

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, June 25, 2019

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

Absent: None

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Bruce Kingsley was present to discuss the decrepit property next door to his residence. Mr. Kingsley also sent a letter to the Council stating his concerns. He noted that this issue has been reviewed in the past but the property owner has not complied with the blight orders. Mr. Kingsley is concerned that the adjacent property could catch on fire and will cause damage to his home. The owner has other property in the City that are also in disrepair. Mr. Kingsley is requesting the Council take action on the blighted property. The Mayor and City staff have had conversations regarding the property with the owner is on notice regarding his property. The condemnation process is very time consuming and lengthy. City Attorney Butorac noted the best way to handle the situation is to contact the property owner to convey the property to the City and then tear it down. Councillor Baribeau suggested having the building inspectors go to the property and make documentation of the blight in case of condemnation.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to allow city staff and the City attorney contact the property owner via a letter and if no response is received from the property owner within 30 days then proceed with the condemnation process. Motion Carried.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held June 11, 2019.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 19-012 Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve the transient merchant license for Gerald Breyer d/b/a Generous Jerry's Fireworks, Inc.
4. Approve an On-Sale Liquor license for The 218.
5. Approve the Exempt Permit for the Virginia Rotary Club to conduct a raffle September 19, 2019 at the Miners Memorial Building.

5. Approve the Temporary Liquor License for the Friends of the Greenhouse on August 17, 2019.
7. Approve the following travel requests:
 - A) Fire Department:
 1. Allen Lewis, Fire Chief, to attend the EMS World Expo on October 14-19, 2019 in New Orleans, LA at a cost of \$1,294.00
 2. Allen Lewis, Fire Chief, to attend the Fire Rescue International on August 6-11, 2019 in Atlanta GA at a cost of \$1,034.00
 - B) Jessie Holecek, Police Department, to attend the 2019 DARE Training Conference on August 11-14, 2019 in Walker MN at a cost of \$825.00
 - C) Britt See-Benes and Steven Johnson, Administration, to attend the 2019 CGMC Summer Conference on July 24-26, 2019 in Bemidji, MN at a cost of \$689.32 and \$557.90 .

Motion Carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to adopt Resolution 19087

Terminating Option to Purchase Parcel of Land in Original Plat of Virginia. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 19088 making a Declaration of Official Intent under U.S. Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2 in order to use the proceeds of the tax-exempt bond sale to reimburse expenditures paid before the issue date of the bond for the Miners Entertainment and Convention Center. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to adopt Resolution 19089 authorizing the City of Virginia to make application to and accept funds from the IRRRB Commercial Redevelopment Grant Program for the interior demolition at 1518 8th Street South, Virginia. Resolution adopted unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole meeting held June 18, 2019

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 19090 to approve the contract with TransMedic for the ambulance billing services. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to adopt Resolution 19091 for Change Order #2 for the ATV Trail Connection in the amount of \$2,736.00. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the proposal from Braun Intertec for Geotechnical Evaluation for the Miner's Event and Convention Center in the amount of \$10,750.00

Resolution adopted unanimously.

The quote for the 1st Street North Parking Improvements was received and filed.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Biondich to approve the invoice from Hometown Electric in the amount of \$460.00 for the Olcott Fountain Project. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to approve Pay Estimate #5 to Gardner Builders \$54,293.05 for the Olcott Fountain Project. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve the invoice from Lenci Enterprises in the amount of \$526.00 for the Olcott Fountain Project. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the Downtown Redevelopment District Commercial Rehabilitation Program Guidelines and Application with the recommended changes. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb, supported by Councillor Paulsen to invite Superintendent Schmidt to the next Committee of the Whole meeting on July 2, 2019 to review the SRO contract. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the 1st reading of the proposed ordinance allowing Local Option Sales Tax for the Miner's Convention Center. Motion Carried.

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Councillor Baribeau gave an update on the VPUC meeting. The coal contracts are on a short term basis. The steam conversions are continuing and 300 are scheduled for both north and south side of Virginia. New information was discussed on the Conservation Improvement Program. The Solar Development agreed to update their plan but no further action was taken.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Biondich to schedule a Coffee and Conversation in August and to hold the meeting in Midway. Motion Carried.

Councillor Baranzelli gave an update on the Parks & Recreation meeting that was held on June 19th:

- Screen on the Green, movies in the park by the fountain, will be held at 9:30 p.m. on Thursday, July 11th and 25th and August 8th and 22nd.
- Pickin in the Park July 17th and August 21st from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

- Summer concert series will be held on Thursdays at 7 pm during the summer.
- Yoga in the bandstand July 8th to August 19th at 6:30 p.m.

A tree was planted and a plaque was placed in the fairway by hole number one in honor of the late John Bachman, Parks and Recreation Supervisor.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. updated the Council on the vandalism that occurred at the Veterans Park. The vandal was James Jefferson and there is no legitimate reason for his actions and will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

Councillor Johnson reminded everyone about the 4th of July bike decorating that will take place at the library on July 2nd as part of the library program and the 3rd at the Miners Memorial building.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m. to Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

Larry Cuffe, Jr., Mayor

Pamela LaBine, City Clerk