

The following actions were taken at the Oct. 5, 2016, City of Cottage Grove Council meeting

Operation Thank an Officer Donates Vest for K9

The City Council accepted a \$1447.99 donation from Operation Thank an Officer to purchase a ballistic vest for the City's K9 Gunnar. The Safariland Bark-9 Protech Tactical brand vest will be worn by K9 Gunnar during training and while on patrol. The vest was designed with the same passion and innovation as products for the human officer, and will provide protection for K9 Gunnar.

The nonprofit organization made the donation to show their appreciation and support of the Cottage Grove Police K9 Unit. A special presentation took place at the meeting to present the vest to Gunnar and his handler Officer Nils Torning. The City is very thankful and appreciative of the generous donation.

Contact: Craig Woolery, Director of Public Safety, 651-458-2850

Central Fire Station Update

John McNamara, with Wold Architects and Engineers, provided an update to City Council on the design progress of the new Central Fire Station. The design phase of the project is right on track. Wold continues to work on the site of the building to come up with some solutions around the location of the building.

One key thing that has been looked at is orientation of the building as it relates to site lines from 80th Street and the topography of that area. By rotating the building a larger parking lot can be included, for public events and fire training events. The site plan presented places the new building on top of the existing Fire Station 2. There would be cost savings if Station 2 is taken down before construction begins, with potential for saving construction time also.

The upper and lower floor plans were presented, with the public lobby area highlighted as potential for a historical display of older fire memorabilia. Exterior solutions were presented that works well with the park environment at that location as well as reflective of tradition and history of fire stations.

Contact: Rick Redenius, Fire Chief, 651-458-2855

MnDOT I-494 Improvements Presentation

The City Council heard a presentation from MnDOT on a 2018 project on I-494 just west of the Wakota Bridge. Congestion in that area can be tough during morning rush hour, with backups from I-494 onto Highway 61. In the presentation MnDOT laid out plans to help alleviate the congestion. This project will construct an auxiliary lane on westbound I-494 between Hardman Avenue and west of 7th Avenue. Construction will be spring through fall 2018.

Massage Therapist License

The City Council authorized the issuance of a massage therapist license to Maria Bongers, who will operate at The Healing Place of Cottage Grove.

Temporary Liquor License Issued for Fundraising Event

City Council approved the Liquor License application for the Cottage Grove Lions Club for the Oktoberfest event being held at Hope Glen Farms on October 16, 2016. Oktoberfest is an annual fundraiser for the Friends in Need Foodshelf.

80th Street and Hadley Avenue Quadrant Improvement Project

City Council received the response to an open forum request regarding the 80th Street and Hadley Avenue Quadrant Improvement Project. The project had its infancy in 2006 with the redevelopment of the Cottage Square Mall, now Norris Square. As a part of the Planned Development Overlay (PDO) for that redevelopment, the final site design included a public plaza at the southwest corner of 80th Street and Hadley Avenue. The last economic downturn halted progress on the additional phases of the project. After the recession when development discussions began again on the PDO, the City held a workshop on April 20, 2016, and opted to take the lead in having the plaza project completed and to also expand the scope and design of the project to include all corners of the intersection. The public plaza land will be donated to the City as well as the estimated cost to complete the original construction design. The improvements that have been coordinated on the private property at the northwest corner will be privately funded and will occur with the redevelopment of that shopping center. The project is on budget and is significantly on schedule with some delay caused by recent extensive rainfall periods.

Contact: John Burbank, AICP, Senior Planner, 651-458-2825

2016 Seal Coat Project Final Payment and Closeout

City Council approved the final payment for the 2016 Seal Coat Project to Allied Blacktop Company in the amount \$16,358.50. The project was a joint project with the Cities of Newport, St. Paul Park, and Denmark Township.

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Outdoor Recreation Grant

The City Council accepted a grant contract with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources in the amount of \$100,000 to be used towards the construction of an inclusive playground at Woodridge Park.

The grant program's purpose is to increase and enhance outdoor recreation facilities in local and community parks throughout the state. Successful applicants may receive matching funds up to \$100,000 towards project costs. Funding priorities use guiding principles from the 2014-2018 State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).

Contact: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director, 651-458-2847

Encroachment Agreement for a Portion of Cattail Avenue

City Council executed an agreement that would permit landowner access and use of the right-of-way on a portion of Cattail Avenue. As part of ISD-833 project development of the new Oltman Middle School, it was concluded that the existing roadway extension of Cattail Avenue to the west of Wildflower Drive South was no longer necessary to provide a public roadway to connect to the adjacent parcels. The existing right-of-way (ROW) is necessary to facilitate the extensions of water and sanitary sewer service to Oltman Middle School and beyond to currently undeveloped land. As part of the improvement project for the utilities, the existing road surface will be removed and not restored to a road surface; instead it will be restored to a grass area. The adjacent landowners approached the City about the use or purchase of the land area that previously had the road extension on it. The City still has a need for the ROW due to the utility extensions that existed in the area and would want to preserve ROW options if any redevelopment occurred in the future in the area.

Temporary Concrete Ready Mix and Bridge Production Plant

City Council approved Aggregate Industries' interim conditional use permit application for a temporary ready mix concrete plant, temporary concrete bridge casting production plant, the construction of a 100-foot wide by 600-foot metal building, a concrete casting storage yard occupying 20 to 25 acres of land, three cement

silos, barge slip, tempo-rary ready mix plant, and mobile trailers for office/product control lab as described in their January 2014 plan on property located at 11250 Grey Cloud Trail.

Contact: John McCool, Senior Planner, 651-458-2874

2016 Ash Tree Removal Contract

City Council authorized a service agreement with YTS Tree Service to remove 76 Ash trees for the price of \$23,594. T

The City Forester identified 76 Ash trees for removal in 2016 using the following criteria: Ash trees on the voluntary removal list (all or most trees are voluntary this year); Ash trees less than 1 0" in diameter; Trees considered to be in poor health; Trees posing current or potential future hazards to public safety and/or utilities; Trees showing internal or external damage; and Trees poor in appearance/shape.

Contact: Zac Dockter, Parks and Recreation Director, 651-458-2847

Turnout Gear Washer/Extractor 2017 Award Program Grant Application

City Council authorized City staff to apply for the Minnesota Fire Department Turnout Gear Washer/Extractor 2017 Award program through the MN Department of Public Safety Fire Marshal's Division to assist the fire department in the purchase of a commercial turnout gear washer/extractor.

As part of the design phase for the new Central Fire Station, City Staff looked at the best ways to keep gear clean and staff safe from contaminates which they come in contact with while training and working at fires. One of the ways to do this would be to upgrade the current gear washing/extracting unit. The fire department currently has one of these units, and by applying for a matching grant another unit could be purchased for reduced cost to the City.

The unit cost would be approximately \$13,954.00. The State portion would be 65 percent or \$9,070.10 dollars and the City portion would be 35 percent or \$4,884.00 dollars.

Contact: Rick Redenius, Fire Chief, 651-458-2855

New Oltman Middle School Final Plat

City Council adopted a resolution approving the final plat called New Oltman Middle School and the nine easement agreements for various storm sewer, sanitary sewer, and waterman improvements.

Contact: John McCool, Senior Planner, 651-458-2874

Afton Apple Orchard Fundraising Activity and Future Donation

City Council authorized the acceptance of a donation from Afton Apple Orchard at the end of the fall season. The donation will be earmarked for public safety education. Afton Apple's 2016 theme is "Thank Your Local Heros" as a way to honor public service personnel. Public Safety personnel from several agencies will be at their site over several weekends. A portion of the corn maze fee will be put towards the agency present that weekend. In addition, they are hosting a "Fill the Firefighter's Boot" contest. At the end of the contest, the winner's total will be matched by Afton Apple, up to \$1,000.

Contact: Rick Redenius, Fire Chief, 651-458-2855

Hy-Vee Public Utilities and 2017 Pavement Management Bolt Review

City Council awarding the quote for the Hy-Vee Public Utilities & 2017 Pavement Management Valve Bolt Review to the lowest accepted quote supplied by Didion Contracting in the amount of \$68,059.10.

Located on the Hy-Vee site in Cottage Grove are several City utilities, including sanitary sewer and storm sewer. The City recently inspected both the lines and structures related to these utilities for failures and deterioration and some issues were identified. With new development occurring it is important to complete these repairs now to prevent future issues, and with the site work underway, it is the most cost effective time to complete the work. In addition to the Hy-Vee site work, the City also plans to dig up several gate valve locations in the 2017 Pavement Management area to inspect the condition of the valves and bolts and determine if replacement will be required throughout the project areas. This work, which is completed each year in advance of the pavement management project, was included with the Hy-Vee site work to provide a more competitive quote.

2016 Pavement Management Public Hearing and Adoption of Assessments

A public hearing was held for the 2016 Pavement Management project, which included three areas in the City. District F3/F5, a residential area generally bound by south of 80th Street, east of East Central Ravine Park, west of Keats Avenue, and north of 85th Street; district D2, a residential area generally bound by south of Pine Hill Elementary school, east of Hadley Avenue, west of Hamlet Park, and north of 95th Street; and 80th Street from Ideal Avenue to Jamaica Avenue.

Project costs for District F3/F5 are \$1,580,060 with a proposed assessment amount of \$2,618.00 per residential buildable lot equivalent (RBLE). This compares to the original projected assessment amount based on the engineer's estimate of \$3,619.52.

Project costs for District D2 are \$1,904,822 with a proposed assessment amount of \$3,987.72 per residential buildable lot equivalent (RBLE). This compares to the original projected assessment amount based on the engineer's estimate of \$4,757.02.

Project costs for 80th Street are \$1, 157,847 with a proposed assessment amount of \$2,618. This compares to the original projected assessment amount based on the engineer's estimate of \$3,619.52.

After the public hearing, City Council adopted the assessment roll for the 2016 Pavement Management project. Property owners will have 30 days to pay the entire assessment, or make a partial payment of at least \$500, without incurring interest charges. Assessments not paid within 30 days are certified to Washington County for collection over the next 15 years. If certified to the County, annual principal and interest payments will be added to the property taxes of the affected parcel.

Tall Weeds Assessments Public Hearing

A public hearing was held for the assessment of \$3,325 for the mowing and removal of weeds from private property. In 2016, 101 property owners were notified that they were in violation of the City's Noxious Weeds and Plants; height restrictions ordinance. Ten of those property owners did not fix the conditions within the ten days allowed.

After the public hearing, City Council passed a resolution assessing the charges for the removal of the noxious weeds and plants.

Hazardous Property Assessments Public Hearing

A public hearing was held for the assessment of \$3,884.96 for the removal of public safety hazards from two private properties.

After the public hearing, City Council passed a resolution assessing the charges for the removal of the public safety hazards.

Mayor and City Council Member Salary

City Council passed, with a 3 to 2 vote, an Ordinance amendment increasing the salaries to \$10,848 annually (\$904 monthly) for the Mayor and \$8,172 annually (\$681 monthly) for Council Members, effective Jan. 1, 2017.

The current Cottage Grove Mayor stipend is \$9,216, and the average stipend of peer communities is \$10,842. The currently Cottage Grove City Council Member stipend is \$6,780, and the average stipend of peer communities is \$8,161.

Council stipends were last increased on Sept. 6, 2006 with an effective date of Jan. 1, 2007. Prior to that increase, the last increase was in 1995.