

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL
LITTLE CANADA, MINNESOTA**

DECEMBER 15, 2021

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof a special meeting of the City Council of Little Canada, Minnesota was convened on the 15th day of December, 2021 in the Council Chambers of the City Center located at 515 Little Canada Road in said City.

Mayor John Keis called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and the following members of the City Council were present at roll call:

CITY COUNCIL: Mayor Keis, Council Members McGraw, Fischer, Miller and Torkelson.
Absent: None.

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Chris Heineman, Finance Director Brenda Malinowski, Parks & Rec/Community Services Director Bryce Shearen, Public Works Director Bill Dircks and City Clerk/HR Manager Heidi Heller.

MINUTES

McGraw introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

***RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-150 – APPROVING THE MINUTES OF THE
DECEMBER 1 2021 WORKSHOP AND DECEMBER 1, 2021 REGULAR MEETINGS
AS SUBMITTED***

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Fischer.
Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution adopted.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Parks & Rec/Community Services Director stated that the Cookies with Santa event on Saturday, December 4 was very successful, and staff received great feedback from attendees.

PRESENTATION

Fire Chief Don Smiley and Assistant Fire Chief & Charitable Gambling Manager, Tim Boss, stated they have been conducting charitable gambling for many years. He explained that they have been able to use these funds to purchase equipment and pay for other department items so they do not have to rely on the City for everything. Tim Boss thanked Gordie's Bar and their staff for running the gambling there, and thanked Hoggsbreath for allowing the gambling at the restaurant. He noted they employ about 25 people to run the pull-tabs at Hoggsbreath. They presented a check for \$140,000 to the City that will go into the Equipment Fund at the City to purchase fire department equipment and vehicles.

McGraw introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

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RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-151 – ACCEPTING A DONATION FROM THE LITTLE CANADA FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR \$140,000 FOR THE FIRE EQUIPMENT FUND

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Fischer.
Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution declared adopted.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Jim Malone, 3282 Hamel Court, stated he is opposed to the apartment development on Twin Lake Boulevard. He stated that going up to R-3, high density level of development is too big of a jump and at most it should go to R-2, medium density. He explained they only have 70 homes in their neighborhood.

PUBLIC HEARING - IMPROVEMENT NO. 2022-02 YORKTON RIDGE & NO. 2022-03 MAPLE LANE WITH PART OF JACKSON STREET

Mayor Keis opened the Public Hearing to consider the improvement of Yorkton Ridge (from Condit Street to end of the cul-de-sac) and Maple Lane and part of Jackson Street (from end of the cul-de-sac to Labore Avenue) by full depth reclamation with new asphalt paving, minor curb repairs, and minor/spot improvements to the underground utility systems.

The City Engineer reported that the purpose of tonight's hearing is to present the proposed improvement of Yorkton Ridge and Maple Lane and part of Jackson Street to the City Council and impacted property owners. This meeting gives property owners the opportunity to provide input and voice concerns about the project. The City Council will then determine whether or not the project moves forward.

The City Engineer provided information and showed photos of the conditions of both streets that resulted in the proposed improvement. He stated these are low-volume residential streets that have aged to the point where rehabilitation is recommended.

The City Engineer explained the City's street improvement planning process. He explained that after the streets that need work are determined, the process begins with neighborhood informational meetings and progresses on to the public hearing to consider ordering of the improvement, which is this evening's hearing. Once bids are received and awarded, construction starts, and then typically after substantial completion of the project, the assessment hearings will be held.

The Engineer then explained the assessment hearing process. He stated that the hearings will be held on October 10, 2022 and property owners have the opportunity to voice opinions on the proposed assessments. The Council would act on any objections received and then adopt the assessments. The assessment amounts can be paid within 30 days with no interest charged; otherwise they will be assessed to property taxes for a period of 10 years with an interest rate that depends on the bond rates. Interest would then accrue from the date the assessment was approved. The assessments can be paid off at any time.

The City Engineer reviewed the construction process and noted there will be times that driveway access is restricted due to construction activities, however, emergency vehicle access will be

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maintained at all times. Mail and garbage service will be maintained. Mail service is typically moved to a temporary box outside the project area if the Post Master requests. The Engineer reported that property owners will be kept informed of timing of construction activities that will restrict access. He also noted that there will be an on-site inspector available to address property owner concerns. He noted that the City Code allows construction work hours from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays and 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturdays.

The City Engineer reported on project funding, noting that sanitary sewer, water main and storm sewer repair costs would not be assessed. He explained that fifty percent (50%) of the street costs will be funded through special assessments to benefitting property owners. The Engineer then explained the special assessment process in detail which is based on the City's Assessment Policy that has been in place since 1995.

At this point the public hearing was opened for comments from the general public. There were no comments from the public.

Upon motion by Keis, seconded by McGraw, the public hearing was closed.

Fischer introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-152 – ORDERING THE IMPROVEMENT AND PREPARATION OF PLANS FOR IMPROVEMENT NO. 2022-02, YORKTON RIDGE AND IMPROVEMENT NO. 2022-03, MAPLE LANE AND A PORTION OF JACKSON STREET

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by McGraw.

Ayes (5).

Nays (0). Resolution declared adopted.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONSIDER REZONING REQUEST FOR PARCEL A & PARCEL B ON TWIN LAKE BOULEVARD; APPLICANT: REUTER WALTON DEVELOPMENT AND CONSIDER HOUSING FINANCE PROGRAM FOR PROPOSED TWIN LAKE BOULEVARD APARTMENT PROJECT

The City Administrator explained that the City has received an application to consider rezoning two vacant parcels of land from R-1, Single Family Residential, to R-3, High Density Residential, in order to construct a multi-family housing project. He reported that the City has owned the two parcels since 1983 and have held them for development since then. He stated the lots are currently zoned R-1, Single Family Residential and have had a few developers look at the properties over the years, but none have been able to make a project work. The City Administrator reviewed the proposal and draft site plan which is one 60-unit multi-family building on each parcel, for a total of 120 units, with underground parking.

The City Administrator reported the Planning Commission reviewed this proposal on December 9, 2021 and recommended approval of rezoning the two parcels from R-1, Single Family Residential to R-3, High Density Residential, contingent on approval of Comprehensive Plan Amendment.

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The City Administrator explained that the developer is planning to submit an application to Minnesota Housing for Housing Facility Revenue Bonds for a maximum amount of \$9,319,750. He stated this is a key portion of financing an apartment project like this.

Keis asked the City Administrator to review the traffic for this project. The City Administrator explained that one entrance into the site will be off of Bankers Drive. He stated that Bolton & Menk completed a traffic study of the project area at the request of City staff. The traffic study analyzed traffic counts and traffic flow with the proposed additional 120 units and does not meet the criteria to require dedicated turn lanes or a 4-way stop.

Paul Keenan, Reuter Walton Development, explained that most of the comments heard at the Planning Commission meeting and neighborhood meeting were about the size of the project, amount of traffic and entrance and exit points. He stated they will phase the project and not build both structures at the same time. He explained that there is a lot of research available that shows multi-family housing does not lower property values of surrounding neighborhood. He noted they use a quality management company and will have on-site management. He stated they are willing to consider turn lanes on Twin Lake Boulevard, and had initially proposed to have three new access points, but both staff and neighbors felt that was too many so they will only add one new access and will also use Bankers Drive which is an existing street.

Fischer asked what the oldest development Reuter Walton has in the Twin Cities. Mr. Keenan stated about 10 years old. Fischer asked how the upkeep has been. Mr. Keenan stated they set aside money to maintain the properties, and noted after about 10 years buildings will need some improvements and revamping. Fischer asked if a playground for kids would be built. Mr. Keenan stated they will install a play area between the buildings.

McGraw stated that people are wondering about the rent amounts and asked if the residents have to pay the rent or are there government programs where the tenants are getting their rent. Mr. Keenan explained that the tenants will be responsible to pay the rent. Mr. Keenan stated they will be using the Section 42 Program and residents receive no additional public subsidies to help them with the rent. McGraw clarified that the financing they are asking for is to get the project off the ground. Mr. Keenan explained they are asking the State of Minnesota for bonding authority, and if they get it, that comes with low income housing tax credits, which they then sell to investors as an equity investment. McGraw asked if they get this financing, can they change to the Section 8 program later on. Mr. Keenan stated he has never seen that happen. McGraw asked how they know if people qualify for the rent. Mr. Keenan explained that HUD puts out household limits and the property managers do an extensive investigation of income and assets to make sure the potential tenant qualifies. McGraw asked how much income is needed to live there. Mr. Keenan stated their rule is the income must be at least 2 ½ times the monthly rent. He noted that a family of four can make up to \$63,000 per year and live there. McGraw noted that someone like a new teacher could qualify to live here.

Torkelson stated that one of the biggest concerns of the neighbors is the type of tenants that will be living there. He asked Mr. Keenan to explain why the Michaels Organization is a good

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management company, what kind of on-site management will be there and what type of security is provided. Mr. Keenan stated that the Michaels Organization manages 60,000 units so they are very experienced, he expects that on-site managers will get to know the residents and

Dan Leibel, 105 Twin Lake Blvd, stated he lives right next door to these properties. He stated this is the worst thing that can go there. He feels it will be an eyesore and the property is way too small. He stated this neighborhood has been residential his whole life. He stated that 120 units will put a lot of traffic into the neighborhood and feels this is a bad idea. He stated using Bankers Drive is the worst place for the access and it should be on the waterworks property.

Bob Leibel, 124 Twin Lake Boulevard, stated that they are adding 120 units which is a lot, and there are a lot more than 40 hours in a week for an on-site manager to not be there. He said there will be a lot of cars and when it snows they will have to park on Twin Lake Boulevard. He said it will look nice at first and he is not in favor of this.

Kathy Lestina, 313 Bankers Drive, stated she is opposed to this project. She looks out her window now and sees trees and does not want to look out to see an apartment complex, which is what it will be.

Bill Dircks, 80 Twin Lake Boulevard, stated that he agrees with almost everything he has heard tonight and fees that jumping to R-3 is too much.

Denise Leibel, 105 Twin Lake Boulevard, stated she does not understand why it would be turned into R-3, and has never seen it be offered up as single-family and wonders why that was not done. She thought that Little Canada would keep the integrity of the neighborhood. She stated that this will be low income and there is already low income in the trailer park, and there will be more crime. She cannot believe this parcel will be jammed with these buildings, and there is not enough parking. She stated they have the audacity to ask for help with financing. It should be single family housing where the whole cost is taken on by the buyers. She stated that she asks the Council to consider who is speaking to them and the issues they are bringing up.

Upon motion by Fischer, seconded by McGraw, the public hearing was closed.

Fischer asked the City Administrator why it has not been considered as single family. The City Administrator explained that it is not big enough site for a full development area and it financially has not worked to build single family homes. Torkelson asked if it could work to sell it as single-family lots. The City Administrator stated that the adjacent neighborhood has been a concern for being able to sell the property for low-density housing. McGraw stated that the last developer had plans for townhomes but could not make it work financially. Fischer stated that he understands the concerns of the neighborhood and it has been as-is for many years, but he also has a responsibility to the entire city and developments like this help lessen the tax burden on everyone. He stated that the infrastructure needed to make single-family homes here work may be too much to overcome.

Keis asked the City Administrator to explain the timeline. The City Administrator stated that there is an application for financing due in January, so if the Council has an interest in this type of

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development, the steps are to rezone the property and take steps to supporting the financing application. He noted without the approval of the financing application, this project cannot happen. He stated the financing application for tax-exempt bonds only happens twice a year. He explained that if the financing is approved, then there would be site plan reviews later on.

Keis asked if this was postponed, what additional information would the Council be looking for. Miller stated the residents have valid concerns, but she does not feel there is any other information they would need if it was postponed. Fischer stated that the primary concern from the neighbors seems to be the building itself and cars going in and out. He stated that he would be interested to see if anyone else has the capital to purchase the property. Keis stated that if this was postponed, would the developer even be interested in six months. McGraw stated that he understands the concerns, and this has been the first project that has been able to work, and asked if this is actually approving the project. The City Administrator explained that the first action is just to rezone the property, but the second action is to support the financing application for Reuter Walton to Minnesota Housing which involves a significant deposit from them. Fischer stated that he is at the point of tapping the brakes because he is feeling rushed, and noted it is not the City's problem that the developer is on a short timeline right now. Keis stated he does not know what other information they would get if postponing. McGraw stated that he does agree with Fischer, but we may be in the same place in a few months.

Torkelson stated that he did a lot of research into whether multi-family housing hurts property values and does not feel that is a valid argument. He understands the concerns though. He stated that the Twin Cities desperately needs housing, and the residents who would live here are working residents who have to pay the rent. He feels the housing shortage is a regional problem and stopping potential affordable housing development hurts the region. Torkelson stated that a quality property management company will make the property a quality property.

Keis introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-153 – ADOPT ORDINANCE 859, AMENDING THE LITTLE CANADA ZONING MAP TO REZONE PID 313022310001 AND PID 313022310002 FROM R-1, SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL TO R-3, HIGH DENSITY RESIDENTIAL, CONTINGENT UPON A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Torkelson.
Ayes (4). Nays (1). Fischer. Resolution declared adopted.

Fischer stated that he voted no because he feels the city is going too fast and are going on the developer's timeline.

Keis introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-154 – APPROVE RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSAL FOR A HOUSING FINANCE PROGRAM

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AND GIVING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL ON THE ISSUANCE OF MULTI-FAMILY RENTAL HOUSING REVENUE BONDS

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Torkelson.
Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution declared adopted.

PUBLIC HEARING – RENEWAL OF PAWN BROKERS LICENSE & SECOND-HAND GOODS DEALER LICENSES

Keis opened the Public Hearing to consider the approval of the following Pawn Brokers License and Second-Hand Goods Dealers Licenses:

Pawn Brokers License –Lincoln Pawn & Jewelry
Second-Hand Goods Dealers Licenses – Lincoln Pawn & Jewelry, Christian Life Ministries/New Day Mission Wearhouse Thrift Store, Joe’s Sporting Goods, Quality Furniture, Three Stars Sportscards

The City Clerk reported that application materials have been submitted, all of the background checks are in order, and a satisfactory review of the calls for service by the Ramsey County Sheriff’s Department was completed. She stated that staff recommends approving these licenses for 2022.

There was no one from the public present wishing to comment on this matter.

Upon motion by McGraw, seconded by Fischer the public hearing was closed.

Keis introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-155 – APPROVING THE ISSUANCE OF THE FOLLOWING LICENSES AS RECOMMENDED BY THE CITY CLERK FOR THE LICENSE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2022 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022:

***Pawn Brokers License – Lincoln Pawn & Jewelry
Second Hand Goods Dealers Licenses –
Lincoln Pawn & Jewelry
Christian Life Ministries/New Day Mission Wearhouse Thrift Store
Joe’s Sporting Goods
Quality Furniture
Three Stars Sportscards***

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by McGraw.
Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution declared adopted.

PUBLIC HEARING –ADOPTION OF 2022 BUDGET & FINAL LEVY

The City Administrator stated that the preliminary budget was adopted in September, and tonight is

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the final step for adopting the 2022 budget. He reviewed the process for how the budget was prepared and primary changes from last year.

The Finance Director stated that twenty-one cents of every dollar paid in property taxes comes back to the City of Little Canada. She stated that the preliminary levy was adopted at 5% in September, and reviewed two options for the final property tax levy at either 5% or 4.5%. She reviewed the largest property tax levy changes. She noted that in 2022 Little Canada will fall to the fourth lowest tax rate in Ramsey County.

Keis opened the public hearing to consider adoption of the City's 2022 Budget.

There were no comments from the public. Upon motion by Fischer, seconded by McGraw, the public hearing was closed.

McGraw introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-156 – ADOPTING THE 2021 TAX LEVY COLLECTIBLE IN 2022, BASED ON A 5% INCREASE, FOR THE CITY OF LITTLE CANADA AS FOLLOWS:

<i>GROSS TAX LEVY</i>	<i>\$3,582,330</i>
<i>General Fund</i>	<i>\$3,330,130</i>
<i>Fire Equipment Fund</i>	<i>\$160,000</i>
<i>Infrastructure Fund</i>	<i>\$122,200</i>

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Torkelson.
Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution declared adopted.

Fischer introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-157 – ADOPTING THE 2022 BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,761,410 AT A 5% LEVY INCREASE

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Miller.
Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution declared adopted.

Fischer introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-158 – APPROVE RATIFYING THE 2022 SALARY WAGE SCALE AS PRESENTED

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by McGraw.

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Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution declared adopted.

CONSENT AGENDA

Torkelson introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-159 – APPROVING THE CONSENT AGENDA WHICH CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING:

- Approval of the Vouchers
- Approve Final Pay Request to Forest Lake Contracting, Inc. for Spooner Park Storm Sewer Project
- Authorize Approval of Year-End Voucher Payments by Email
- Accept Donations Received August 12 – December 10, 2021
- Approve Not Waiving Option on League of MN Cities Liability Coverage Waiver

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by McGraw.

Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution adopted.

Upon motion by Torkelson, seconded by Fischer, the Council meeting was paused for a 5 minute break.

2022 APPOINTMENTS TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION & SELECTION OF THE 2022 CHAIR

The City Clerk reported that the terms for Nick Schwalbach and Dawn Kulousek will expire on December 31, 2021. She noted that there are two 3-year terms to fill. She explained that staff posted in the City's newsletter and website that the City was taking applications for the Commissions. She stated that Mr. Schwalbach is at the 3-term limit so he cannot be reappointed at this time, Dawn Kulousek has requested to be reappointed, and two applications were received. She explained that all new Commission applicants are interviewed by a committee made up of two City Council members, the staff liaison and the Commission Chair. She stated that the interview committee was impressed with both candidates, and are recommending that Dawn Kulousek be reappointed to a 3-year term, and Isaac Mitchell should be appointed to a 3-year term. She noted that the Mayor will make a recommendation on the Chair appointment.

The City Clerk stated that staff would like to thank Nick Schwalbach for his 9 years of service on the Planning Commission, including the past 2 years as the chair. He was a valuable member of the Commission and always participated with great input and questions.

McGraw introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2020-12-160 – APPOINT DAWN KULOUSEK AND ISAAC MITCHELL TO 3-YEAR TERMS FROM 2022-2024 ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION, AND APPOINT CHRIS KWAPICK TO BE THE PLANNING COMMISSION CHAIR IN 2022

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The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Torkelson.
Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution declared adopted.

**2022 APPOINTMENTS TO THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION &
SELECTION OF THE 2021 CHAIR**

The City Clerk reported that the terms for Tom Ray and Peter Schletty will expire on December 31, 2020. She noted that there are two 3-year terms to fill. She explained that staff posted in the City's newsletter and website that the City was taking applications for the Commissions. She stated that Peter Schletty requested to be reappointed, and three new applications were received. She explained that all new Commission applicants are interviewed by a committee made up of two City Council members, the staff liaison and the Commission Chair. She stated that the interview committee was very impressed with all three of the candidates, and are recommending that Peter Schletty be reappointed to a 3-year term, and Mike Mui be appointed to a 3-year term. She noted that the Mayor will make a recommendation on the Chair appointment.

The City Clerk stated that staff would like to thank Tom Ray for his 6 years of service on the Parks & Recreation Commission. He has been a very valuable member as this Commission has evolved over the last several years. He played an important role on the Commission as the City's recent Parks Master Plan was completed, along with planning and reviewing the many park improvements that have been done in the last few years.

McGraw introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

***RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-161 – APPOINT PETER SCHLETTY AND MIKE MUI TO
3-YEAR TERMS FROM 2022-2024 ON THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION,
AND APPOINT DAVE MILLER TO BE THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
CHAIR IN 2022***

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Torkelson.
Roll Call Vote: Keis/Fischer/Montour/Torkelson/McGraw
Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution declared adopted.

2022 LITTLE CANADA FIRE DEPARTMENT CONTRACT

The City Administrator stated that the 2022 Fire Department contract has updated budget numbers to reflect the City's adopted 2022 budget. He noted that the Fire Department has not formally approved this contract yet, but they have received a copy to review.

Torkelson introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

***RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-162 – APPROVING THE 2022 FIRE DEPARTMENT
CONTRACT AS PRESENTED BY THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR, SUBJECT TO ANY
COMMENTS BY THE LITTLE CANADA FIRE DEPARTMENT***

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The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Miller.
Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution declared adopted.

ORDINANCE 858, AMENDING THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR 2022 WATER & SEWER RATES, WATER METER COST, PARK FACILITY RENTAL RATES AND PARK CHARGES

The City Clerk stated this ordinance was amending the Fee Schedule for the 2022 water and sewer rates, the new cost of water meters for single family homes, an added zoning permit for accessory buildings that are under 200 square feet, increased rates for park facility rental fees, and an increase to park charges for new development.

Keis introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-163 – ADOPT ORDINANCE 858, AMENDING THE FEE SCHEDULE FOR 2022 WATER & SEWER RATES, WATER METER COST, PARK FACILITY RENTAL RATES AND PARK CHARGES

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Miller.
Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution adopted.

PURCHASE SHELTER BUILDING FOR RONDEAU PARK

The Parks & Rec/Community Services Director stated that from the direction of the City Council to proceed with improvements at Rondeau Park in 2022, staff continues to work on planned upgrades. He explained that the Park System Master Plan identified the addition of a small picnic shelter with picnic tables and a small barbeque grill for Rondeau Park. He reported that staff surveyed the neighborhood for feedback on which type of shelter was preferred at the park and gave two options. He stated the first option was a square-style shelter, and the second option was a hexagonal-style shelter, both styles of shelters are similar in cost. He reported that the survey results showed a preference for a hexagon-style shelter, and staff reached out to two vendors for pricing on a 20-foot open-air shelter.

The Parks & Rec/Community Services Director stated that with the long lead times and potential price increases in supplies next year, staff wants to order the shelter as soon as possible. He noted that the Parks & Recreation Commission agreed with the Master Plan to add an open-air picnic shelter at Rondeau Park. Since this park is within Qualified Census Tract 421.01, staff is proposing to use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for the purchase of playground equipment.

Fischer introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-164 – APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF A HEXAGON-STYLE OPEN-AIR PICNIC SHELTER FROM ST. CROIX RECREATION FOR UP TO \$50,100

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by McGraw.
Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution adopted.

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OPIOID SETTLEMENT OPT-IN RESOLUTION

The City Administrator explained that in August 2021, the Attorney General’s Office joined historic \$26 billion multistate settlement agreements with pharmaceutical distributors McKesson, Cardinal Health, and AmerisourceBergen, and opioid manufacturer Johnson & Johnson. The parties to these settlements are states and cities and counties, and the settlement agreements resolve investigations into the companies’ roles in distributing and marketing opioids. The City Administrator explained that Minnesota’s maximum share of the settlements is nearly \$300 million, but could be as little as half that amount if cities do not sign on.

The City Administrator reported that on December 6, 2021 the Attorney General’s Office announced an agreement with Minnesota cities and counties on how funds from these settlements will be allocated: 75% to counties and cities that sign on, and 25% to the State, to be spent on opioid abatement. He stated that each political subdivision, via its local legislative body, should adopt a resolution that authorizes a representative of the subdivision to execute the MN MOA and both subdivision settlement participation forms (Distributors and Johnson & Johnson), which are required to join the settlements. In order to receive payments, cities must sign the Minnesota Opioids State-Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement (MN MOA), and separately sign on to both settlement agreements with Distributors and Johnson & Johnson. Cities and counties must sign on to the settlements by January 2, 2021. The City Administrator stated that a specific dollar amount has not been identified for the City of Little Canada, however adopting a resolution to opt-in will allow us to receive a future settlement. City staff will work with Ramsey County and other cities to develop and implement a program over the coming months.

McGraw introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION NO. 2021-12-165 – APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) BETWEEN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL OPIOID SETTLEMENTS

The foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Miller.
Ayes (5). Nays (0). Resolution adopted.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:09 p.m.

John T. Keis, Mayor

Attest:

Christopher Heineman, City Administrator