Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 11, 2021  4:00 p.m.    Council Chambers

IN ATTENDANCE
Atlas-Ingebretson, Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran

Members Absent:
Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle

CALL TO ORDER
A quorum being present, Vice Chair Cummings called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. on the following roll call vote:

Nay:  0
Absent  3 Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle

AGENDA APPROVED
Vice Chair Cummings 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 Vento, seconded by Lindstrom to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2021 Council meeting.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Nay:  0
Absent  3 Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle
BUSINESS

2021-143 JT: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the 2021 Unified Budget as indicated and in accordance with the attached tables.

It was moved by Ferguson, seconded by Johnson.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Nay: 0
Absent 3 Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle

2021-187 JT SW: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the 2021 Unified Budget as amended and in accordance with the attached tables.

It was moved by Ferguson, seconded by Barber.

Council member Ferguson stated the Council is doing a good job overseeing and managing the project and will continue to look at request for changes and budget amendment in detail.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Nay: 0
Absent 3 Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle

CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Consent Agenda (Items 1-11)

Consent Agenda Adopted

2021-174: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to execute grant agreements funded by Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA) with the following transit agencies:

- Maple Grove Transit: $996,093
- Minnesota Valley Transit Authority: $5,021,138
- Plymouth Metrolink: $975,735
- SouthWest Transit: $2,072,432
- University of Minnesota: $890,912

2021-178: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 21P084 with Railworks Track Systems Inc., for replacement track, rail, upgrades and replacement of signal system components on the METRO Blue Line in an amount not to exceed $15,033,893.

2021-193: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contracts 21P068(A-D) with Minnesota Occupational Health, Inc. to provide occupational health medical services, drug and alcohol collection and lab services in an
amount not to exceed $3,962,650, and with CMS Medical Services to provide drug and alcohol program administration services in an amount not to exceed $248,133. The total procurement value will not exceed $4,210,693.

2021-195: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the Regional Administrator to execute a grant agreement with Minnesota Valley Transit Authority for $3,500,000 funded by the Buses and Bus Facilities Program (49 U.S.C. 5339).

2021-197: Proposed Action

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

2021-198: 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.

2021-199: That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:

1. Authorize the City of Minnetrista to place its comprehensive plan amendment into effect.
2. Find that the amendment does not change the City’s forecasts.
3. Revise the Thrive MSP 2040 Community Designation for the subject parcel from Agricultural to Diversified Rural as shown in Figure 3 in the Review Record.

2021-202: That the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to award and execute a construction contract 20P018, for Hopkins System Improvements, East Isles – Contract G, MCES Project No. 819015 with Minger Construction for their low responsive, responsible bid of $4,839,294.00.

2021-203: That the Metropolitan Council adopts Resolution 19 authorizing the acquisition and condemnation of real property for the L46 and L49 Lift Station Improvements, MCES Project No. 802831.

2021-204: That the Metropolitan Council adopts Resolution 20 authorizing the acquisition and condemnation of real property for the Lake Elmo West Connection, MCES Project No. 806325.

2021-207: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Executive Director of Community Development to execute grant agreements and amendments for the State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2021 Parks and Trails Legacy Fund Program (Legacy) hold-back funds and the SFY 2022 Legacy funds up to the amounts indicated, and in accordance with, Table 1.

It was moved by Sterner, seconded by Johnson.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:
BUSINESS
Community Development

2021-47: That the Metropolitan Council amend Table 2 of Business Item 2021-47 to change the deadline for submitting LCDA-TOD Program grant applications from September 7, 2021 to September 27, 2021.

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Chamblis.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 13 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent 3 Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle
Not Recorded: 1 Atlas-Ingebretson

2021-200: That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:

Recommendations of the Community Development Committee

1. Authorize the City of Grant to place its 2040 Comprehensive Plan into effect.
2. Advise the City that when available, to provide to the Council the date the Rice Creek Watershed District approved the Local Water Management Plan and the date the City adopted the final Local Water Management Plan.

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Gonzales.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 13 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent 3 Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle
Not Recorded: 1 Atlas-Ingebretson

Environment – Reports are on consent agenda

Management

2021-196: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to enter into a labor agreement with the Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS) Local #203 (Supervisors – Sergeants/Lieutenants), effective January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2022.

It was moved by Ferguson, seconded by Barber.
Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 13 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent 3 Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle
Not Recorded: 1 Atlas-Ingebretson

Transportation

2021-173 SW: That the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 20P322 with Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., for design, engineering, and construction administration for the METRO B Line project in the amount not to exceed $9,785,510. A same week Council action is requested to ensure timely advancement of the B Line.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Fredson.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 13 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent 3 Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle
Not Recorded: 1 Atlas-Ingebretson

2021-190: That the Metropolitan Council (“Council”) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the Capital Grant Agreement #21I040 for Project Development with Ramsey County (“County”) and Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority (“Regional Railroad Authority) for the METRO Purple Line (formerly Rush Line) Bus Rapid Transit Project (“Project”) in an amount not to exceed $39,900,000.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Vento.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 13 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent 3 Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle
Not Recorded: 1 Atlas-Ingebretson

2021-191: That the Metropolitan Council (“Council”) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the Cooperation Agreement #21I037 with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for the METRO Purple Line (formerly Rush Line) Bus Rapid Transit Project (“Project”).

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Vento.

Council member Vento noted Craig Lamothe and Charlies Carlson have done a great job transitioning this project to the Council and encourages people to contact them if they have questions.
Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 13 Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran
Nay: 0
Absent 3 Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle
Not Recorded: 1 Atlas-Ingebretson

2021-192: That the Metropolitan Council (Council) authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute the seventh Amendment to the Capital Grant Agreement with Hennepin County and Hennepin County Regional Railroad Authority (HCRRA) to add $200,315,255 bringing the total grant amount to $878,080,704.

It was moved by Barber, seconded by Gonzalez.

Council member Barber thanked staff for their support and commitment to a comprehensive transportation system that addresses all area of the region.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Nay: 0
Absent 3 Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle

Joint Report of Environment and Community Development Committees

2021-184 JT: That the Metropolitan Council adopt the attached Advisory Comments and Review Record and take the following actions:

Recommendations of the Community Development Committee

1. Authorize the City of Lexington to place its 2040 Comprehensive Plan into effect.
2. Advise the City to:
   a. Provide to the Council the date the Watershed District approved the local water management plan, and the date the City adopted the final local water management plan when they are available.
   b. Provide the Council with a copy of the final adopted local water management plan that will be included in the final Plan document that the City adopts.
   c. Implement the advisory comments in the Review Record for transportation and forecasts

Recommendation of the Environment Committee

1. Approve the City of Lexington’s Comprehensive Sewer Plan.

It was moved by Lilligren, seconded by Lindstrom.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

OTHER BUSINESS

2021-213: That the Metropolitan Council approve Chair Zelle’s recommendation to:

1. Form an internal Metro Transit Police Work Group through March 2, 2022.
2. Appoint the following members to serve on the Work Group: Reva Chamblis, Chair; Lynnea Atlas-Ingebretson, Kris Fredson, Robert Lilligren, Abdi Muse, Phillip Sterner, Susan Vento, and Wendy Wulff.

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Barber.

Council member Johnson expressed her excitement and would like to receive periodic updates. Council member Chamblis stated they will continue to have robust review of the policies with council members on the work group for better public safety option in our region and will provide updates. Council member Cummings stated the work groups have proven to be effective and helpful.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Nay: 0
Absent 3 Lee, Muse, Chair Zelle

INFORMATION

2022 Operating Budget and Levies (Marie Henderson, 651-602-1387)

Marie Henderson, Acting CFO and representatives from each division presented the preliminary 2022 operating budget and levies. The proposed 2022 property tax levies is $90.5M. The proposed operating budget is $1.3B. The general fund operations is $102.6M. The proposed Regional Administration budget for 2022 is $86.8M. The Community Development operations budget is $22M. The Environmental Services operations budget is $176M. The Transportation operations budget overall is $651M. The Council will be asked to adopt the preliminary budget and levies on August 25, 2021, public comment drafts on October 27, 2021, and will be asked to adopt the final budget and levies on December 8, 2021.

Council member Johnson is supportive of the budget. Council member Cummings appreciates the stories and the work that is being done. Council member Chamblis appreciates the comprehensive information, and is interested in the 2050 Development Guide and the studies and research that were selected.

REPORTS

Council Members: None

Regional Administrator Mary Bogie mentioned the Governor issued a mandatory vaccine for state agency employees, and we are in the process of reviewing the inform.

General Counsel: None

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 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