

Council Chair Charles Zelle

Council Members

Abdirahman Muse

Deb Barber

Kris Fredson

Molly Cummings

Phillip Sterner

Reva Chamblis

Susan Vento

Chai Lee

Francisco J. Gonzalez

Lynnea Atlas-Ingebretson

Peter Lindstrom

Raymond Zeran

Robert Lilligren

Wendy Wulff

Christopher Ferguson

Judy Johnson

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 25, 2021

4:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

IN ATTENDANCE

Atlas-Ingebretson, Barber, Chamblis, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Chair Zelle

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Cummings, Lindstrom, Muse, Zeran

CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Zelle called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. on the following roll call vote:

Aye:	13	Atlas-Ingebretson, Barber, Chamblis, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Chair Zelle
Nay:	0	
Absent	4	Cummings, Lindstrom, Muse, Zeran

AGENDA APPROVED

Chair Zelle noted that a roll call vote is not needed for approval of the agenda. Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Sterner, seconded by Chamblis to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2021 Council meeting.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye:	13	Atlas-Ingebretson, Barber, Chamblis, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Chair Zelle
Nay:	0	
Absent	4	Cummings, Lindstrom, Muse, Zeran

BUSINESS

2021-205:

Adoption of the following Resolutions for the Metropolitan Council's Preliminary 2022 Unified Operating Budget and the Proposed 2021, Payable 2022, Tax Levies:

- 2021-20: Adopting the Metropolitan Council's Preliminary 2022 Unified Operating Budget
- 2021-21: Adopting the Metropolitan Council's Proposed 2021 Tax Levy for General Purposes for Certification to the County Auditors
- 2021-22: Adopting the Metropolitan Council's Proposed 2021 Tax Levy for General Purposes for Certification to the Minnesota Commissioner of Revenue
- 2021-23: Adopting a Proposed 2021 Tax Levy for the Livable Communities Demonstration Account in the Metropolitan Livable Communities Fund
- 2021-24: Adopting a Proposed 2021 Tax Levy for the Tax Base Revitalization Account of the Livable Communities Act
- 2021-25: Resolution Certifying a Tax Levy for 2021 for Debt Service on Future Transit Bonds
- 2021-26: Resolution Certifying a Tax Levy for 2021 for Debt Service on Future Parks Bonds

It was moved by Ferguson, seconded by Johnson.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye:	13	Atlas-Ingebretson, Barber, Chamblis, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Chair Zelle
Nay:	0	
Absent	4	Cummings, Lindstrom, Muse, Zeran

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda (Items 1-5)

Consent Agenda Adopted

- 2021-186:** That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contract 21P056 with Total Administrative Service Corporation to provide COBRA/Direct Billing and Flexible Spending Account Administrative services for all eligible Council employees and retirees in an amount not to exceed \$800,000.
- 2021-206:** That the Metropolitan Council:
 - 1. Approve Ramsey County's Bruce Vento Regional Trail Master Plan Amendment.
 - 2. Inform Ramsey County that, when Segment 4 alignments have been finalized, it must submit a future master plan amendment to update regional trail boundaries and acquisition costs.
 - 3. Require Ramsey County, prior to initiating any new development of the regional trail corridor, to send preliminary plans to the Metropolitan Council's Environmental Services Division Assistant Manager
- 2021-208:** That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Review Record and take the following actions:

1. Authorize the City of Waconia to place its comprehensive plan amendment into effect.
2. Find that the amendment does not change the City’s community-wide forecasts.
3. Advise the City to implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for Forecasts.

2021-212: That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Review Record and take the following actions:

1. Authorize the City of Farmington to place its comprehensive plan amendment into effect.
2. Find that the amendment does not change the City’s forecasts.
3. Find that the amendment renders the City’s comprehensive plan inconsistent with the Council’s housing policy, and that the City is therefore considered “not in good standing” for the purposes of the Livable Communities Act (LCA) programs.
4. Advise the City
 - a. To be consistent with Council housing policy, the City needs to reguide additional acres expected to develop in the 2021-2030 decade to a land use with a minimum density of 12 units per acre or raise the minimum density of an existing land use to 12 units per acre to accommodate a minimum of 128 additional units.
 - b. To implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for parks, wastewater, forecasts, housing, and natural resources.

2021-215: That the Metropolitan Council adopt Resolution 2021-27 (attached) as required by Minnesota Housing, to authorize the Director of the Housing and Redevelopment Authority to execute a continuation grant agreement for the Housing Trust Fund Program.

It was moved by Sterner, seconded by Vento.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye:	13	Atlas-Ingebretson, Barber, Chamblis, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Chair Zelle
Nay:	0	
Absent	4	Cummings, Lindstrom, Muse, Zeran

BUSINESS

Community Development – Reports on consent agenda

Environment – No reports

Management – Reports are on consent agenda

Transportation

2021-210: That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator through the Southwest Light Rail Transit (SWLRT) Council Authorized Representative to negotiate and execute a change order for Contract 15P307A with Lunda McCrossan Joint Venture (LMJV) in an amount not to exceed \$29,979,444.69; and that the Council authorize an

additional 9.49% to the 20.33% cumulative cap of change order authority under Council Procedure 14-1a for Contract 15P307A.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Lilligren.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye:	13	Atlas-Ingebretson, Barber, Chamblis, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Chair Zelle
Nay:	0	
Absent	4	Cummings, Lindstrom, Muse, Zeran

INFORMATION ITEM

1. METRO HRA Annual Public Housing Agency Plan (Terri Smith, 651-602-1187)

HRA Director Terri Smith presented the information to the Council.

Council Member Chamblis stated it's important to engage and communicate with the Equity Advisory Committee (EAC) and community and be created in how we address the issues with staff and voucher funding and limitations. Council Member Chamblis also had questions regarding the cycle of vouchers and distribution.

Council Member Vento expressed thanks to staff and suggested convening a region wide conversation.

Council Member Lilligren expressed thanks to the staff and council members and is supportive of the recommendations. He voiced not to put a number or percentage on Project Based Vouchers (PBV) and stated this is a complicated process, and the issue is we don't have enough production and have limited resources.

Council Member Johnson expressed gratitude for Terri Smith and staff and is excited about the program. She made comments regarding the projects on waiting list and gaps in funding and that we had additional project-based vouchers. She suggested going forward, hire more staff and look at combining the waiting list and Project Based Vouchers (PBV) list, and council members should reach out to Congressman.

Terri Smith clarified all vouchers are in use or cycled.

Council Member Atlas-Ingebretson supports the plan and appreciates Council Member Lilligren for bring this discussion forward to Council meeting. She would also value visual story telling of peoples experience and engagement.

Chair Zelle stated this is important and complicated issue.

Council Member Vento recommended two articles in the Sunday Tribune about the City of St. Paul and Ramsey Country efforts addressing housing last year and Counterpoint: Local housing solutions are best addressed by cities.

REPORTS

Chair Zelle praised staff who helped facilitate the subcommittee field hearing with Senator Smith and Federal Transit Administrator to talk about MN transportation.

Council Members: None

Regional Administrator: None

General Counsel Ann Bloodhart reported they completed a two-week clerkship with Twin Cities Diversity and Practice and stated we are the only government entity involved. They have also been working with Just Deeds, and the team has completed training and will be matched with cities to do pro bono work. Ann reported she has been mentoring a law student from the Center for Economic Inclusion.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Metropolitan Council Meeting of August 11, 2021.

Approved this 28th day of August 2021.

Liz Sund
Recording Secretary