

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON JANUARY 28, 2021 7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Thom Walker called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present were Vicki Hallin, Jenny Gerold, Jules Zimmer and Jeff Reynolds. Others present: Finance Director Tracy Peters, Police Chief Todd Frederick, Public Works Director Bob Gerold, Community Development Manager Stephanie Hillesheim, Clerk Shawna Jenkins, Liquor Store Manager Nancy Campbell, Fire Chief Ron Lawrence, Wastewater Plant Manager Chris Klinghagen and Attorney Damien Toven.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

Zimmer would like to provide an update on the Simulcast System.

REYNOLDS MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE ADDITION OF THE SIMULCAST SYSTEM UPDATE. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- A. Regular Meeting minutes of January 28, 2021
- B. Study Session Minutes of February 4, 2021

Zimmer had a correction for the January 28th meeting minutes when the minutes from January 14th were corrected. It was Walker that had made the comment that was to be clarified. Jenkins will make that change.

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 28, 2021 REGULAR MEETING MINUTES WITH THE CORRECTION AND THE STUDY SESSION MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 4, 2021. WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Permits and Licenses
 - 1. Annual Solicitor permit for Jeremy Oreskovich with Ave Solid Waste
 - 2. Solicitor permit for Brain Freeze Ice Cream – 5 days of sales over 3-month period
- B. Personnel
- C. Donations and Designations
 - 1. Resolution 21-10– accept donation from Twice New to Police
 - 2. Resolution 21-11 – accept donation from Twice New to Fire
 - 3. Resolution 21-12 – accept donation from Eddy Family Foundation for Police and Fire

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE PART ONE THE CONSENT AGENDA. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 4. Resolution 21-13 – accept donation for Steve Jackson Bench
- 5. Resolution 21-14 – accept donation from Jan Goodell & Jennifer Gerold for Robert Goodell Bench

WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE PART TWO OF THE CONSENT AGENDA. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE 4:0:1 J GEROLD ABSTAINED. THE MOTION CARRIED.

OPEN FORUM

PUBLIC HEARINGS –

A. Schwartz Annexation Request – Ordinance 802

Jenkins reported that Schwartz has requested this be on hold for a short time, as he has some interested parties, but they may not be interested in the entire property. Toven replied that his suggestion would be for Schwartz to withdraw his petition for annexation at this time. He feels it would be cleaner to do it that way, versus table it indefinitely. The 2nd reading of the ordinance would be denied, and then the process would be started over when he was ready to proceed.

J Gerold said since they do not know how long Schwartz would want to table it, she agrees that it could be withdrawn, and then the process started over when they are ready.

HALLIN MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:18PM. J GEROLD SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Toven stated that he sees Schwartz trying to connect to Zoom, and it appears he is having trouble. He suggests that the Council wait a bit before making a decision on tabling or denying the ordinance until they can discuss it with Schwartz,

Walker would like to move the discussion and decision to before the bill list.

PRESENTATIONS / SPEAKERS

FYI – REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, CORRESPONDENCE AND BOARDS / COMMITTEES

A. Planning Commission Meeting of January 25, 2021

PETITIONS, REQUESTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Wine and Spirits Grant Request by the Princeton Chamber of Commerce

Kim Young wanted to begin by thanking the City of Princeton for the support it has given the Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce (PACC) throughout the years. From the generous grants of funding, to the in-kind gift of office space, to the general support from staff and members of the City Council. We are very grateful for the positive working relationship between the City of Princeton and the Chamber of Commerce. We are excited to continue our collaboration in 2021.

As we all know, 2020 was a challenging year. Although we were able to host only one event, we continued to support our businesses in a virtual manner. During the year, the Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce:

- Hosted a Chamber Winter Gala: Celebrating businesses, nonprofits, organizations and volunteers
- Began a monthly online Chamber Check-In, which allowed businesses to come together online to check in with one another and learn from one another

- Moved the networking groups online, where we are still seeing a positive turnout
- Shared Covid-19 information, including funding opportunities, Executive Order updates with Princeton businesses - both chamber members and non-chamber members
- Collaborated with local seamstresses by hosting a Facebook mask-making group where businesses could request free masks - over 7,000 masks were made and given to local businesses through this group. The PACC also distributed nearly 8,000 masks to businesses provided by the State of Minnesota
- Collaborated with the community in the Be the Light project, honoring the Class of 2020
- Through our membership with the MN Chamber of Commerce, advocated for local businesses to open safely by signing letters to the Governor and other local leaders
- Organized a successful golf tournament at the Princeton Golf Course
- Hosted two workforce panels between local businesses and Princeton High School students
- Continue as a member of the Learning and Living Program, a collaboration between businesses and the Princeton School District. Currently collaborating on a website project, which will feature local businesses and industries.
- Hosted two hybrid local Candidate Forums
- Ran a successful Shop Local Program, including a Small Business Saturday QR Code Scavenger Hunt
- Collaborated with the City of Princeton on the Light up Princeton project through local advertising in the newspaper, social media promotion and many volunteer hours

The PACC Board is committed to entering the new year in a positive manner, shifting where we need to in order to support our businesses. We look forward to being able to plan in-person events in 2021, but are planning remote and virtual events in the meantime. Our 2021 plans include:

- February: Online silent auction
- April: 2-day Virtual Expo
- June: Rum River Festival
- July: PACC Golf Tournament
- September: PACC Community Leadership Series begins
- October: Fall event
- November: Small Business Saturday
- December: Collaboration with the City of Princeton for Light up Princeton

To that end, the Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce is requesting continued support from the City of Princeton in the form of a \$10,000 grant. With the cancelling of events in 2020 and the lack of covid-relief funding offered to chambers of commerce, this funding will be used toward our 2021 events as well as toward general operating of the chamber.

Again, we are very grateful for the support provided by the City of Princeton to the Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce. We feel strongly that if we all work together to support one another, great things will happen in our community, and we look forward to continuing that collaboration in 2021.

Hillesheim said the Chamber is important and she appreciates working with Young and the Chamber.

J Gerold wanted clarification that the moratorium was for 2020. Zimmer responded that was correct, and it has ended.

J GEROLD MOVED TO APPROVE THE WINE AND SPIRITS GRANT REQUEST FOR \$10,000 BY THE PRINCETON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE 4:0:1 HALLIN ABSTAINED, THE MOTION CARRIED.

B. Wine and Spirits Grant Request by the Age Friendly Princeton Group

Hillesheim provided an update on the Age Friendly initiative, and the survey is that is being collected to determine the needs in the community. They are requesting a wine and Spirits Grant for \$600 to assist with printing and promotional materials.

ZIMMER MOVED TO APPROVE THE WINE AND SPIRITS GRANT REQUEST FOR \$600 BY THE AGE FRIENDLY PRINCETON GROUP. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE 4:0:1 HALLIN ABSTAINED, THE MOTION CARRIED.

C. Wine and Spirits Grant Request by Kinship Youth

Jenkins advised that Kinship Youth has submitted a Wine and Spirits Grant Request for \$1500 that will be used for planned monthly events. Becky Harder spoke about some of the events that they hold yearly.

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE WINE AND SPIRITS GRANT REQUEST FOR \$1500 BY KINSHIP YOUTH. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. BCA National Incident – based Reporting

Frederick reported that the Princeton Police Department is pleased to announce that we received notification from the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension that we have successfully completed our crime reporting to the National Incident-Based Reporting System. If you remember, the Princeton Police Department Support Staff Karen Aguilera and Kathy Lewis have been attending numerous meetings, training and testing for over a year to complete and become certified in this system. The compliance review by the BCA and the FBI certifies that the Princeton Police Department is now a NIBRS participant/member in regards to mandatory coding and statistical data to assist in crime prevention and to deploy resources where they will have the most impact for public safety.

This new program (NIBRS) was launched with extreme efficiency within this Department. Karen Aguilera who worked countless hours to prepare, organize and train to deliver these state and federal updates.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution 21-09 – Premise Permit

Jenkins advised that the Veteran's Support Brigade has submitted a gambling application to sell pull tabs at Neighbors Bar. Last year, the American Legion was the premise permit holder.

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 21-09 APPROVING A PREMISE PERMIT FOR VETERAN'S SUPPORT BRIGADE TO SELL PULL TABS AT NEIGHBORS BARN. REYNOLDS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

A. Airport Grant

B Gerold stated that this grant application is for the taxiway rehab. There may be new funding available to fund the project. Airport Engineer Bryan Jacobson cleared his schedule to talk about the scope of the project.

Jacobson said the we received some very good prices when we previously put it out for bid, but the FAA had a shortage of funds. The estimated local share of the project would be about \$125,000.

J Gerold asked if the DNR Apron that they had requested is included in this estimate. Jacobson said it is not, he removed that portion.

Walker and J Gerold said with the possibility of paying back what funds that were received in 2018, we are kind of stuck on approving this project so those funds don't need to be repaid. However, in the future, they think large projects should be scaled way back.

WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE GRANT APPLICATION, MINUS THE DNR APRON. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

***Ordinance 802 – Schwartz annexation – continued from earlier now that Schwartz was able to log in**

Schwartz stated that people had asked if his property was annexed into the City, so he was trying to be preemptive to take out people's concerns about it being into the city and complete that part.

Some of the developers may not want what he calls the south wildlife area. So, if he annexes all 3 PID's, the whole landscape and parcels could change depending on a developer's design. He is just asking for the freedom to move forward with the annexation, if it is tabled, it could be a 60-day time frame for those details to be worked out. He met with 2 builders today and there is a lot of interest, but would like to wait a bit before proceeding with the annexation. Since half of the process is completed, he would prefer not to start all over.

Walker asked if he wanted to pull one parcel off, or all 3. Schwartz said he doesn't know what the developer wants to do as of yet, he was just trying to be pre-emptive and get started on the annexation process. He thinks a 60-day extension for the final reading would be suitable, and if something happens between then, he can let the City know if the process can continue, or if things will change slightly.

Walker questioned if the one parcel in question could be removed. Toven said the problem with that, is the notices that went out include all 3 parcels.

WALKER MOVED TO TABLE THE SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 802 TO THE APRIL 8TH COUNCIL MEETING. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION. VOTE 4:1 HALLIN OPPOSED, THE MOTION CARRIED.

BILL LIST

ZIMMER MOVED TO APPROVE THE BILL LIST WHICH INCLUDES THE MANUAL CHECKS AS LISTED ON THE MANUAL BILL LIST FOR A TOTAL OF \$110,665.20 AND THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE LIQUOR BILL LIST AND GENERAL CITY BILL LIST WHICH WILL BE CHECKS 82507 TO 82571 FOR A TOTAL OF \$221,847.63. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MISCELLANEOUS

A. Simulcast System Update

Zimmer reported that they had a meeting with Commissioner Reynolds, the Sheriff, their IT person and Motorola in regard to the Simulcast System. It was a strategy meeting to discuss some possible grants to apply for. There is a grant to apply for in July, which they are pretty confident that would be received. Frederick added that Congressman Stauber's office has looked into some grants as well.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business:

ZIMMER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:37PM. J GEROLD SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawna Jenkins Tadych
City Clerk

ATTEST:

Thom Walker,
Mayor