



**City of Moorhead  
City Council Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
January 27, 2020 at 5:30 PM  
City Hall Council Chambers**

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Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council Meeting was held in the City Hall Council Chambers, on January 27, 2020, at 5:30 PM.

**Roll call of the members was made as follows:**

1st Ward Council Member:	Shelly Dahlquist	Present
1st Ward Council Member:	Sara Watson Curry	Present
2nd Ward Council Member:	Shelly Carlson	Present
2nd Ward Council Member:	Heidi Durand	Present
Mayor:	Johnathan Judd	Present
3rd Ward Council Member:	Deb White	Present
3rd Ward Council Member:	Larry Seljevold	Present
4th Ward Council Member:	Chuck Hendrickson	Present
4th Ward Council Member:	Steve Lindaas	Present

**City Council Meeting**

1. [Call to Order and Roll Call](#)
2. [Pledge of Allegiance](#)
3. [Agenda Amendments](#)
4. [Consent Agenda](#)

All items listed with an asterisk ( \* ) are considered to be routine by the City Council and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council Member so requests, in accordance with the "Council Rules of Procedure". In such event, the item will be removed from the General Order of Business and considered in its normal sequence on the agenda.

**Motion to Approve Consent Agenda**

Motion to Approve made by Steve Lindaas and seconded by Shelly Carlson

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

5. Approve Minutes
  - A. [January 13, 2020 - Meeting Minutes](#)

**Motion to Approve January 13, 2020 - Meeting Minutes**

Motion to Approve made by Steve Lindaas and seconded by Larry Seljevold

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

Minutes: Clerical error on page 2 of minutes, noted and changed by clerk

**Motion to amend the Approved January 13, 2020 - Meeting Minutes**

Motion made by Chuck Hendrickson and seconded by Sara Watson Curry

6. [Citizens Addressing the Council \(Time Reserved: 15 Minutes\)](#)
7. Mayor and Council Appointments
  - A. [\\*Resolution to Approve Mayor and Council Board/Commission Appointments](#)

**Public Hearings (5:45 p.m.)**

8. [Public Hearing to File an Application with the Federal Transit Administration for Receipt of 2020 Capital Assistance](#)

**Motion to Open Public Hearing made by Chuck Hendrickson and seconded by Sara Watson Curry.**

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

Minutes: Lori Van Beek, Transit Manager, presented the grant funding that was awarded for the 2020 capital projects. The award was larger than expected and will be used for cost overage for capital purchases and adjusted at year end. Two vehicle projects were moved to 2021 and the State of MN has agreed to fund them and also pick up 10% of the local share match.

**Motion to Close Public Hearing made by Sara Watson Curry and seconded by Steve Lindaas.**

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

- A. [Resolution to Authorize Filing of an Application to the Federal Transit Administration for Receipt of 2020 Capital Assistance](#)

**Motion to Approve Resolution to Authorize Filing of an Application to the Federal Transit Administration for Receipt of 2020 Capital Assistance**

Motion to Approve made by Steve Lindaas and seconded by Deb White

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

## Engineering Department

### 9. [2020 Flood Forecast](#)

#### A. [Presentation](#)

Minutes: Bob Zimmerman, City Engineer, presented the 2020 flood forecast objectives of 1) protecting the community 2) protecting public infrastructure and service 3) minimize community impacts and disruptions and 4) utilize the most efficient, cost effective and reliable means necessary.

Emergency managers and staff met with the National weather service on January 24, 2020 and discussed the current forecast. The current levees will hold up to 44 feet allowing for 3 feet of freeboard (insurance zone). At this point the forecast shows less than a 5% chance of permanent infrastructure damage with flood beyond that.

In regards to the city planning efforts, the deterministic forecast is what the emergency measures policy is based upon. Follow up letters will be sent to property owners in February as a reminder of the policy.

Council member Dahlquist inquired if there are inspections that take place in order to maintain work previously completed. Bob Zimmerman noted that the flood infrastructure is inspected annually to make sure that there are no fault zones. Flood insurance questions have come from citizens and must be in effect 30 days prior to any claim. The city recommends contacting homeowners insurance companies in order to get flood insurance and compare prices. Council member Lindaas complimented the staff on a job well done.

#### B. [Resolution to Affirm the Goals and Policies within Resolution 2013-0528-4: Resolution to Establish City Policy for Sandbag & Emergency Measure Deployment During Flood Events](#)

##### **Motion to Approve Resolution to Affirm the Goals and Policies within Resolution 2013-0528-4: Resolution to Establish City Policy for Sandbag & Emergency Measure Deployment During Flood Events**

Motion to Approve made by Shelly Carlson and seconded by Deb White

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

### 10. [Wastewater Interim Improvements Project \(Eng. No. 18-06-04A,B & 19-06-01\)](#)

Minutes: The proposed funding plan for the projects that cannot be funded through reserves will utilize a clean water revolving fund loan through the PCA & PFA which provides below market loan rates. The goal is to have an incremental wastewater rate increase over the next 8 years instead of a one-time larger increase. The thought is that the increase percentage-wise looks to be approximately \$1.51 per month per household and will decrease over the next eight years.

Council member Durand noted that with the proposed water rate increase by Moorhead Public Service, the minimum reserve can be decreased in order to offset more of the cost. Engineering can look at that in the future for following years' possible increases and bring back some scenarios once bids are received. The lifespan of the proposed liner is 40-50 years.

A. [Resolution to Authorize a Clean Water Revolving Fund Loan Application](#)

**Motion to Approve Resolution to Authorize a Clean Water Revolving Fund Loan Application**

Motion to Approve made by Heidi Durand and seconded by Steve Lindaas

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevoid, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

B. [Resolution to Approve Plans & Specifications and Authorize Advertisement for Bids](#)

**Motion to Approve Resolution to Approve Plans & Specifications and Authorize Advertisement for Bids**

Motion to Approve made by Heidi Durand and seconded by Steve Lindaas

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevoid, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

11. [\\*Street Improvements on 12th Ave S \(Eng. No. 20-A2-01\)](#)

A. [\\*Resolution to Receive Report, Order Plans & Specifications, and Call for Hearing](#)

B. [\\*Resolution to Approve Parking Restrictions](#)

C. [\\*Resolution to Approve Plans & Specifications and Authorize Advertisement for Bids](#)

12. [\\*Resolution to Receive Report, Order Plans & Specifications, and Call for Hearing for the 12th Ave S Business Park Stormwater Improvements \(Eng. No. 18-A5-01\)](#)

**Economic Development**

13. [\\*Resolution to Approve Publication of the 2020 Notice of Land Availability](#)

**Parks and Recreation Department**

14. [Resolution to Approve Change in Dog Park Location in River Oaks Point](#)

Minutes: FEMA has denied the permit for Option #2 due to a no fencing requirement which in turn is leaving the only option to move back to the previous Option #3. There are structural options with play pieces that can be removed in case of flooding. It was noted that currently the space is being used as an informal dog park, and that this will only enhance the space and may be less costly if the scope is reduced but that is not being proposed.

The Parks department has been looking into ways of citizens reporting the positive and negative aspects of the parks in Moorhead.

Citizen addressed the council wanting to verify that no properties are affected by this change.

**Motion to Approve Resolution to Approve Change in Dog Park Location in River Oaks Point, the farthest west option (known as Option #3)**

Motion to Approve made by Larry Seljevoll and seconded by Deb White

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevoll, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

**Administration**

15. [Resolution to Establish 2020 Legislative Priorities](#)

Minutes: Lisa Bode, Governmental Affairs Director, presented the resolutions to establish the 2020 Legislative priorities for the city. The four categories that Moorhead has a direct impact in are 1) Preservation and Protection 2) Efforts to secure local discretion and flexibility for border cities concerning state wide building codes and related construction regulations 3) Capital Bonding requests (transfer station, downtown Moorhead 11<sup>th</sup> St. grade separation and underpass, flood hazard reduction grant program, community and aquatic center) 4) Legislative authority to seek a local option sales tax.

**Motion to Approve Resolution to Establish 2020 Legislative Priorities**

Motion to Approve made by Heidi Durand and seconded by Shelly Carlson

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevoll, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

16. [Resolution to Request Legislative Authority to Enable a Future Voter Referendum for a Local Option Sales Tax to Finance Projects of Regional Significance](#)

Minutes: City Manager Volkert clarified that the overall resolution gives the authority to work with the legislature to get the approval to go out and ask the voters for a sales tax increase if we so choose. Deadline to submit the application is January 31, 2020 so in order to decide to move forward, approval on this resolution must be done now. This would be step one of a multi-step process and significant community input would be required prior to moving forward further. The language is not committing the citizens or council to anything.

Numbers presented are projections of what the .5% sales tax revenue stream would be (estimated \$75 million) that would likely begin with receipts in April 2023 and continue for 25 years.

In order to fund a sales tax, the projects must have regional significance. Discussion regarding the regional significance of the potential projects took place.

A. [Resolution Supporting the Authority to Impose a Local Sales Tax to Fund Specific Capital Improvements Providing Regional Benefit, to Establish the Duration of the Tax and the Revenue to be Raised by the Tax, and to Authorize the City to issue Bonds Supported by the Sales Tax Revenue](#)

**Motion to Approve Resolution Supporting the Authority to Impose a Local Sales Tax to Fund Specific Capital Improvements Providing Regional Benefit, to Establish the Duration of the Tax and the Revenue to be Raised by the Tax, and to Authorize the City to issue Bonds Supported by the Sales Tax Revenue**

Motion to Approve made by Shelly Carlson and seconded by Shelly Dahlquist

Motion Passed

For: 7 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

Against: 1 - Larry Seljevold

- B. [Resolution Documenting the Regional Significance of the Moorhead Community and Aquatics Center Project Identified for Possible Funding through a Local Option Sales Tax to be Considered by Voters in 2022](#)
- C. [Resolution Documenting the Regional Significance of Transportation Projects Identified for Possible Funding through a Local Option Sales Tax which may be considered by Voters in 2022](#)
- D. [Resolution Documenting Regional Significance of Library and City Hall Complex Identified for Possible Funding through a Local Option Sales Tax which may be considered by Voters in 2022](#)
- E. [Resolution Documenting the Regional Significance of an Inclusive Playground for Possible Funding through a Local Option Sales Tax which may be Considered by Voters in 2022](#)
- F. [Resolution Documenting the Regional Significance of Expansion/Renovation of Regional Trails for possible funding through a Local Option Sales Tax which may be considered by Voters in 2022](#)

## Other

### 17. [Mayor and Council Reports](#)

Minutes: Council members Seljevold & Hendrickson wanted to thank Mrs. Estrem for allowing them to sit in on a class at Horizon West where the project was to come up with a recreational idea for the city. All ideas were present and students expressed their show of support of aquatic facilities.

Council member Sara Watson Curry uplifted Dr. Ken Foster who was awarded the Recycler of the Year by Clay County. Dr. Foster serves as the Project Manager on the Busch Resilient Grant which will be helping the City of Moorhead to remain a resilient city in the face of potential climate changes. Congrats to Dr. Foster!

Council member Deb White expressed her experiences with MPS and wanted to say that the council and city values our public utility and want to thank the MPS workers for their hard work. Things may seem stressful but we will continue move forward. Council member Hendrickson thanked both John Rogalla and Bill Schwandt, MPS director for their years of service. Council member White notified the council that the Longest Table is looking for someone to work on the event in Deb Whites place due to scheduling conflicts.

Council member Steve Lindaas thanked Dave Anderson for his years of service on the MPS committee. Council member Lindaas toured the Matbus facility and was very impressed with the care and attention they provide. Council members Lindaas and Seljevold attended the League of MN Cities conference for newly elected officials to learn and network with other city elected officials. Keynote speaker Dr.

Chad Winestein did a great job presenting on ethical leadership.

Mayor Judd thanked Ralf Mehnert-Meland for his service on MPS Commission and echoed the thanks of others for their service. The State of the Cities on January 16, 2020 was a success and he is thankful to the Chamber for allowing him to highlight the City of Moorhead. A special thank you to the police department for a successful PALS Cops vs. Kids. Thanks to those who served in the intergovernmental retreat planning. Thank you to first Presbyterian for hosting the Coffee with the Mayor for Ward 3. Thank you to Steve Moore for attending and sharing our snow removal procedures and protocols. Thank you to Steve Moore, Chief Monroe and Chief Duysen for their leadership during the snow emergency event. Congratulations on retirement to Chris Carey after 32 years with Moorhead PD.

18. [City Manager Reports - Updates](#)

Minutes: Intergovernmental Retreat was on January 24, 2020. Council member Carlson presented on Ageism and was really great. Local businesses also attended and offered their perspectives on how our local elected and appointed leaders can help them as we all move into continuing workforce challenges with five generations in the workforce. Thank you to all attendees, which was the best attended year yet.

19. Executive Session (If needed)

- A. [Executive session pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 13D.05, Subd. 3 \(b\), with the City Attorney to discuss potential litigation relating to of construction contracts for the Main Avenue and 21st Street Underpass project.](#)

**Motion to Enter Closed Session**

Motion to Enter Closed Session made by Shelly Dahlquist and seconded by Sara Watson Curry

Motion Passed

For: 8 - Shelly Dahlquist, Sara Watson Curry, Shelly Carlson, Heidi Durand, Deb White, Larry Seljevold, Chuck Hendrickson, Steve Lindaas

20. [New Business](#)

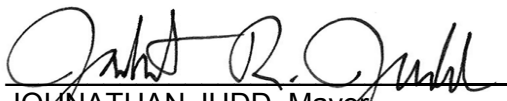
21. Citizens Addressing the Council (continued, if necessary)

Executive Session began at 7:52 pm

Executive Session ended at 8:20 pm

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm

APPROVED BY:

  
JOHNATHAN JUDD, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
CHRISTINA RUST, City Clerk

The proceedings of this meeting are digitally recorded and are available for public review.

*Respectfully submitted by:*  
*Christina Rust, City Clerk*