WAYZATA CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 3, 2025

AGENDA ITEM 1. Call to Order.

Mayor Pro Tem Plechash called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Pro Tem Plechash shared multiple options for joining remotely and submitting comments or questions.

AGENDA ITEM 2. Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA ITEM 3. Roll Call.

Council Members present: Sorensen, MacDonald, and Plechash. Also present: City Manager Dahl, Community Development Director Sharpe, and City Attorney Schelzel.

Council Members absent: Mullin and Parkhill (with prior notice)

AGENDA ITEM 4. Approve Agenda.

Ms. MacDonald made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to approve the agenda, as presented. The motion carried 3/0.

AGENDA ITEM 5. Public Forum.

a. Wayzata Sailing Center Open House Information – Eli Ansari

Elli Ansari, 4680 County Road 19, Tonka Bay, representing the Wayzata Sailing Center, introduced Harper Gordon, a student from Wayzata High School, and thanked the City for their support of the Wayzata Sailing Center. She shared examples of programming from the Wayzata Sailing Center that meets their motto that 'Sailing is for Everybody'.

Harper Gordon explained that she had just returned from competing as part of the Wayzata High School Sailing team in New London, Connecticut, where they competed against 19 other schools. She noted that she was also on staff at the Wayzata Sailing Center and also wanted to thank the Council and the community for their support. She explained that they would be holding an Open House on June 10, 2025, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. for all ages and shared a few details about what would take place and be available at the Open House.

Ms. MacDonald stated that while Ms. Gordon and Ms. Ansari were grateful for the City's support, she wanted to make it clear that the City and the Council were just as grateful to have the Wayzata Sailing Center located here and noted that she was very happy that they were working with Wayzata High School.

AGENDA ITEM 6. New Agenda Items.

AGENDA ITEM 7. Consent Agenda.

Mayor Pro Tem Plechash read the items on the consent agenda and asked if any Council member wished to pull an item for further discussion.

Mr. Dahl clarified that for item 7.c, the staff report stated that staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval of the last meeting, and it should have alluded to the City Council and explained that staff had a different recommendation.

Hearing no requests, Mayor Pro Tem asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Sorensen made a motion, seconded by Ms. MacDonald, to approve the consent agenda:

a. Approval of Check Register
b. Receipt of 2025 1st Quarter Financial Report
c. Adoption of Resolution 16-2025 Approving the Side Yard Setback Variance at 617 Park Street East

The motion carried 3/0.

AGENDA ITEM 8. Public Hearings.

AGENDA ITEM 9. New Business.

a. Consider Adoption of Resolution 17-2025 Approving a Variance for Building Coverage and a Variance for Impervious Surface at 325 Waycliffe North

Community Development Director Sharpe reviewed variance requests for 325 Waycliffe North. He reviewed the project location, prominent features near the site, the zoning and land use for the surrounding neighborhood, existing conditions, and details of the variance requests, and explained that the HOA had sent a letter to the City stating that they had approved the proposed plans.

Ms. MacDonald stated that when the Planning Commission had reviewed this, it seemed to be unclear that the lower level would be enclosed. She noted that she had noticed the rendering included in tonight's packet and asked if it had been added to add clarity. Mr. Sharpe explained that this information was included in the Planning Commission report and noted that some of the confusion was because the underside of the side had already been finished with a concrete patio, so it was already contributing to the overall impervious surface.

Mayor Pro Tem Plechash noted that he felt the Planning Commission had done a masterful job reviewing this application. He asked if the proposed structure would increase the size of the patio. Mr. Sharpe confirmed that it would increase the size of the patio because there would be a 3-foot extension added onto the existing surface.

Mayor Pro Tem Plechash stated that staff had indicated that there had been other PUD amendments for this type of work in the past and asked if they had ever been denied. Mr. Sharpe stated that staff found no evidence that they had been denied and noted that there were some constructed without PUD amendments, but those were likely down at the initial time of construction.

Following the discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Plechash asked for a motion on the draft resolution. Ms. MacDonald made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to Adopt Resolution No. 17-2025, a Variance for Building Coverage and a Variance for Impervious Surface at 325 Waycliffe North. The motion carried 3/0.

b. Consider Adoption of Resolution 18-2025 Approving a Fence Height and Opacity Variance at 1407 Holdridge Lane

Mr. Sharpe outlined the fence height and opacity variance request for 1407 Holdridge Lane. He reviewed the project location, prominent features near the site, guiding and land use of the site, zoning, existing conditions, proposed fence location, and views from the property, and noted that there were two public comments received that were in favor of this request. He stated that the Planning Commission had recommended approval, but noted that Commissioner Elg had abstained from this item because this request was for his property.

Mr. Sorensen asked on a corner lot if both sides of the property would be considered front yard. Mr. Sharpe stated that the City Code reads that, if you are on a corner lot, any street fronting side of the property becomes a 'front' yard for maximum height and opacity requirements. He noted that for this property, due to the drop-off and significant grade change in the rear yard, it was not deemed to be next to a street and did not require a variance.

Following the discussion, Mayor Pro Tem Plechash asked for a motion. Mr. Sorensen made a motion, seconded by Ms. MacDonald, to Adopt Resolution No. 18-2025 Approving a Fence Height and Opacity Variance at 1407 Holdridge Lane. The motion carried 3/0.

AGENDA ITEM 10. City Manager's Report and Discussion Items.

a. Upcoming Events/Announcements

- Acknowledged the hiring of the City's new Police Chief, Jamie Baker, who had formerly served as the Interim Police Chief, and shared some examples of the style of leadership she has brought to the City.

There was a round of applause for Police Chief Baker.

Mayor Pro Tem Plechash stated that he had enjoyed getting to know Police Chief Baker and felt it was a great testament to know that the Police Officers who serve under her think highly of her.

Ms. MacDonald congratulated Police Chief Baker on her appointment, officially welcomed her into this new role, and stated that she felt this was well deserved.

Mr. Sorensen stated that he was excited for Police Chief Baker, but also for the community to be able to have her as their Chief. He noted that he agreed with the comment made by Ms. MacDonald that this was well deserved.

b. Council Member Updates/Announcements

AGENDA ITEM 11. Public Forum Continued (if necessary).

There were no comments.

AGENDA ITEM 12. Adjournment.

There being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Plechash asked for a motion to adjourn. Ms. MacDonald made a motion, seconded by Mr. Sorensen, to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tem Plechash adjourned the meeting at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy A. Leervig

Kathy Leervig
City Clerk

Drafted by Kayla Rokosz
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