

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, February 13, 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.

Matt Reid, Mike Larson and Emily Major with S.E.H. presented the City with a plaque for the Highway 53 Project. SEH submitted the Highway 53 Relocation Project to the City Engineers Association of Minnesota “CEAM” for consideration for Project of the Year Award. The City Engineers Association solicits for projects that occurred during the year and an application was sent in by SEH on behalf of the Hwy 53 project. SEH was notified that the Hwy 53 project was selected for Special Recognition because of its innovative and responsive conditions. Matt Reid and Bill Hennis, City Engineer, attended the annual conference to accept the award on behalf of the City. Three plaques were presented to them. One each for the City, SEH and the Virginia Public Utilities.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held January 23, 2018.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 18-003 Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve 2018 Off-Sale Liquor License for Super One Liquor, LLC DBA: Super One Liquor.
4. Approve 2018 Tobacco License for Super One Liquor, LLC DBA: Super One Liquor.
5. Approve the following travel requests:
 - A. Chris Clark to attend the MN IAAI Conference on March 20-23, 2018 in St. Cloud, MN cost of \$705.00

- B. Chris Clark to attend the MN State Fire Marshal Conference on April 2-4, 2018 in Minneapolis, MN cost of \$700.00
 - C. Six (6) Firefighter/Paramedics to attend the Fire Department Instructors Conference (FDIC) in Indianapolis, IN on April 22-29, 2018 at a total cost of \$8,041.53.
 - D. Approve Nancy Maxwell to attend the Library Legislative Day March 5-6, 2018 in St. Paul, MN cost of \$468.00
 - E. Approve Steven B. Johnson to attend the Legislative Action Day on March 14, 2018 in St. Paul, MN cost of \$70.00
 - F. Approve Mayor Larry Cuffe, Jr. and Councillor Steven B. Johnson to attend the MN Tribal Cultural Partnership Project on March 15-16, 2018 in Prior Lake, MN cost of \$465.25 each.
- 6. Approve Exempt Permit for Range Mental Health Center to hold a raffle at Olcott Park on May 17, 2018.
 - 7. Approve Temporary Liquor License for the Friends of the Greenhouse on March 17, 2018.
 - 8. Approve Transient Merchant license for Walter Walls D/B/A Barbs Fry Bread.

Motion Carried

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. Approve variances, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission at a regular meeting held February 5, 2018.
 - 1. Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve the Virginia Development Co., 1111 17th Street South (Super One Store)
 - A 10 foot variance to the maximum height allowance of 25 feet for a pedestal sign in order to construct a pedestal sign 35 feet in height.
 - A 1247 square foot variance to the maximum allowable square footage of 128 in order to have a total of 1375 square foot of signage on the building/pedestal sign
 Motion Carried
 - 2. Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve the Virginia Development Co. 1101 17th Street South (Super One Liquor Store)
 - A 571 square foot variance to the maximum allowable of 128 square feet in order to have a total of 699 square feet of signage on the premise.
 Motion Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole Meeting held February 6, 2018

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Johnson to receive, file and reject the bids that were received for the Virginia Greenhouse Renovations Project and continue to research funding sources for the maintenance and repair of the Greenhouse facilities. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Paulsen to adopt Resolution 18035 accepting the bid from Upper Midwest Athletic Construction Inc. for the Tennis Indoor Court Reconditioning Project in the amount of \$36,000. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve MN DOTs plans for the new left turn lanes and signal system located at Trunk Highway 53 and 13th Street South with construction to be completed in 2020. Motion Carried.

Councillor Baribeau noted that the MN DOT project will be funded by State Aid money.

City Administrator See-Benes noted Chief Allen Lewis gave an update at the Committee of the Whole Meeting on the calls for 2017 and the overview of the previous six years.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 18036 to approve the purchase of Six (6) X Series Manual Monitor/Defibrillators from Zoll at a cost of \$169,066.35 that includes a trade in value of \$30,000. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve the Fire Department Annual Recognition Banquet cost of \$30.00 per employee excluding spouses to be held on February 24, 2018. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the submission of the application to the 2018 Assistance to Firefighters Grant for Training. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported by Councillor Paulsen to adopt Resolution 18037 to approve a five year lease purchase of a 2018 John Deere 444K Wheel Loader from Nortrax with an annual payment of \$28,627.91. Resolution Adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councilor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to authorize City Staff to initiate lease agreement negotiations with Mitchell & Kelsey Kerfeld for the Golf Course Restaurant. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve renewal of the three year lease with the Northern St. Louis County Sexual Assault Program for office space at City Hall. Motion

Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to respectively deny the request from the YMCA for a Corporate Table Sponsorship for their Annual Fundraiser. Motion Carried

Councillor Littlewolf noted that the RAMS Resolution in support of PolyMet is generic and there are processes in place to move forward with a project of this caliber that go beyond our Council Chambers. Councillor Littlewolf will support the Resolution.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt a revised Resolution 18038 in Support for the Issuance of State Permits for the PolyMet NorthMet Project. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve the request from AEOA for Support in their Grant Application to MnDOT. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 18039 accepting the MAPE Supervisors union contract as proposed.

Ayes-Councillor Johnson, Baranzelli, Baribeau, Littlewolf, Paulsen, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (6)
Nay- Councillor Jorgensen (1)
Resolution adopted.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to set a Special City Council meeting on Thursday, February 15, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. Motion Carried.

Street/Alley/Public Safety Meeting held February 6, 2018

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve City staff to continue to work with St. Louis County to draft an MOU for County employees to park at the Miner's Memorial Building during the construction of the new St. Louis County Government Services Center. Motion Carried.

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Councillor Baribeau attended the Public Facility Authority meeting that was sponsored by Rams. Information was presented on loans and grants for upgrades to wastewater and water plants. It may be utilized in the future if the City has to make changes to the current facility due to the pilot program the City is conducting for the phosphorus issues.

Councillor Johnson informed the Council that the Friends of the Greenhouse is hosting breakfast connections on Wednesday, February 14, 2018 at the Greenhouse.

Councillor Jorgensen updated on the Progress Park reorganization and the status of the paperwork for the loan and land issues.

Councillor Littlewolf informed the Council of the Green Envy Celebration to be held on Saturday March 17, 2018. It is the Greenhouse annual fundraiser and membership drive.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. updated the Council on the final two Polymet public hearings that were held in Aurua and Duluth for the permitting process. There were several presenters with both pros and cons to the project. It was a peaceful but energized event. Councillor Baribeau spoke on water discharge using reverse osmosis.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. will be giving the Five Bugles presentation to the Tax Committee Chair and the House Majority Leader on the proposed Public Safety Building on Monday, February 19, 2018. They will also be discussing the shortfall for the Hwy 53 project.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 pm to Tuesday, February 27, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

Larry Cuffe, Jr. Mayor

Pamela LaBine, City Clerk