

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, June 9, 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

Councillor Johnson gave an update on the peaceful rally that was held in Virginia and shared a letter from a student at Mesabi Range College regarding racism. Councillor Baribeau gave a rebuttal to the letter read by Councillor Johnson.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held May 26, 2020 and the Special Meetings held May 27, 2020 and May 29, 2020
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 20-011 Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve the following Travel Requests:
 - A.) Fire Department
 1. Lisa Hanover to attend the Company Officer Academy, October 26-29, 2020 in Brooklyn Park, MN Cost of \$950.00
 - B.) Police Department
 1. John Swenson to attend the DARE Training January 24-29, 2021 and January 31 to February 5, 2021 in Woodbury, MN cost of \$856.22 and \$2,095.51
 2. Eric Thomsen to attend the CQB Instructor Course, June 14-18, 2020 in Rosemount, MN cost of \$1,035.00
4. Approve the Massage License for Haley Jarmer, CMT independent worker
5. Approve the Massage License for Bleu A Salon & Spa contingent upon submitting all required paperwork
 5. Approve the Transient Merchant Application for the following:
 - A.) TNT Fireworks
 - B.) Generous Jerry's Fireworks, Inc.

Motion Carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to adopt Resolution 20093 approving

the State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements with the City of Virginia on behalf of its City Attorney and Police Department. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb, supported by Councillor Baribeau to appoint Carolyn Dinneen to the Human Rights Commission for the remaining balance of the three-year term ending February 1, 2022. Motion Carried.

Planning & Zoning Meeting held June 1, 2020:

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to consider the following variance for Joseph Weber at 729 15th Street North:

1. Approve a 2 foot variance to the maximum allowable of 2 foot high fence in the front yard corner lot (15th Street) in order to allow the construction of a 4 foot high chain link fence
2. Approve a 20 foot variance to the required 20 foot setback on a corner lot (8th Avenue) in order to construct a fence on the West side yard property line
3. Approve a 2 foot variance to the maximum allowable height of 2 feet on a corner lot (8th Avenue) in order to construct a 4 foot high chain link fence.

Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Biondich to consider the following variance for Nicholas Lefebvre at 928 16th Street North:

1. Approve a 2 foot variance to the 4 foot required side yard setback in order to construct a new 28'x32' garage 3 feet from the East side yard property line.
2. Approve a 230 square foot variance to the maximum rear yard coverage of 30% (896 square feet) in the rear yard.

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to consider the following variance for Matt Kelly at 1026 16th Street North:

1. Approve a 4.2 foot variance to the 8 foot required side yard setback in order to construct a new deck extending 10 feet from the house 3.8 feet from the East side yard property line.

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Biondich, supported by Councillor Baribeau to consider the variance request from James Kottke at 631 13th Street North:

1. Approve a 2.5 foot variance to the 5 foot required side yard setback in order to construct a new 20'x24' garage 2.5 feet from the East side yard property line.
2. Approve variance from Virginia City code to allow two (2) residential garages per single residential dwelling unit in order to construct a new 20'x24' garage.
3. Approve a 1 foot variance from the required 6 feet separation between structures in order to construct a new 22'x24' garage, 5 feet from the existing garage.

Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole Meeting held on June 2, 2020:

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Paulsen to adopt Resolution 20094 approving the insurance quote for Builder's Risk Coverage for the MECC project from Podpeskar Agency in the amount \$31,237.00 Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to approve the Construction Change Directive (CCD) up to a maximum of \$50,000 per incident in emergency situations only and allow the City Administrator, Finance Director and Parks & Recreation Director to review the change order and approve without needing to return to Council for approval. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the Project Labor Agreement as presented for the Miners Event and Convention Center project. Motion Carried.

Councillor Johnson discussed the emergency status regarding all employees going back to work. It was suggested to discuss further at the Committee of the Whole meeting next week. Mayor Cuffe, Jr. also informed the Council of an area Mayors meeting to be held with the Governor.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve the return to work dates of June 8, 2020 for the Public Works, Fire Department and the Library staff return to work date of June 15, 2020 with curbside library service beginning Monday, June 15, 2020. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt the Resolution 20095 for the proposal from Northeast Technical Services for the asbestos inspection in the amount of \$11,182.50 Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt the Resolution 20096 to apply for and accept funds from the Department of Iron Range Resources for abatement of asbestos at the former Midway Motel. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Friedlieb and Councillor Johnson both voiced their concerns on the sale of the hospital for the proposal that was presented by Essentia. After further discussion regarding the proposal a motion was made to accept.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to adopt Resolution 20097 accepting the purchase agreement with Essentia Health to purchase the hospital in the amount of \$86,100 plus closing

costs. Resolution adopted unanimously

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb, supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve the First Right of Refusal with Essentia Health. Motion Carried.

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. reviewed the Emergency Response Plan regarding the pandemic and the tragic death of Mr. Lloyd. The Mayor thanked City staff, the Police Department and the Fire/EMS Departments and the Council for the job that was done and noted that the protest was a peaceful one.

Councillor Friedlieb gave kudos to the organized group for the protest that was held.

Councillor Baribeau thanked Krause Anderson for the information presented on the MECC Project.

See-Benes noted that the recycling program has begun and to begin recycling on your regular recycling days.

The meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m. to Tuesday, June 23, 2020 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

Larry Cuffe, Jr. Mayor

Pamela LaBine, City Clerk