

**VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, January 12, 2016**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Virginia, Minnesota was called to order by Mayor Cuffe, Jr. at 6:30 P.M, in the Council Chambers, City Hall

Roll Call:

Present: Councilors Baribeau, Littlewolf, McReynolds, Jorgensen, Sipola, Baranzelli, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (7)

Absent: none

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance

An Oath of Office Ceremony was held for the Police Department to swear in Mr. Tanner Banks and Mr. Jacob Roskoski. Mayor Cuffe, Jr. congratulated and thanked the families on the two new officers hired by the city.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Doug Nelson discussed the issue with the property lines on the 700 block of 4<sup>th</sup> street, he has met with the attorney regarding the property lines, and it is more complex than originally thought. Tom Butorac said a quit claim deed can be done for all the property's and then work on solving the bigger issue of the property ownership. We will present to street and alley for further discussions and will notify Mr. Nelson of the street and alley meeting.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to do a quit claim deed for the following properties:

Doug Nelson 727 4<sup>th</sup> Street South, Angela Trygg 413 7<sup>th</sup> Ave South, Jonni Swanson 416 7<sup>th</sup> Ave South, Merry Ofstad 717 4<sup>th</sup> Street South, Cheri Ervin 723 4<sup>th</sup> Street South, Michael Wortruba 721 4<sup>th</sup> Street South, Paul Forseth 725 4<sup>th</sup> Street South and the city will take the responsibility for a permanent resolution to the problem and will take on any expenditures in the 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
  - a. Regular Meeting held December 15, 2015.
  - b. Reorganizational Meeting held January 4, 2016

- 2 Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 16-001 – Schedule of Bills.
  - a. Report dates: 12/16/2015 – 12/29/2015.
  - b. Report dates: 1/1/2016 – 1/8/2016.
- 3 Approve application from Whitetails Unlimited NE MN Deer Camp to hold a raffle Saturday, March 5, 2016 at the Elks Lodge 1003 in Virginia

Motion carried and resolutions adopted unanimously

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve resolution 16025

for the designation of bank depositories for 2016. Resolution adopted unanimously

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the appointment of Tom

Bartovich to the Virginia Economic Development Authority for a two year term ending December 31, 2017.

Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Sipola to support resolution 16037 to designate

the Mesabi Daily News as the official newspaper for 2016. Motion Carried

Councillor Sipola updated the people viewing the meeting that two quotes that were submitted, Mesabi Dailey News and Hometown Focus, Councillor Jorgensen noted the difference in the display ad pricing. The Finance Director was asked to present a report on what was spent on each display ad for comparison. The Mesabi is a daily paper and Hometown Focus is weekly.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councillor Sipola reported on the Personnel Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 5, 2016

Moved by Councillor Sipola supported by Councillor McReynolds to approve the resolution 16026

for the promotion of Justin Root from single role EMT to Firefighter Paramedic. Resolution adopted unanimously

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve the resolution 16027 for the

promotion of Elizabeth Krhin from single role EMT to Firefighter Paramedic. Resolution adopted unanimously

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the resolution 16028 for the promotion of Zachary Yurczyk from single role EMT to Firefighter Paramedic. Resolution adopted unanimously

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Baribeau to approve the resolution 16029 for the promotion of William Fisher from single role EMT to Firefighter/Paramedic. Resolution adopted unanimously

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to interview any commissioner who re-applies for a commission position and that has absences of more than 25% in previous years. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baribeau to Re-appoint Michael Bergerson to the EVELETH/VIRGINIA AIRPORT AUTHORITY for a three year term ending 1/1/2019. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to re-appoint Jeff Marwick to the PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION for a three year term ending 2/01/2019. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to re-appoint Dale Krog to the PLANNING AND ZONING for a three year term ending 2/01/2019. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to re-appoint Roger Rosandich to the PLANNING AND ZONING for a three year term ending 2/01/2019. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to re-appoint Rocci Lucarelli to the ADVISORY HOSPITAL COMMISSION for a three year term ending 2/1/2019. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to appoint Gordon Dahl to the MUNICIPAL CABLE COMMISSION for a one year term ending 12/1/2016, or until a new applicant applies for the position. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to appoint Darwin Alar to the MUNICIPAL CABLE COMMISSION for a one year term ending 12/1/2016 or until a new applicant applies for the position, two year term ending 12/1/17. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor McReynolds to appoint Tony Bertucci to the MUNICIPAL CABLE COMMISSION for a one year term ending 12/1/2016 or until a new applicant applies for the position, three year term ending 12/1/18. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to appoint Dennis Yourczek to the MUNICIPAL CABLE COMMISSION for a one year term ending 12/1/2016 or until a new applicant applies for the position, three year term ending 12/1/18. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to approve resolution 16040 to hire Henry Trunk as Patrol Officer for the City of Virginia starting February15, 2016 or after. Resolution adopted unanimously

Councillor Baribeau reported on the Finance Committee of the Whole meeting January 5, 2016

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to approve the change order 02 for the Hwy 53 project. Motion Carried

Councillor Baribeau updated on the meeting regarding the Staver property, and the CDBG grant and we will be meeting to discuss with Steve Nelson regarding this.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor McReynolds to approve the purchase a marked replacement squad from White Bear Lake, after insurance claim city cost is \$4,200.00. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve the resolution 16030 to purchase the 2016 Ford Utility Interceptor AWD squad car from Lundgren Ford of Virginia cost of \$28,196.74. Resolution adopted unanimously

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve resolution 16031 for the purchase of the Rapid Deployment craft at a cost of \$4,600.00 from Atlas Outfitters ATR. Resolution adopted unanimously

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve resolution 16032 for the purchase of a 2016 Ford Ambulance: in the amount \$235,685.00 from Everest Emergency Vehicles, Inc. Resolution adopted unanimously

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor McReynolds Allow Fire Chief Lewis to attend the Fire Officer II Certification in Alexandria MN February 5-7, 2016, cost of \$288.00. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to allow Bill Cole to attend ICC Upper Great Plains Region III Education Institute cost of \$1,657.52 on February 8- 12, 2016. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to approve resolution 16033 for the installation of a 12 Hole Disc Golf Course at Olcott Park by Airborn Disc Golf, cost of \$10,000.00. Resolution adopted unanimously

Discussed the Greenhouse Restrooms: John Bachman presented information for the restrooms

Moved Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor McReynolds to support a resolution in the construction of the bathrooms at the Greenhouse. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Sipola to accept the bid from Lenci Construction in the amount of \$43,460.00-no vote

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baribeau to table and send back to Finance for discussion and requesting more information. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor McReynolds to approve the contract for services with Greg Gaut for the Olcott Park Fountain Project to evaluate eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. Motion Carried

A \$7,000 grant was received for this service by the Olcott Park Restoration Committee

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to approve paying the CGMC membership dues for 2016 \$13,645.00. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Sipola to approve resolution 16035 to transfer \$20,000 from the contingency fund to the Lakes Fund for trail improvements. Resolution adopted unanimously

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the grant application for OSHA matching grant of \$10,000 for the library security/alarm video surveillance system. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve the resolution 16036 opposing the Trans-Pacific-Partnership Agreement. Resolution adopted unanimously

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. read the resolution to the public. Discussed the meaning of the resolution and also for the record and to have an environmentally controlled country.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to *deny* the request for a donation to the St. Louis County Fair. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to allow Fire Chief Lewis to apply for the regional assistance to fire fighters grant, the AFG grant. Motion Carried

Councillor Baribeau updated on the RAMS meeting, Baribeau was elected to the board of directors. The Council needs to decide if we are going to join and pay the annual fee \$950 for 2016 and allow Councillor Littlewolf to be the alternate on the board if Councillor Baribeau cannot attend. Mayor Cuffe, Jr. suggested it be referred to the Finance Committee for more discussion.

Moved by Jorgensen, supported by Sipola to discuss at the finance committee level for the RAMS Dues. Motion Carried

Councillor Sipola commented on the organization and would like to know what has been done and hear what the master plan is. He is still not convinced we should be a member. Councillor Littlewolf has agreed to be the alternate, but it does need to be discussed at the committee level. Councillor Baranzelli congratulated Councilor Baribeau on his appointment to the RAMS board, and also that Councillor Littlewolf has agreed to be an alternate, and it's nice to know that the city has representation on the board.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor McReynolds to approve resolution 16038 for the state bonding funds for the US Hwy 53 relocation of utilities and trails. Resolution adopted unanimously

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve the resolution 16039 awarding the sale of the city's general obligation charter certificates of indebtedness, series 2016A, fixing their forms and specification, directing their execution and delivery and providing for their payment.

Resolution adopted unanimously

MMB and other city representatives will meet and discuss the plan for Hwy 53, Councillor Baribeau updated on the details of the payment structure and in the process of looking for other funding options. The Mayor also simplified the details of what happened on the Hwy 53 project and how the costs of the gap came about and what other funding options that may be available.

#### COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Councillor Baribeau updated on the Hwy 53 project: there are 40 staff people on site, 40,000 man hours, 95% of the contract work is local contractors. When done 400,000 man hours will be into the project. 50% completed on the bridge. There are two shifts working now. Ulland is doing the sewer and water. The utility time frame to be installed on the bridge is 2017. There are four phases of construction on the roadways. Bridge completion will be in 2017. The next meeting is February 4<sup>th</sup>.

Councillor Jorgensen: updated on the curling night in America, the event took place and the first installment was on TV last Friday. There will be seven more reviews over the next six weeks, will be aired on Fridays on NBC sports. 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. Base channel 170 and 827 on the expanded channel. The Junior Bonspiel, going on this weekend if anyone is interested in watching.

Councillor Baranzelli updated on the backhoe purchase, it has arrived and have been tearing down a few homes it takes about three days to demolish the homes, interesting on how it is done.

The main pipe that feeds the Miners sprung a leak; they worked on it last night and have the new main going in a window. It's the fifth major leak that has occurred. Thanked all the workers for their help.

The Mayor has received a thank you letter from Laborers Local 1097 thanking the city for supporting them in the construction of their new facility.

The Mayor read a proclamation for James Padgett; the Miners back rink was dedicated to him on December 28, 2015. Councillor Sipola told a story about James and how the rink was actually built in 1969 his idea and his creation.

The Dare Hockey tournament took place-Saturday, Jan 9<sup>th</sup>. It was a close game Virginia team had costumes on in the 3<sup>rd</sup> period. Virginia won 9-6 and everyone enjoyed the game. It was a great children's event.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m. with the next regular council meeting to be held Tuesday, January 27, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

---

Larry Cuffe, Jr. Mayor

---

Pamela LaBine, City Clerk