

CITY OF GLENDALE COMMON COUNCIL

Meeting Minutes

February 8, 2021

Regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Glendale held via Zoom conference call.

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kennedy at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Mayor Bryan Kennedy, Ald. Tomika Vukovic, Jim Daugherty, John Gelhard, Richard Wiese, Steven Schmelzling, and JoAnn Shaw.

Other Officials Present: Rachel Safstrom, City Administrator; John Fuchs, City Attorney; Mark Ferguson, Police Chief; Mustafa Emir, City Engineer; Todd Stuebe, Community Development Director; Ann Christiansen, Health Department Director; and Megan Humitz, City Clerk.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

The members of the Common Council, City staff, and all those present pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

OPEN MEETING NOTICE.

Administrator Safstrom advised that in accordance with the Open Meeting Law, the local news media was advised on Thursday, February 4, 2021, of the date of this meeting; that the Agenda was posted on the official bulletin board of City Hall, the Glendale Police Department, and the North Shore Library; that copies of the Agenda were made available to the general public in the Municipal Building and the Police Department; and those persons who requested, were sent copies of the Agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT.

No public comment.

PRESENTATION BY SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION – MILWAUKEE NORTH-SOUTH TRANSIT ENHANCEMENT STUDY.

Administrator Safstrom stated Mr. Kevin Muhs, Executive Director, and Ms. Carrie Cooper, Principal Transportation Planner for the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) will be giving a brief presentation on the Milwaukee North-South Transit Enhancement Study. Ms. Cooper and staff met with City staff in December 2020 to give an overview of this study and determined a presentation to Council was appropriate. The project website, www.mkenorthsouth.com, provides more information regarding the study, as well as a sign up to be notified of upcoming meetings and an option to provide comments.

Ms. Cooper stated Milwaukee County requested assistance on the transit feasibility study, which will provide options for locally preferred alternatives such as light rail, commuter rail, streetcar, or bus rapid transit. The currently existing purple line runs from the Glendale Industrial Park to Northwestern Mutual/IKEA, for a length of approximately 15 miles and 145 stops. The purpose of the study is to speed up service and reduce stops. Adjustments in 2021 will reconfigure the route to the Bayshore development. There are currently two virtual public meetings set for February 23rd and 24th, and more information can be found on the project website.

Ald. Schmelzling questioned how much of this project has already been established. Ms. Cooper clarified the 27th Street corridor was chosen for the start of this study, however nothing has been ruled out at this point and all options are on the table. The meetings in February are the first

public meetings to be held regarding the project, which will result in project adjustments and analysis to make future determinations regarding the project.

CONSENT AGENDA.

I. File No.

Adoption of Minutes of Meeting held on January 25, 2021, Review and Approval of Accounts Payable.

Motion by Ald. Vukovic, seconded by Ald. Shaw, to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on January 25, 2021, and approval of Accounts Payable. Ayes: Ald. Vukovic, Daugherty, Gelhard, Wiese, Schmelzling, and Shaw. Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS.

II. File No.

Review and approval of Green Solutions Funding Agreement with Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District for Glendale 2021 Green Alleys.

Administrator Safstrom stated the City of Glendale received “green infrastructure” funding from Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (MMSD). This funding, though given annually, is not always utilized annually. In 2020, the funding for several years was used for the stormwater infrastructure at the Bayshore Development. In 2021, there is \$89,600 available. The City Engineer is recommending utilization of this funding for design and implementation of green alleys. Green infrastructure reduces the volume of stormwater in the sewerage system and the amount of pollutants discharged to surface waters. Instead of just repaving the alleys, the City would install pavers to reduce the stormwater drainage.

Ald. Wiese expressed concern over the use of pavers in the winter months when the plow drives through the alleys. Administrator Safstrom clarified there are pavers in the parking lot for City Hall, and the same plow that clears the parking lot also clears the alley ways. Additionally, the entire alley will not have this surface. Dr. Emir stated there is a four-foot wide strip in the center of an alley where the pavers are utilized, as opposed to the entire alley and to date, there have been no issues with the pavers used in the City Hall parking lot.

Ald. Daugherty raised the question if there are any negative aspects to the use of pavers. Dr. Emir stated they are currently utilized in a number of municipalities, such as Whitefish Bay and Milwaukee, and there have not been any issues with them. This project is a way to utilize the funds from MMSD, while stretching local funding in the context of alleys to save money on the overall project.

Ald. Schmelzling requested clarification on the current drainage system of the alleys, and whether they are crested in the middle to drain to the center. Dr. Emir clarified they alleys are reverse crowned, and the project is only being done on alleys where there is an existing drainage/storm system. There are three alleys which have been identified for 2021, and this project will not replace traditional drainage but will provide added retention and drainage.

Ald. Shaw asked for clarification regarding the yellow color-coding on the map provided in the packet. Dr. Emir stated the map provided is also utilized for other projects, and those lines are indicative of traffic signals and crosswalks. Administrator Safstrom clarified the full map is available on the City’s website.

Motion by Ald. Shaw, seconded by Ald. Daugherty, to approve Green Solutions Funding Agreement with Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District for Glendale 2021 Green Alleys. Ayes: Ald. Vukovic, Daugherty, Gelhard, Wiese, Schmelzling, and Shaw. Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

III. File No.

Review and approval of Ordinance Amending Various Sections of Chapter 15.1 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Glendale – Updating References to the State Statutes and The Administrative Code.

Administrator Safstrom stated Attorney Fuchs has made revisions to the Code of Ordinances to update State Law references to State Statutes and The Administrative Code. These changes do not change references to administrative code section numbers, state statute numbers, and the fact that the current state agency is now known as the Department of Safety and Professional Services. Additionally, it is advised that the ordinance repeals no other provisions or paragraphs and amends only exactly what is referenced. Upon approval, the electrical ordinance will be submitted to the State of Wisconsin, which will provide the necessary authorization to allow SAFEbuilt to continue as our Building Inspection company.

Ald. Schmelzling raised the question regarding whether this changes which fixtures are subject to a permit. Attorney Fuchs clarified this only changes the statutory references subject to the rules, and not what is or is not subject to a permit.

Motion by Ald. Gelhard, seconded by Ald. Wiese, to approve Ordinance Amending Various Sections of Chapter 15.1 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Glendale – Updating References to the State Statutes and The Administrative Code. Ayes: Ald. Vukovic, Daugherty, Gelhard, Wiese, Schmelzling, and Shaw. Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

IV. File No.

Ordinance Creating Title 8, Chapter 1, Section 20 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Glendale Pertaining to Face Covering Requirements During the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Mayor Kennedy stated in July 2020, the Common Council approved a Resolution for race masks. In August 2020, the State of Wisconsin implemented a face mask mandate. The State of Wisconsin Legislature may be voting to remove the face mask mandate. Shorewood and Whitefish Bay have mask ordinances in place, and each has a sunset date which allows the Board to review the situation and determine any extension. Staff is recommending an ordinance that would require face masks in the City of Glendale. The North Shore Health Department is in favor of an ordinance. The ordinance is for persons over the age of four, and is not for outdoor spaces where social distancing can be achieved or a residential home. The ordinance would be in effect until the North Shore Health Department determines the pandemic emergency to be ended. There are currently some North Shore communities without a mask mandate, however those municipalities do not have a large business community. The language presented in the ordinance is similar to previously presented language, and those in violation of the mandate would be cited for trespassing if they refuse to leave a business or comply with the mask mandate.

Ms. Ann Christiansen, North Shore Health Department Director, stated the North Shore Health Department is in full support of this ordinance. She added having an ordinance in place helps the community realize we are still in the midst of a pandemic and utilizing masks to mitigate things while we are still largely indoors will help keep the numbers trending lower. We have not yet achieved herd/community immunity in the North Shore, due to lack of availability

of the vaccine and low overall COVID infections. With the students returning to in-person learning, it will be beneficial for the schools to have the ordinance in place to fall back on at a community level to reinforce the use of masks. The health department has found overall adherence if there is a policy in place without a need for punitive measures.

Ald. Daugherty inquired as to the overall impact the ordinance will have on the Police Department. Chief Ferguson stated the Police Department is in full support of the implementation of the ordinance, and over the past year have not received any true calls for service as a result of the mask mandates.

Ald. Schmelzling raised the question of what steps are taken in the event the police department is contacted for a violation, and how things will pan out for residents. Chief Ferguson clarified there has been little contact with people to date in regards to violations, and they do not seek out those in violation. If a business contacts the Police Department for someone who is not in compliance and refuses to wear a mask, the police will give them the option to wear a mask or leave the business. If there is continued refusal, the violator will then be cited for trespassing. Ms. Christiansen added businesses appreciate having an ordinance on the books as it offers support without the need for confrontations.

Ald. Wiese requested clarification regarding what would happen if the ordinance is in place and an organization chooses not to enforce the mandate. Mayor Kennedy clarified the ordinance provides for the same situation that is currently in place, in the event the state mandate is overturned, which requires businesses to comply. If the state mandate is overturned, this ordinance will continue to remain in effect and will allow Glendale to be consistent to with other North Shore communities. Currently, Whitefish Bay and Shorewood have similar ordinances in place. Milwaukee also has a mask ordinance, however the language is stricter.

Motion by Ald. Schmelzling, seconded by Ald. Shaw, to approve Ordinance Creating Title 8, Chapter 1, Section 20 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Glendale Pertaining to Face Covering Requirements During the COVID-19 Pandemic. Ayes: Ald. Vukovic, Gelhard, Schmelzling, and Shaw. Noes: Ald. Daugherty and Wiese. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried.

V. File No. _____
Update regarding Ordinance Creating Section 2.2.10(c) and 2.4.18 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Glendale Pertaining to Virtually Conducting or Attending Meetings of the Common Council.

Administrator Safstrom stated at the last Council meeting, staff was directed to work on an ordinance and process for allowing virtual attendance at Council meetings. Staff is working to obtain information on current technology and what is necessary to fulfill the request of the Council. An ordinance and more information will be presented at a near future meeting.

This item was informational purposes only. No action was taken.

VI. File No. _____
Update on North Shore Health Department Information and Vaccination Procedures.

Administrator Safstrom stated Ald. Daugherty received an inquiry from a resident indicating they did not know how to get information regarding North Shore Health Department office access procedures, COVID information, and vaccination processes. The North Shore Health Department gives updated information via Facebook and their website daily. Vaccination

information can be emailed directly to residents if they choose to sign-up on the North Shore Health Department website, where updates are also posted. Due to the limited number of vaccinations they receive, it is encouraged for residents to work with their primary care physician or register for a nearby clinic offering the vaccination. The offices for the North Shore Health Department are in the Village of Brown Deer Village Hall, with access for residents by making an appointment. City staff will continue to share information on the City website and social media platforms.

Ms. Christiansen stated the North Shore Health Department website is the key place for residents to find information and updates, data, and policies. The current COVID case numbers are trending downward, with hospitalizations and fatalities down as well. Additionally, the numbers in long-term care facilities have decreased and many of those residents have received vaccinations.

Ald. Schmelzling requested clarification on the best guidance to provide residents who are frustrated by the technology gap in relation to emails and online COVID updates. Ms. Christiansen stated residents can call the Health Department and they will do their best to assist them and get them signed up through alternative channels.

This item was informational purposes only. No action was taken.

COMMISSION, COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS.

There were several updates from Council members, on the activities of the various Commissions, Committees and Boards on which they serve.

ADJOURNMENT.

There being no further business, motion was made by Ald. Schmelzling, seconded by Ald. Shaw, to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: Ald. Vukovic, Daugherty, Gelhard, Schmelzling, Wiese, and Shaw. Noes: None. Absent: None. Abstain: None. Motion carried and adjournment of the Common Council was ordered at 7:17 p.m., until Monday, February 22, 2021, at 6:00 p.m.

Megan Humitz
City Clerk

Recorded: February 9, 2021.