

City of Excelsior
Regular Council Meeting

MINUTES

Monday, March 17, 2025

106 Center Street, Excelsior, MN 55331 – Entrance located on Center Street
6:30 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Ringate called the regular March 17, 2025, council meeting to order at 6:37 PM.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Ringate and Councilmembers Bildsoe, Caron, O’Hanlon, and Tyler.

Absent: None.

Also Present: City Manager Luger, City Clerk Bajda, City Attorney Mary Tietjen, and Community Development Director Mullin.

3. MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Bildsoe moved, Tyler seconded to approve the March 17, 2025, regular meeting agenda. Motion Carried 5/0.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(a) March 3, 2025, City Council Work Session Minutes

(b) March 3, 2025, City Council Work Session Minutes

O’Hanlon moved, Bildsoe seconded to approve the March 3, 2025, City Council Work Session and Regular City Council Meeting minutes. Motion carried 5/0.

5. OPEN FORUM

This is the time for the public to speak. Open Forum will be limited to one-half hour. No person may speak more than five (5) minutes or more than once. Each subject will have a limit of ten (10) minutes. Council members may ask questions of the speaker. With the agreement of the Council, such matters taken up during the “Open Forum” may be scheduled on the current or a future Agenda. Members of the public interested in speaking on an agenda item may direct a request to be recognized to the Mayor.

Bruce Kelley, 165 Maple Street, addressed the Council regarding cannabis businesses and expressed concerns that the ordinance language proposed is too restrictive. Further addressed the Walker Parking Study and expressed concerns with financing.

6. CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS, QUESTIONS, and REPORTS

(a) Heritage Preservation Commission Update

Mullin provided an update to Council regarding recent meetings of the Heritage Preservation Commission and site alteration permit applications coming to the Commission in March.

(b) South Lake Minnetonka Police Department Update

Mayor Ringate provided update to Council on recent meetings and informed Councilmembers that the current police Chief is retiring, and an interim Chief has been appointed until a replacement is found.

Council discussion on wayfinding and signage related to parking that was discussed at recent parking garage work group meeting.

7. MEET EXCELSIOR

(a) None

8. CONSENT AGENDA

(a) Review Verified Claims under \$20,000 and Approve Verified Claims over \$20,000

(b) Resolution 2025-18 Authorizing application to Hennepin County Youth Activities Grant, SoHi Community Park

(c) Resolution 2025-19 Amending 2025 Fee Schedule

(d) Resolution 2025-20, Tonka Boat Rentals LLC, Commercial Pier Lease 2025

Caron moved, O'Hanlon seconded to approve consent agenda. Motion carried 5/0.

9. PUBLIC HEARINGS

(a) None

10. PETITIONS, REQUESTS and COMMUNICATIONS

(a) Walker Parking Study Presentation

Mullin provided overview of work to date and purpose of presentation before introducing representatives from Walker Consultants.

Kevin White (Walker Consultants) provided overview of the study, core strategies and recommendations related to Excelsior's parking system.

Council discussion.

Bildsoe moved, Caron seconded to accept the Walker Parking Study as presented. Motion carried 5/0.

11. ORDINANCES and RESOLUTIONS

(a) 2nd Reading Ordinance 681, Cannabis and Hemp Business Registration

Mullin provided overview of Ordinance 681 and summarized changes made since first reading based on recommendations from Council.

Council discussion.

Tyler moved, Bildsoe seconded to waive second reading and approve Ordinance 681 adding a new article XXV to Chapter 10 of the city code regarding registration of cannabis and hemp retail businesses and related regulations. Motion carried 5/0.

(b) Resolution 2025-21 approving abbreviated publication of Ordinance 681

Caron moved, Bildsoe seconded to approve Resolution 2025-21 and publication of an abbreviated Ordinance 681 by title and summary. Motion carried 5/0.

12. REPORTS of OFFICERS, BOARDS, and COMMITTEES

(a) None

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(a) None

14. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Ballfield Bids The Commons, Resolution 2025-22 and 2025-23

Luger provided overview of Phase II work at The Commons and the requested action before Council.

Council discussion and request for clarification on tax increment financing bonds to finance the project.

Tyler moved, O’Hanlon seconded to approve Resolution 2025-22 accepting bid and awarding a construction contract for The Commons Ballfield construction project to Sunram Construction in an amount of \$938,203. Motion carried 5/0.

Tyler moved, O’Hanlon seconded to approve Resolution 2025-23 authorizing professional services agreement with HKGi for construction administration. Motion carried 5/0.

Tyler moved, O’Hanlon seconded to approve the total project costs to include all elements of phase II with a 15% contingency, construction administration, irrigation, and the WPA seating for \$1,273,965.08. Motion carried 5/0.

(b) Commission Appointments

Bajda provided overview of re-appointments and new appointments before Council based on terms ending or vacancies created on each City Commission.

Mayor Ringate provided overview of interviews related to Planning Commission and recommendation as mentioned in staff memo.

Tyler provided overview of candidates interviewed for Parks and Recreation Commission and recommendation to re-appoint Anne Vogel and appoint Samantha Anderson.

O’Hanlon clarified that they did not formally interview Heritage Preservation Commissioners but recommend re-appointment based on the experience of current Commissioners and no active applications for new appointments.

Caron moved, Bildsoe seconded to appoint Anne Vogel and Samantha Anderson to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Motion carried 5/0.

O’Hanlon moved, Bildsoe seconded to appoint Tim Caron, Dan Brattland and Anne Marke to the Heritage Preservation Commission for the terms recommended in staff memo. Motion Carried 4/0. Caron recused.

Caron moved, Bildsoe seconded to appoint Kara Tyler, Jeff Malsam and JoAnna Hansen to the Planning Commission for the terms recommended in the staff memo. Motion carried 4/0. Tyler recused.

Mayor Ringate reminded residents that Spring Cleanup is Saturday, May 17, 2025.

15. ADJOURNMENT

O'Hanlon moved, Caron seconded to adjourn the March 17, 2025, meeting at 7:45 PM. Motion carried 5/0.

Respectfully submitted,
Theresa Bajda, City Clerk

Notice: Some items on this agenda are important enough to Commission members that a quorum of Commission members may be present to receive information leading to their future deliberations and eventual decision.