.

Motion by Jon Sutherland, seconded by Holly Schrupp to approve the Liberty Landing park equipment purchase; motion carried.

B. Discuss Community Health Emergency

1. Authorize extension of the emergency declaration to July 1, 2020

Staff is recommending authorizing an extension of the emergency declaration to July 1, 2020. Kern stated Council and staff have been doing this in one-month steps, and the current period would expire in May. This continues the benefits and programs we have authorized through that period of time. There are differing means for continuing these emergency declarations. Some cities have tied them to the Governor's declaration and essentially stated that their local emergency period will continue so

long as the Governor continues the state emergency period. Others have authorized the continuance indefinitely, that the emergency period will continue until the City Council decides its over. Additionally, a few others have established longer periods of time than 30 days. Staff believes we're on the right track and recommend continuing in 30-day increments. It seems that there will unlikely be a magic moment when the threat of the virus subsides, and therefore it allows the City Council to be deliberative in judging the need for the emergency declaration every month. We could pick a longer time, but that seems to be appropriate at the present time.

Motion by Jon Sutherland, seconded by Betsy Moran to authorize an extension of the emergency declaration to July 1, 2020; motion carried.

2. Rental of city facilities

Staff is looking for consideration of city facilities available for rental. Paula Bauman stated staff have been working on a recommendation to allow rentals in open air environments which will be shared with the Council. Staff will make sure any activities in City facilities meet the mandates of State and Federal orders and also allow appropriate cleaning between uses. As such, staff is going to focus on open air environments right now (Gazebo, for example) and recommend others stay closed (community meeting room, City Hall rooms, etc.). Staff doesn't believe we can adequately clean those facilities between use right now without additional services. And, entering summer, exterior options are available.

Motion by Holly Schrupp, seconded by Jon Sutherland to authorize public facility rentals in open air environments only and, because of State and Federal Orders, not allow rentals within public facility buildings; motion carried.

3. Splashpad

Due to Covid, staff has been working on a re-opening plan for the Splashpad which centers on small blocks of time that would be available for reservation for small groups. Staff is recommending 45 minute blocks for up to 10 people, with 15 minutes of down time between reservations for people to come-and-go and staff to clean impacted surfaces. Our system has UV treatment along with the chlorinated water system, both of which meet CDC guidelines. Presently, splashpads are not allowed by State order, but we'd like to review this concept with the Council and if it sees fit to continue preparations, our recommendation will be to allow the Park Board (meets Wednesday) to work out the fine details. We are not thinking of charging for use (unless we do larger blocks of time for parties, etc., as we have in the past) and thus operation would have a financial/budget impact.

Motion by Betsy Moran, seconded by Holly Schrupp to authorize staff to work within the state and federal, and CDC guidelines to open the City of Delano Splashpad on a reservation basis; motion carried.

4. Temporary outdoor sales and parking

Staff is working with a number of restaurants who are trying to get ready for outdoor food service. The City is making accommodations, such as offering excess picnic tables from Central Park and recommending temporary accommodation of expanded patios, tents, etc. We want restaurants to still submit a plan – can be simpler, they don't need to go hire someone to do a typical plan set – and we'd like to waive fees for reviewing those plans. Things like large tents should still get a building inspection and make sure it meets codes, but we'd waive the need to pay building permit fees and alike for that process. There may also be the need to use sidewalk and street surfaces, which we'd like to accommodate provided we can keep ADA access. We believe the current emergency declaration grants us the authority to make those decisions on the fly, which is appreciated, but given the chance for the Council to discuss we'd like to get concurrence these strategies.

Motion by Jon Sutherland, seconded by Betsy Moran to authorize temporary outdoor sale and parking to local businesses affected by the state shutdown; motion carried.

5. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss the special workshop of the Delano City Council/Economic Development Authority of Tuesday, May 26, 2020 was adjourned.

Signed:

Dale Graunke, Mayor

Attest: Paula Bauman, Administrative Services Coordinator