

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, January 23, 2018

The regular meeting of the City Council in the City of Virginia, Minnesota was called to order by Mayor Cuffe, Jr. at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

Present: Councillor Paulsen, Johnson, Jorgensen, Baranzelli, Baribeau, Littlewolf
Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (7)

Absent: None

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. read the following Proclamations:

1. Proclamation for Human Rights Act
2. Library Proclamation
3. Proclamation for Omphalocele Awareness Day January 31, 2018.

The City is proud to issue the proclamation as one of our employee's daughters is facing this birth defect during her pregnancy. Governor Dayton has proclaimed this day in the State of Minnesota.

Ms. Ellen Taube member of the Human Rights Commission was present and read an email that was received from the Human Rights Commission in Grand Rapids regarding the current postings in the area regarding the KKK and White Knights.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held January 9, 2018.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 18-002 Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve the Excluded bingo application for the Virginia Band Boosters, Inc. for a bingo to be held on February 11, 2018 at the Holy Spirit Catholic Church.
4. Approve the following training requests:
 - A. Approve Thomas Butorac to attend the City Attorney's Conference in Minneapolis, MN February 7- 9, 2018 cost of \$942.54

- B. Approve Britt See-Benes to attend the MCFOA Conference March 19-23, 2018 in Bloomington MN cost of \$1,057.40
- C. Approve Pamela LaBine to attend the MCFOA Conference March 20-23, 2018 in Bloomington MN cost of \$900.51
- E. Approve Nicole Mattson to attend the Executive Training Institute on April 22-25, 2018 in Duluth MN, cost of \$410.00
- F. Approve Mike Ruedebusch to attend the Community Paramedic Conference February 14-16, 2018 in Bloomington MN cost of \$435.00

5. Approve the Temporary liquor license for the Lyric Center for the Arts on February 14, 2018.
Motion Carried

Councillor Paulsen pulled item 5.4 D to discuss the price of the tickets for the City. It was noted by Mayor Cuffe, Jr. that the City is not a member of the Chamber and the ticket cost is \$110.00.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to allow any Mayor, Councillor or Administrative Staff to attend the Laurentian Chamber Annual dinner at Fortune Bay, February 23, 2018 cost of \$110.00 each.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to appoint James Petroskey to the Public Utilities Commission for a three-year term beginning February 1, 2018. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Johnson to appoint Theresa Nystrom to the VEDA Board for the remainder of a six-year term ending December 21, 2021. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to Re-appoint Scott Weappa and Gabriel Zika to the Park and Recreation Commission for a three-year term beginning February 1, 2018. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor Paulsen to re-appoint Katheran Caulfield to the Library Commission for a three-year term beginning February 1, 2018. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to Re-appoint Jenna Ballinger to the Human Rights Commission for a three-year term beginning February 1, 2018.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported by Councillor Johnson to re-appoint Barbara Politano to the Advisory Hospital Commission for a three-year term beginning February 1, 2018.

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf , supported by Councillor Baribeau to Adopt Resolution 18031 to hire Ms. Rebecca LeMenager as Library Clerk after January 23, 2018. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 18032 to hire Mr. John Flannigan as Mechanic after January 23, 2018. Resolution adopted unanimously

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to appoint Police Chief Mattson to the Regional Advisory Committee and Deputy Chief Nickila as the alternate for 2018. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Johnson to appoint Fire Chief Lewis to the Emergency Communications Board and Battalion Chief Erik Jonassen as the alternate for 2018. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole Meeting held January 16, 2018.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to increase the Washington Manor rent by 1.5% for the 2019 budget. Motion Carried.

Mr. John Gerzina and Mr. Todd Halunen were at the Committee of the Whole Meeting to present the design for the St. Louis County Services Center. No action was taken and City staff will meet with them regarding the updates from the committee meeting.

Mr. Halunen is still gathering concepts for the Pass thru park to be located at 418 Chestnut Street. No action was taken.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 18033 to approve the quote for Ferric Chloride from DPC at \$655.00 per ton for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve the sponsorship for Iron Range Youth in Action for the Young Leaders Convention on February 12, 2018 at a maximum amount of \$500.00 this is allocated in the 2018 budget. Motion Carried.

The Council reviewed the Donation of Leave Policy and will discuss at a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to approve the Virginia Police Department Pursuit Policy per the revision. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the cooperative project with St. Louis County for the mill and overlay of 9th Avenue North from 18th Street North to the City Limits and County Highway 103 to begin in 2019. Motion Carried.

City Administrator See-Benes communicated MnDOT regarding the placement of a sign on Hwy 53 designating the downtown. The combination sign the Council would prefer is not available by MnDOT and the options are “Downtown” or “Business District”.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to allow the City Administrator to purchase the sign to designate “Downtown” for placement on Hwy 53 at a cost \$1,061.35 from MnDOT. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to adopt the Resolution 18034 for the IRRRB Development Infrastructure Grant Request for Appletree Learning Center and Virginia Drop in Daycare in the amount of \$45,000 and the City to act as the fiscal agent. Resolution adopted unanimously.

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Councillor Littlewolf attended the library commission meeting and noted the following events that will be held at the library.

- Hot reads for cold nights.
- January 19th to April 13th a winter to spring story time will be held on Fridays at 11:00 a.m.
- Imagination Mad Science to be held on Friday, February 2nd at 10:30 a.m. for all ages.
- February 20th Harry Potter party from 3-4 p.m.

The library has the following activity in 2017:

- 80,288 Library visits
- Over 7,900 public computer sessions
- More than 120,000 items circulated
- 264 programs held and 8,825 people attended
- Value of library programs and services offered \$2.29 million

Councillor Baribeau updated the Council on the VPUC meeting. The main discussion was regarding the discontinuance of steam in various areas in the City. The VPUC will be sending information to all residents in the areas that the steam will be discontinued. There will be programs for low interest loans available. The public may contact Greg French at the VPUC for any questions they have on the steam conversion.

City Administrator See-Benes updated on the Miner's Project. Krause Anderson will be in Virginia on January 29, 2018 to meet with potential stakeholders for the project and will conduct a larger working session with the public at a future date.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m. to Tuesday, February 13, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.in the Council Chambers.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

Larry Cuffe, Jr., Mayor

Pamela LaBine, City Clerk