1. **MEETING IS CALLED TO ORDER**

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL:** Gunn, Meehlhause, and Mueller

   **NOT PRESENT:** Bergeron (excused) and Hull (excused).

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
   A. Monday, July 24, 2017, City Council Agenda.

City Administrator Ericson requested Item 6B be removed from the Consent Agenda.

MOTION/SECONd: Gunn/Meehlhause. To Approve the Monday, July 24, 2017, agenda as amended.

   **Ayes – 3**  **Nays – 0**  **Motion carried.**

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

   None.

6. **CONSENT AGENDA**
   A. Just and Correct Claims
   B. **Resolution 8788, Approving Severance for Jeffrey Wienke, Mounds View Public Works Maintenance.**
   C. **Resolution 8800, Approving Severance for Brian Erickson, Mounds View Public Works Director.**

MOTION/SECONd: Meehlhause/Gunn. To Approve the Consent Agenda as amended removing Item 6B.

   **Ayes – 3**  **Nays – 0**  **Motion carried.**
7.  **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Richard Wolens, 6726 137th Avenue in Ramsey, expressed concern with the property at 2661 County Road I. He stated he has built two businesses in Mounds View over the past 20 years and he has never had a water issue on his property. However, after the senior complex was built and wetlands were filled in he has had extensive damage and water build up on his property. He reported he brought this concerns to both the City and to Ramsey County. After further inspection of his property, he learned that the surge ponds were at a higher elevation than his foundation.

Mr. Wolens explained he contacted his insurance company and the claim on his property was denied due to water trespass and engineering malfeasance. His insurance company encouraged him to work with the City on this issue. He stated at this time over 4,000 square feet of his building was not operational or able to be used. He believed that his only option at this time was to file inverse condemnation proceedings against the City. He stated the engineering on the new building was at fault and he requested the City work with him on this concern so he does not have to take this matter to court.

8.  **SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS**

None.

9.  **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

   A.  **Public Hearing: Resolution 8794, a Resolution Authorizing a Special Election for the Consideration of Additional Property Tax Levy.**

Assistant City Administrator Crane requested the Council adopt a Resolution authorizing a Special Election for the consideration of an additional Property Tax Levy. She explained the Mounds View Police Department was seeking an additional police officer. In order to hire another officer, in accordance with the City Charter, the City has to have a special referendum question within a Special Election. Staff read the draft referendum language in full for the record and recommended approval. She explained that if the Resolution were approved a Special Election for this item would be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2017. The proposed additional tax to add one officer was reviewed with the Council.

Mayor Mueller opened the public hearing at 6:17 p.m.

Dan Mueller, 8343 Groveland Road, prefaced his comments by saying his and his wife’s opinions were two separate matters. He explained he was not anti-police and understood the importance of a police department to the community. He expressed concern with the City increasing the levy, noting the residents of Mounds View would be hit hard due to the new Public Works Facility and school increases. He reported he lived on a fixed income and did not have a great deal of disposable income. He encouraged the City Council to consider contracting their police services given the fact Mounds View has more police officers per capita than Blaine, Fridley, New Brighton and Coon Rapids. He believed that if another officer were hired for
Mounds View that it should not be designated for one specific task, but rather should be out on the street.

Hearing no further public input, Mayor Mueller closed the public hearing at 6:24 p.m.

Council Member Gunn requested further information on the requested officer. Police Chief Harder explained the requested officer would work directly with the Ramsey County Narcotics Task Force. He discussed the City’s efforts to deter drugs and drug overdoses. It was his opinion that Mounds View’s quality of life could be improved by more closely addressing the drug situation within the community.

Mayor Mueller asked if this matter could be delayed until August 14th to allow for four members of the Council to be in attendance. City Administrator Ericson reported the ballot question had to get to Ramsey County prior to August 1st.

Irv Singer, 6928 West Shell Lake Drive, stated he was one of the owners of Steve’s Appliance. He asked where the drug crime within the community was coming from. Police Chief Harder encouraged Mounds View residents to view RAIDS online, which was a crime mapping site that allowed residents to view problem areas within the community.

MOTION/SECOND: Meehlhause/Gunn. To Waive the Reading and Adopt Resolution 8794, a Resolution Authorizing a Special Election for the Consideration of Additional Property Tax Levy.

Council Member Meehlhause supported this item being placed on the ballot for consideration of the entire community versus just the City Council.

Ayes – 3  Nays – 0  Motion carried.

B. Public Hearing: Resolution 8777, approving a Preliminary Plat of “Boulevard”, Generally located at the NW Corner of Mounds View Boulevard and Groveland Road.

Planner Sevald stated MWF Properties, requests approval of a Preliminary Plat of a Major Subdivision combing four lots into one lot to be located at the northwest corner of Mounds View Boulevard and Groveland Road. He explained a Major Subdivision is the division of land into more than one lot, or includes two acres of land or more. In this case, four lots will be combined into one lot, 3.5 acres in size. He noted the property was zoned R-4, High Density Residential and was located within the Highway 10 Overlay District and was guided within the Comprehensive Plan for a Mixed Use Development.

Planner Sevald discussed the history of requests for this property and noted MWF Properties held a neighborhood meeting on February 16, 2017 at Lakes Run Apartments in New Brighton, an MWF project where eleven residents attended. Additional discussions regarding the “Boulevard” were held at City Council Work Sessions on January 3rd, March 6th, and April 3rd,
2017, in addition to discussions by the Mounds View EDA on May 8th and May 22nd, 2017, concerning Tax Increment Financing. He reported the Planning Commission reviewed the Preliminary Plat request at their July 19th meeting and recommended approval of the request.

Planner Sevald provided the City Council with a copy of the traffic study and reported the Planning Commission tabled action on the Development Review to their August 2, 2017 meeting.

Council Member Meehlhause asked if questions regarding fire access and the pedestrian trail should be held until the Development Review was being considered. Planner Sevald stated this was the case.

Council Member Meehlhause questioned what other steps would be coming before the City prior to the “Boulevard” being approved. Planner Sevald stated the Development Review and Final Plat would still have to be considered and approved by the City.

Mayor Mueller commented on the traffic study and believed there were some calculation errors. She asked what hours were used for AM and PM peak hours. Ed Tahara, Traffic Engineer with Wenk Associates, reported the AM peak hour was from 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and the peak PM hour was from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. He stated these hours were chosen based on the fact they had the highest volume of traffic entering and exiting the intersection.

Mayor Mueller requested further information on the traffic numbers that flow through the intersection of Mounds View Boulevard and Groveland Road. Mr. Tahara reviewed the peak hour and daily traffic numbers in further detail with the Council.

Council Member Meehlhause asked how many trips would be added to Groveland Road based on the proposed project. Mr. Tahara explained 15% of the trips would be generated by the proposed project during the peak hour.

Council Member Gunn thanked the applicant for completing a thorough traffic study. She reiterated to the Council that the traffic study would be more of a concern for the Development Review and did not believe the Preliminary Plat should be delayed based on this information.

Mayor Mueller opened the public hearing for the Preliminary Plat at 7:00 p.m.

Matt Oquist, 8440 Groveland Road, understood the proposed plat would be accessed off of Groveland Road and not Mounds View Boulevard. He questioned how the traffic engineer devised his trip numbers and he anticipated the 60-unit complex would generate more than 30 trips during the AM peak hours. Mr. Tahara stated the trip generation was based on a collection of studies. He explained that his estimates were for the peak hour and noted that not everyone within the proposed complex would leave for work at the same time.

Mr. Oquist asked if the peak hour traffic would also be impacted by school buses to and from the property. Council Member Gunn reviewed the bus times for high school, middle school and elementary aged students. She did not anticipate there would be an overlap on the peak traffic
Mayor Mueller requested the discussion going forward be centered on the Preliminary Plat request.

Mr. Oquist asked what type of units would be within the proposed “Boulevard” development. Chris Stokka, MWF Properties, reported the apartment building would have 25% one bedroom, 50% two bedroom and 25% three bedroom units.

Mr. Oquist questioned how many children would be living within the building. Mayor Mueller requested the discussion be focused on the Preliminary Plat request and City infrastructure.

Mr. Oquist inquired if the developer had spoken to the school district to see if the local schools were prepared for an influx of more children. Council Member Gunn reported the school district was preparing for this development, along with Rice Creek Commons (TCAAP). City Administrator Ericson commented that the school district has been made aware of this potential project.

Jonathan Thomas, 8040 Groveland Road, believed that the City’s roadways should be considered with respect to the new development. He explained the proposed Preliminary Plat would impact the City’s roads especially given the fact “Boulevard” would not have access to Mounds View Boulevard. He stated he has grandchildren in his house every day and it was his opinion the proposed development would take away from his quality of life. He recommended the proposed development have access to Mounds View Boulevard, as the prior uses had, in order to shift traffic away from Groveland Road. He stated a light would not be installed at Groveland Road and Mounds View Boulevard. He feared how many more accidents would occur at this intersection.

City Administrator Ericson responded to Mr. Thomas stating sometimes plats include roadways. In this case, no roads were being platted and four lots were being combined into one. He reported the plat does not show access onto either Groveland Road or Mounds View Boulevard. He stated the City would be requesting a meeting with Ramsey County to discuss the access issue in more detail.

Irv Singer, 2841 Mounds View Boulevard, explained it was very interesting listening to discussion regarding the plat. He stated he did not understand why the property did not have access onto Mounds View Boulevard given the fact the previous owners had access to the corridor. Mayor Mueller reported access to Mounds View Boulevard would have to be approved by Ramsey County and this has not been preliminarily granted.

Mr. Singer stated he would like to see another design for this project. He anticipated that the proposed development would increase crime in Mounds View. Mayor Mueller discussed the proposed workforce housing rental rates.

Mr. Oquist believed that schools were a part of the City’s infrastructure. He commented on the
percentage of children receiving free and reduced lunches at Pinewood Elementary School (56%) and estimated this percentage would rise to 61% after the apartment complex was completed. He anticipated this increase would put Pinewood Elementary 15% higher than any other school in the district. He feared that this area of the community would be impacted if allowed to increase the free and reduced lunches to 61%.

Hearing no further public input, Mayor Mueller closed the public hearing at 7:22 p.m.

Mayor Mueller recommended the Council postpone action on this matter to August 14, 2017, in hopes that Council Member Bergeron and Council Member Hull could be in attendance. Planner Sevald explained the City could extend this request 60 days and noted staff would provide a formal written request to the applicant.

MOTION/SECOND: Mueller/Meehlhause. To Postpone Action on the Preliminary Plat of “Boulevard”, generally located at the NW Corner of Mounds View Boulevard and Groveland Road to the August 14, 2017 City Council meeting.

Council Member Meehlhause reported the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Preliminary Plat. He stated his biggest concern with this project was the traffic that would be generated and how access would be made onto Mounds View Boulevard. It was his hope staff would be able to speak with Ramsey County regarding this issue. He suggested a traffic light be considered for the intersection of Mounds View Boulevard and Groveland Road.

Council Member Gunn agreed traffic was a concern, however the Council was not being asked to consider the design of the project, but rather the combination of the lots. She stated the developer was trying to purchase the lots in order to create a development. She encouraged the Council to not lose sight of the request.

Ayes – 3  Nays – 0  Motion carried.

C. Resolution 8778, Approval of a Development Review of “Boulevard”, a 60 unit Apartment Building, generally located at the NW Corner of Mounds View Boulevard and Groveland Road.

This item was removed from the agenda.

D. Resolution 8795, Approving the Hire of Benjamin Geisbauer to the Position of Public Works Maintenance Worker.

Assistant City Administrator Crane stated the Council was being asked to approve the hire of Benjamin Geisbauer to the position of Public Works Maintenance Worker. She explained an offer letter was extended to Mr. Geisbauer with the new pay rates, however the labor agreement is yet unsigned. For this reason, she suggested this item be postponed to August 14, 2017.

MOTION/SECOND: Gunn/Meehlhause. To Postpone Action on the Hire of Benjamin
Geisbauer to the Position of Public Works Maintenance Worker to the August 14, 2017 City Council meeting.

Ayes – 3  Nays – 0  Motion carried.

E. Resolution 8796, Approving an Agreement for Executive Search Services with Springsted Waters.

City Administrator Ericson requested the Council approve an agreement for Executive Search Services with Springsted Waters to assist with filling the City Administrator position. He commented on the fee for services noting the cost had been slightly reduced to $20,800. He explained the search firm will begin their work as soon as they receive signed documents from the City. Staff recommended the Council approve the agreement with Springsted Waters at the reduced price.

Mayor Mueller thanked City Administrator Ericson for requesting a price reduction from Springsted Waters.

MOTION/SECOND: Gunn/Meehlhause. To Waive the Reading and Adopt Resolution 8796, Approving an Agreement for Executive Search Services with Springsted Waters.

Ayes – 3  Nays – 0  Motion carried.

Mayor Mueller requested the Council now discuss the appointment of an Interim City Administrator. She explained City Administrator Ericson has given the City Council a resignation letter and his last day of work would be in September. She suggested the Council consider hiring an Interim City Administrator from the League of Minnesota Cities list.

City Administrator Ericson reviewed the list of Interim City Administrators and recommended the Council consider hiring an individual with a strong human resources background. He then discussed the six individuals he would recommend for the position.

Mayor Mueller suggested City Administrator Ericson speak with the top three candidates to see if they were available for an interview. City Administrator Ericson indicated he would speak with these individuals and would report back to the Council.

Council Member Meehlhause stated he had no problem appointing Nyle Zikmund but stated he would wait to hear from the City Administrator on other potential candidates.

Council Member Gunn agreed that Nyle Zikmund would be a good fit, however she was uncertain with how to proceed due to the fact the City has not gone through this process before.

Mayor Mueller asked if the Council had to hold interviews. City Administrator Ericson believed this would be the best course of action.
F. Resolution 8797, Endorsing “Pollinator Friendly” Policies and Procedures.

Interim Public Works Director Peterson requested the Council adopt a Resolution endorsing “Pollinator Friendly” policies and procedures. He stated this was first discussed by the Council at a worksession in May. He noted the Parks and Recreation Commission also endorsed this Resolution. Staff read through the Resolution and recommended approval.

Council Member Gunn commented on a video that was created by the City of Lakeville and suggested Mounds View consider creating a pollinator friendly garden. She stated grant funding may be available for this type of project. Interim Public Works Director Peterson stated he would reach out to the middle school to see if they would like to participate in this initiative.

MOTION/SECOND: Gunn/Mueller. To Waive the Reading and Adopt Resolution 8797, Endorsing “Pollinator Friendly” Policies and Procedures.

Ayes – 3  Nays – 0  Motion carried.

G. Resolution 8798, Approving the Resurfacing of Silver View Park and Random Park Basketball Courts.

Interim Public Works Director Peterson requested the Council approve the resurfacing of the Silver View Park and Random Park basketball courts. He explained all playing surfaces within the City’s parks have been evaluated by staff. He stated the Park and Recreation Commission had the tennis courts evaluated and the recommendation was made to put off the Groveland and Green Park tennis courts in lieu of resurfacing the Silver View and Random Park basketball courts. Staff reviewed the expense for the project in detail with the Council and recommended approval of the resurfacing. It was noted the project cost would be covered by the Park Dedication Fund.

MOTION/SECOND: Meehlhause/Gunn. To Waive the Reading and Adopt Resolution 8798, Approving the Resurfacing of Silver View Park and Random Park Basketball Courts.

Ayes – 3  Nays – 0  Motion carried.

H. Resolution 8799, Approving the Replacement of Hockey Rink Boards at Hillview Park.

Interim Public Works Director Peterson requested the Council approve the replacement of the hockey rink boards at Hillview Park. He explained the hockey rink at Hillview Park was discussed by the Park and Recreation Commission and it as recommended the rink be expanded and that the boards be replaced. Staff reviewed the expense for the project and recommended approval. It was noted the project cost would be covered by the Park Dedication Fund.

MOTION/SECOND: Gunn/Meehlhause. To Waive the Reading and Adopt Resolution 8799, Approving the Replacement of Hockey Rink Boards at Hillview Park.
Ayes – 3  Nays – 0  Motion carried.

I. Resolution 8801, Approving Additional Funding for the City Hall and Community Center Parking Lots Mill & Overlay Project.

Interim Public Works Director Peterson requested the Council approve additional funding for the City Hall and Community Center parking lots mill and overlay project. He commented on the original contract with Bituminous Roadways and noted after the initial site inspection an additional 440 feet of concrete was found to be needed, which results in an additional $17,348. Staff recommended the Council approve the additional funding.

Council Member Meehlhause asked when the project would be completed. Interim Public Works Director Peterson stated the contractor believes he can get the project done before Festival in the Park.

Mayor Mueller questioned if the curb design would be changed. Interim Public Works Director Peterson stated the curb design would not be changed. He commented on the snow removal plan for the parking lot going forward.

MOTION/SECOND: Mueller/Meehlhause. To Waive the Reading and Adopt Resolution 8801, Approving Additional Funding for the City Hall and Community Center Parking Lots Mill & Overlay Project.

Ayes – 3  Nays – 0  Motion carried.

J. Resolution 8802, Accepting Improvements and Approving Final Payment for the 2017 Seal Coating of Area D Project.

Interim Public Works Director Peterson requested the Council accept improvements and approve the final payment for the 2017 seal coating for the Area D project. He explained this project was approved in April by the Council and Pearson Brothers was awarded the contract. He reviewed the roadways included in the Area D project and noted the project was completed in full by Pearson Brothers and came in under the original estimate. Staff discussed the expense of the project and recommended approval of the final payment.

Council Member Gunn questioned when the roadways would be striped. Interim Public Works Director Peterson believed the striping would be completed in the next several weeks.

Council Member Meehlhause inquired if the joint powers agreement with the City of Coon Rapids was benefiting the Mounds View. Interim Public Works Director Peterson commented that the joint powers agreement was a benefit to the community as the City was receiving better prices for their projects.

MOTION/SECOND: Meehlhause/Gunn. To Waive the Reading and Adopt Resolution 8802,
Accepting Improvements and Approving Final Payment for the 2017 Seal Coating of Area D Project.

Mayor Mueller asked if the City had worked with Pearson Brothers in the past. Interim Public Works Director Peterson stated reported Pearson Brothers had completed the City’s last seal coating project.

Ayes – 3  Nays – 0  Motion carried.


Interim Public Works Director Peterson requested the Council approve a proposal from Oertel Architects for construction administration services for the Mounds View Public Works Facility. He explained this contract would assist the Public Works Department with completing this project due to staffing changes. He reviewed the services that would be provided by Oertel Architects, along with the associated costs and recommended approval of the proposal.

Council Member Meehlhause asked if Oertel Architects would consider having a fixed bid. Interim Public Works Director Peterson stated he was uncertain if Oertel would approve of this, but stated he could ask.

Mayor Mueller stated the City was seeking a new Public Works Director at this time. It was her hope this would not take 10 months to complete this process. She asked if the contract should proceed with a full 10-month contract. Interim Public Works Director Peterson explained this was his recommendation as the new Public Works Director would have enough to take on with the City.

Mayor Mueller questioned if the Council should proceed with the hourly contract or wait to hear back from Interim Public Works Director Peterson regarding a fixed bid. City Administrator Ericson recommended the Council moved forward with the hourly contract. He feared a fixed bid could come back higher. He noted the City would only be billed for work that was needed.

MOTION/SECOND: Mueller/Meehlhause. To Waive the Reading and Adopt Resolution 8805, Approving the Proposal from Oertel Architects for Construction Administration Services of the Mounds View Public Works Facility.

Council Member Meehlhause stated he would like to see a financial spreadsheet on the costs for the Public Works Facility to see how the project was progressing. He wanted to see if the costs that have incurred to date were in alignment with previous projections.

Ayes – 3  Nays – 0  Motion carried.

10. REPORTS
A. Reports of Mayor and Council.

Council Member Gunn reported the National Night Out Pre-Party would be held at the Mounds View City Hall Park on Saturday, July 29th from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Council Member Gunn stated on Thursday, August 3rd she would be attending a Cable Commission meeting.

Mayor Mueller explained National Night Out would be held on Tuesday, August 1st. She encouraged Mounds View residents to get to know their neighbors during this great event.

Council Member Meehlhause stated he attended a Twin Cities Gateway board meeting last week. He reported hospitality taxes were down in 2017, which would impact Twin Cities Gateway’s contribution to the City. He commented on the number of new hotels that have entered the market in the last year.

Council Member Meehlhause reported he would be attending an NYFS Board of Directors meeting on Thursday.

Mayor Mueller sent a special thank you to Jeannette and Ernie Lapore for opening up their yard to a weekly story time. She invited residents to attend her next story time on Tuesday, July 25th at 10:00 a.m. at the corner of Groveland and Ardan.

Mayor Mueller reviewed a picture taken at Festival in the Park from 1981 and was proud of the fact the Festival has been taking place in the community for over 40 years. She invited people to consider volunteering for the event and noted the Festival in the Park Committee would be meeting next on Tuesday, July 25th at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. She stated the event was fast approaching and would be held on Saturday, August 19th. She then commented on the events being planned for the community celebration.

Mayor Mueller commented on the 10-year anniversary of the 35W bridge collapse which was August 1st. She sent her thoughts and prayers to the families that were impacted by this event.

Mayor Mueller stated she would be attending Jim Hess’s retirement celebration and thanked Mr. Hess for his 20+ years of dedicated service to the community.

B. Reports of Staff.

Police Chief Harder encouraged the public to attend the National Night Out Pre-Party which would be held at the Mounds View City Hall Park on Saturday, July 29th from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. He looked forward to holding more great conversations with Mounds View residents.

Police Chief Harder stated the Mounds View Police Department had rolled out their body cameras and all officers should be trained in their proper use by August.
Mayor Mueller questioned when officers would be turning on their body cameras. Police Chief Harder explained cameras would be turned on in route to a call.

Mayor Mueller asked how long the City was required to retain the data collected from the body cameras. Police Chief Harder stated this would depend on the data retention schedule and would be anywhere from 90 days to seven years.

Mayor Mueller inquired if each of the department’s squad cars had cameras. Police Chief Harder reported this was the case. He explained he would be moving each of the squad cars to a Watch Guard camera.

Interim Public Works Director Peterson updated the Council on the facility maintenance position at the Community Center. He stated interviews would be held shortly. He commented on the progress being made on the disc golf course. He encouraged the Council to visit the Public Works Facility and noted the building was beginning to take shape.

City Administrator Ericson provided the Council with a handout from Lawrence Sign with examples for potential signage within the roundabout at County Road H. He noted the signs were proposed to be backlit.

Council Member Gunn explained she was envisioning a taller sign with plantings in the roundabout. City Administrator Ericson stated he could have Lawrence Sign complete another draft with a taller sign taking the plantings into consideration.

Mayor Mueller stated she liked the idea of a solar powered sign.

City Administrator Ericson requested further information from the Council on the timing of the next worksession meeting. The Council agreed to meet on Monday, August 21st.

Mayor Mueller asked what the City’s next steps would be in order to address Mr. Wolens’ water concerns. City Administrator Ericson stated he spoke to Mr. Wolens’ son and stated he certainly felt for him at this time. He explained there were many property owners in the City dealing with high water table concerns noting 2016 was the wettest year on record. He did not believe his issues were caused by the senior complex that was built in 1995. He explained the City may have to ask an engineer look at the elevations to make sure there was nothing the City has done to exacerbate the issues on Mr. Wolens’ property. He reported he would be speaking with the City Attorney regarding the alluded to inverse condemnation action.

C. Reports of City Attorney.

City Attorney Riggs had nothing additional to report.

11. Next Council Work Session: Monday, August 21, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.
Next Council Meeting: Monday, August 14, 2017, at 6:00 p.m.
12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Transcribed by:

Heidi Guenther
*TimeSaver Off Site Secretarial, Inc.*