

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA-September 10, 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 Paulsen, Baranzelli, Biondich, Baribeau, Johnson, Friedlieb, Mayor Cuffe Jr. (7)

Absent: None (0)

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the consent agenda as read:

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held August 27, 2019
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution 19-017 Schedule of Bills
3. Approve Pay Estimate #2 for the Midway Drive Improvements to Casper Construction in the amount of \$176,831.39
4. Approve Pay Estimate #2 for the 12th Avenue Improvements to Mesabi Bituminous in the amount of \$249,991.03
5. Approve Sunday Liquor License for Pauly's, LLC d/b/a Pauly G's
6. Approve the following Travel Request:
 - (A) Fire Department:
 1. Allen Lewis, Fire Chief, to attend the Rural EMS Leadership Course, September 6-7, 2019 in Alexandria MN at a cost of \$475.00
 2. Jon Carlson to attend the Tactical EMS September 22-27, 2019 at Camp Ripley at a cost of \$174.96
 3. Tiffany Larson and Lisa Hanover to attend the Pulse Check Leadership Summit September 25-26, 2019 in St. Paul MN cost of \$438.00 each
 - (B) Council and Administration, to attend the 2019 League of Minnesota Cities Regional Meeting on October 3, 2019 in Chisholm cost of \$55 each plus mileage
 - (C) Mayor Larry Cuffe, Jr. to attend the attend the IACP Conference October 26-27, 2019 in Chicago IL cost of \$807.02

Motion Carried.

APEARANCES

Tucker Nelson, the new Executive Director of the Virginia Area Historical Society came forward to introduce himself to the Council. Nelson updated the Council on several successful events, reconstruction of their website and future changes in the manner items are collected, stored and cataloged. The Historical Society is open from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday through Saturday.

St. Louis County was unable to attend the meeting to discuss the Community Development Block Grant due to a scheduling conflict with their board meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Johnson to approve the second reading of the draft Public Improvement and Special Assessment Policy. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb and supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve the second reading of the proposed draft of the Storm Sewer Utility Ordinance. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson and supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the request from Michelle Walter and Jamie Winger to waive the fee for the Miner's South Room to hold free will offering Community Thanksgiving Dinner on Thursday, November 28, 2019 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli and supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 19122 approving the hire of Mike Wallace for the Dual Role Firefighter/EMT position. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli and supported by Councillor Paulsen to adopt Resolution 19123 accepting the donation from the Virginia Elk's Lodge in the amount of \$3,750 for the Olcott Fountain Restoration Fund. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen and supported by Councillor Biondich to approve the request to close the 100 block of 3rd Avenue North for the Bridge Daze Celebration, Saturday September 14, 2019 from 1:00 pm – 8:00 pm. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb and supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 19124 to make application to and accept funds from the IRRRB Residential Redevelopment Grant Program for the property demolition of the residential structure located at 12th Street South and 1st Avenue South known as Parcel Code 090-0060-03100. Resolution adopted unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole Meeting held September 3, 2019

Moved by Councillor Paulsen and supported by Councillor Johnson to deny the request from Mesabi Bituminous to extend the substantial completion date to September 6, 2019 for the 12th Avenue West Improvement Project. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson and supported by Councillor Friedlieb to approve the amendment to the Engineering Services Contract with S.E.H Inc. for the 12th Avenue West Improvements Project to allow for additional engineering services in an amount not to exceed \$14,780. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson and supported by Councillor Baranzelli to authorize staff to work with VPUC and AMERESCO on the proposed Energy Improvements Project as shown in plan A and B for energy upgrades within the city estimated at a \$2.4 million program, which will include LED lighting, HVAC, and Retrofit Kits. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Johnson to approve payment of the 2020 dues for the League of Minnesota Cities in the amount of \$8,554. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson and supported by Councillor Baribeau to support the HUD Amendment No. 3 to Joint Cooperation Agreement of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Friedlieb to adopt Resolution 19125 to approve application and acceptance of funds from the IRRRB EDA Partnership Pilot Program for the

downtown redevelopment program in the amount of \$250,000 of which the VEDA budget has approved the bond sale as the required matching funds for this program. Resolution adopted unanimously.

The communication from St. Louis County was received and filed regarding the proposed Sale of State Tax Forfeit Land Parcel Code 090-0010-14520 and 090-0126-00100.

The notice of St. Louis County was received and filed regarding the Timber Sale within City Boundary that was generated due to the logging along HWY 135.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli and supported by Councillor Friedlieb to direct City staff to obtain information on securing additional appraisals for the City owned property in Progress Park and to contact the school regarding their timeline on the new school project. Motion carried

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Councillor Johnson reported that September 10th is Worldwide Suicide Prevention Day. This is a leading overall cause of death in Minnesota. The City's website will have additional suicide resources listed for further information.

City Administrator Britt See-Benes announce that beginning September 17, 2019, the Committee of the Whole Meetings will also be live streaming on our City of Virginia, MN YouTube Channel.

Mayor Cuffe Jr. reminded everyone to take some time during Wednesday September 11th to stop and pause, remember we live in united states in America and we were attacked based off our beliefs and our freedoms. Remember those who sacrificed their lives including firefighters and first responders who died to help save others.

Tuesday September 11, 2019 at 7:45 a.m. The US Senate Bonding Committee will be coming to Fire Hall to review the new public safety building presentation. We are advocating for this project to be put in the 2020 Bonding Bill. The House Bonding Committee will also visit on September 18, 2019.

Lisa Hanover who is a Firefighter/Paramedic was awarded a grant from Honeywell to attend the FDIC annual conference last year. Honeywell and the Wall Street Journal contacted Hanover to ask if she would be willing to participate in a special article regarding her and the life of a firefighter in Minnesota. Staff from the Wall Street Journal were at the Fire Hall on Monday and Tuesday.

The meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m. to Tuesday, September 24, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

Larry Cuffe, Jr. Mayor

Kris Marafioti, Administrative Assistant-IT
Specialist