

MAPLE LAKE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 16, 2024

6:00 P.M.

Call to Order - Mayor Lynn Kissock called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call – Mayor Lynn Kissock, Councilors: John Haack, and Wayne Paumen.

ABSENT- Council members Scott Chantland and Lori Hausken

City Staff and Consultants: Shirley Slater-Schulte, Interim City Administrator, Al Hudek, Public Works Director, Sam Ketchum, City Attorney, Chuck Boser, City Engineer.

Agenda Approval – Move to approve the Amended Agenda as presented. Motion made by Councilor Paumen, seconded by Councilor Haack. All voting yes. Motion declared passed.

Open Forum – Matters presented in the Open Forum are limited to 5 minutes. Any matter that requires additional time or consideration by the Council may be tabled at a future meeting.

Mayor Kissock informed the audience that the City Council would just be listening and will not answer questions at the Open Forum.

John Rivers, 211 4th Street West, Maple Lake, MN, stated this item should be referred to the Planning & Zoning Commission, as this issue was handled very poorly. It was a free for all; no names and addresses were required. Public Hearing was never officially closed. The Planning Commission recommended that it was referred to the City Council. The review was never completed by the Planning Commission.

Jen Rasset, 7250 Dempsey Avenue NW, Maple Lake, MN, stated that she had attended the Planning Commission meeting. At that meeting, the owner of the proposed facility stated that she operated a facility like this in Buffalo. Contacted several businesses within a community where a facility is located and there are many issues. Stated concerns that this facility is located too close to the school.

Cassie Jones, 540 Kadler Avenue NE, Hanover, MN representing her parents Tim and Jackie Blake, who live at 110 Star Street East, Maple Lake, MN for the past 40 years and are adjacent owners to the NE of this property. Stated that she is an employee for Wright County and has a degree from University of St. Thomas and has worked with this population. She had several questions regarding the programs offered to the

clients, supervision of this facility. How will the City of Maple Lake make sure that the elderly residents and children will be safe in this area?

Brandi Brandstrom, 118 Elm Avenue S., Maple Lake, MN stated that her brother has been through this type of program several times and many people just keep attending these programs to keep out of the court system. She stated that she supports helping these individuals, but this is not the right place for this facility.

Mary Emily, Non-resident, Howard Lake, MN stated that she has worked for two different treatment facilities. She stated that this is not a good place for this type of facility. Mary explained that there were over-doses, had legal charges against her and she had charges against the residents. It is not about if, it is about when it will happen. Situations can go from a lovely place to complete chaos in seconds. This was a supervised place, but they can come and go as they please.

Nathaniel Martin, 19 Oak Avenue N, Maple Lake, MN., stated concerns regarding this proposal. I am urging the City Council to deny this proposal and I am not against new business coming to Maple Lake. The Council is elected to protect the well-being and safety of the residents and children of this community.

Elizabeth Lind, Non-resident, Albion Township, stated at the last meeting the applicants stated that more information would be available to the residents. The owner/applicant was supposed to give more information and they are not present this evening. Encouraged the City Council to deny this application.

Andrew Lang, 215 Star Street, Maple Lake, MN., have lived in their home for 8 years and lives within 350 feet of this facility. He stated that he supports this type of support but must be careful of the location of this type of business. He is a father of nine children and loves living in this community Stated that he is against the opening of this type of facility this close to the school and city parks.

Peter Jude as a concerned citizen and resident, as a father and grandfather he is not in favor of this type of facility in Maple Lake, MN. Concerns regarding the safety and security of children walking to school.

Rebecca Peterson, 4885 County Road 6 NW, Annandale, MN is not in favor of this type of facility. She had questions whether proper notice was given regarding this proposal, stating that the Planning Commission did not act on this matter. She is afraid of little or no supervision and has concerns that drugs could be too close to school property. She urged the City Council to do more research on this request.

Shelly McAlpine, 30 Elm Avenue S., Maple Lake, MN stated that the addicts are already here in Maple Lake. This facility provides help to the patients.

Joshua Brandstrom, 118 Elm Avenue S., Maple Lake. Low access to treatment and support, not a great place for a treatment facility.