

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, MAY 12, 2020

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Virginia, Minnesota, was called to order by Mayor Cuffe, Jr. at 5:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

Present: Councillor Paulsen, Friedlieb, Johnson, Baribeau, Biondich, Baranzelli, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (7)

Absent: None

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Dave Gunderson attended the meeting via zoom. He discussed the Council approval that was made on April 28, 2020 regarding his contractor pay for the Tennis for All facility for the month of April. He noted that he is frustrated that he wasn't notified that he wasn't going to get paid for the month. He was still working, contacting the members and applying for grants even though the facility was closed. He asked the Council if he the City would be willing to pay for his services for the month of April if he isn't eligible for unemployment. The Council agreed to allow staff to work with Mr. Gunderson to clarify the situation. Councillor Johnson also noted that this should be included in future correspondence relating to contractors.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to pay contractor Mr. Gunderson for April 2020 for the Tennis for All, unless he is approved for unemployment from the State of Minnesota.

Motion Carried.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held April 28, 2020 and the Special Meetings held April 27, 2020 and May 1, 2020
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 20-009 Schedule of Bills.

Motion carried.

APPEARANCES

Mr. Greg Gillness and Ms. Rudy Harvey presented a check to the City from the Virginia Foundation. The Foundation passed a Resolution in October that they would like to sunset the account in 2019 and present the funds to the City with the caveat the City could only use the funds for the Olcott Fountain. The account will be closed at the bank and any further donations will be made directly to the City. Greg Gillness thanked the Council for their support.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to accept the donation from the

Virginia Foundation of \$42,745.88 for maintenance of the Olcott Park Fountain. Motion Carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Biondich to adopt Resolution 20080 authorizing the City to apply for and accept funds from FEMA for the purchase of personal protective equipment.

Resolution adopted unanimously.

Consider the following Variances from the Planning and Zoning Commission Meeting held on May 4, 2020:

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve the variance request from

Matt Norri at 1502 11th Street South Virginia, MN for the following:

- 1.) A variance from the Virginia City Code Chapter 11 to allow 2 garages for a single residential parcel.
- 2.) A 172 square foot variance to the maximum allowable of 1,000 square feet for accessory structures in order to construct a new structure up to 24x36 in size having a total of up to 1,172 square feet of accessory garage space.
- 3.) A 3.4 foot variance to the required 6 foot minimum separation between accessory structures in order to construct a new structure 2.6 feet from the existing structure.
- 4.) A approve a 12.3 foot variance to the required 20 foot setback abutting City R/W in order to construct a new garage 7.7 feet from City Right of Way.

Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Biondich to approve the variance for Michael &

Samantha Irish at 701 11th Street North:

- 1.) Approve a 2 foot variance to the maximum allowable of 3 foot high fence in a front yard in order to allow the construction of a 5 foot high black link fence with the condition that fence slats will only be installed on the west side. The east and south side of the fence must remain open to ensure visibility.

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 20081 approving the limited authorization to Proceed for MECC Bid Package One (1). Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve amendment No. 1 to the Kraus –Anderson Construction Contract for their performance bond. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Committee of the Whole Meeting held on May 5, 2020

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 20082 approving

the bid for Lenci Enterprises for Washington Manor Windowsill Project, with base bid and add alternates in the amount of \$95,500 and to add a 10% contingency on the project. Resolution adopted unanimously.

The approval of the proposed phone and internet system was tabled for additional information and to be presented to the Council for review prior to the next City Council meeting.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported Councillor Biondich to adopt Resolution 20083 to apply for and accept funds from the IRRRB Residential Redevelopment Grant Program for 231 2nd Street North. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution 20084 to apply for and accept funds from the IRRRB Residential Redevelopment Grant Program for 407 4th Street South. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt a Resolution to approve the sale of City owned property located at 1007 7th Avenue North, Parcel ID #090-01200-0250 in the amount of \$300 (1st reading) Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councilor Friedlieb to adopt Resolution 20086 to approve the proposed Cooperative Construction Agreement between the State of Minnesota Department of Transportation and the City of Mt. Iron and the City of Virginia for the turn signal agreements along the Hwy 53 corridor. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Biondich to table Adoption of the Resolution increasing the monthly tipping fees by \$5 per month for residential and commercial properties in the City.

Aye: Councillor Johnson, Biondich, Baranzelli, Paulsen, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (5)

Nay: Councillor Friedlieb, Baribeau (2)

Motion Carried

Table the discussion on the request by the Mesabi Snow Voyagers Snowmobile Club for the purchase of a Trail Groomer in the form of a \$5,000 grant. More information is requested from the attorney and if any other entities can provide funding.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to Adopt Resolution 20085 to apply

for and accept funds from the IRRRB for the Community Infrastructure Grant Program for the Miners Memorial Campus. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the Letter of Understanding between AFSCME and City for Golf Course Operations. Motion Carried.

Approved to table the proposal from Biel Consulting, Inc. for the Community Satisfaction Survey on Health Care.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to appoint Councillor Friedlieb to the Shared Fire Services Committee. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to allow Essentia Health to proceed with a Phase II Environmental Assessment for soil borings on City property located at 901 9th Street North. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb, supported by Councillor Johnson to allow staff to continue to work with Pan O Gold to seek another location within the City to locate their business based on the Cities Comprehensive Plan. Motion Carried.

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Biondich to approve Virginia High School to hold a graduation parade and graduation ceremony at the Mesabi Range College. Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m. to Tuesday, May 26, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.