

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, January 24, 2017

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.

Present: Councillor Littlewolf, Paulsen, Baranzelli, Johnson, Jorgensen, Baribeau

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (7)

Absent: None

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held January 10, 2017.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 17-002 Schedule of Bills.
3. Allow City Administrator Britt See-Benes and City Clerk Pamela LaBine to attend the MCFOA Clerks Conference in Welch MN on March 14-17, 2017 cost of \$914.47 each.
4. Allow City Administrator Britt See-Benes to attend the MCMA Region Meeting in Duluth MN on February 1-2, 2017 cost of \$243.16.
5. Allow City Clerk Pamela LaBine to attend the Election update meeting on February 6, 2017 in Mt. Iron, no cost for meeting.
6. Allow Officers Josh Mettler and Matt Kelley to attend the Leadership academy on May 15-19, 2017 at Camp Ripley, cost of \$716.00.
7. Allow Kris Johnson to attend the MN Municipal Clerks Institute Year One, April 30-May 5, 2017, cost of \$1,381.70.
8. Allow Police Chief Mattson to attend the MN Chief's Conference April 23-26, 2017 in St. Cloud, cost of \$715.00.
9. Adopted Resolution 17030 to allow three Fire Personnel to attend the IAFF PFT Train the Trainer Class in St. Paul.

Motion Carried and Resolutions adopted unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve the Iron Range Youth in Action Program sponsorship for ten students cost of \$50.00 each to attend the Young Leaders Conference on February 13, 2017. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution 17031 to implement the rules and regulation of the Board of Water and Soil Resources. Resolution adopted unanimously.

City Administrator See-Benes discussed the Wetlands Resolutions, and noted that the City of Virginia goes through the County rather than the State. The WCA is also requesting the City designate someone to be the Wetlands Coordinator for the City of Virginia.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported Councillor Littlewolf by adopt Resolution 17032 to accept the authority and administrative responsibility to implement the Wetland Conservation Act and to appoint Bill Hennis, City Engineer as the decision making authority. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to adopt Resolution 17035 for the Pace Analytical quote for testing services for the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to allow the Job Fair Committee to hang a banner on 2nd Avenue Entrance March 31, 2017. Motion Carried.

Councillor Johnson asked if it would interfere with the Highway 53 Construction, it was noted that the Land of the Loon Banner has been hung there in the past and there hasn't been any problems.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to reappoint Allan Bier to a three year term on the Parks and Recreation Commission ending February 1, 2020. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to reappoint John Dickinson to a three year terms on the Parks and Recreation Commission ending February 1, 2020 . Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to appoint Clarence Graham to fill the remaining balance of the three year term on the Parks and Recreation Commission ending February 1, 2019. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to reappoint Arlene Jershe to a three year term on the Library Commission ending February 1, 2020. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Baranzelli reappoint William Culbert to a three year term on the Public Utilities Commission ending February 1, 2020. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to reappoint Rob Raplinger to a three year term on the Public Utilities Commission ending February 1, 2020. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported Councillor Jorgensen to appoint Roger Hoffman to a three

year term on the Planning and Zoning Commission ending February 1, 2020. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to appoint Mary McReynolds to a three year term on the Planning and Zoning Commission ending February 1, 2020. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to appoint Jenni Smith to a six year term on the VEDA Board ending on 11-30-22. Motion Carried

COMMITTEE REPORTS

City Administrator See-Benes updated the Council on the Planning and Zoning Public Hearing held January 17, 2017. The hearing was held to discuss the Comp Plan for the City of Virginia. There wasn't any opposition at the hearing. There has to be two public hearings before the Council approves the Comp Plan. The next Public Hearing will be held at a Committee of the Whole meeting that is set by the Council.

Motion by Councillor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor Johnson to have the Committee of the Whole meeting on February 8, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. to conduct the public hearing for the Comp Plan. Motion Carried.

Committee of the Whole Meeting held January 17, 2017:

Motion by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 17033 for the purchase an Ambulance Re-chassis/Refurbish from Everest Emergency Vehicles at a cost of \$138,705 at State bid price and is included in the 2017 budget. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the VFD employee recognition dinner at a cost of \$25.00 per employee plus \$100.00 in miscellaneous costs. Motion Carried

City Administrator See-Benes gave an update on the following from the COW meeting. Mr. Bob Manzoline with the Regional Rail Authority was present to discuss the proposed snowmobile trail route and the future route for the Mesabi Trail. The group is currently working on a grant for the State Bonding bill for the snowmobile trail and updating existing trails. The total project cost \$6.5 million and will be located south of the Bourgin Road area to north of the new bridge. Mr. Greg Gilness also attended the COW meeting and gave an update on the Olcott Park Fountain Project. To date they have received \$213,210.00 in private donations. The application was received and accepted by the State Historical Society and will be voted on at a meeting which will be held on March 14, 2107 in St. Paul. The goal is to have the fountain running by the end of summer.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Paulsen to adopt the Washington Manor 2017-2018 budget in the amount of \$632,130.00 with no increase in rent. Motion Carried.

City Administrator See-Benes discussed the recently executed lease agreement with Motorola Solutions and noted that the installation cost was not included in that agreement. She has been in contact with Motorola and DSC Communications for more information.

Moved by Littlewolf, supported by Baribeau table the Motorola Installation agreement for further

information. Motion Carried.

The Laurentian Chamber contacted Mayor Cuffe, Jr. regarding the cost for the Chamber Annual Dinner. The Chamber has reduced the price to \$85.00 per person if you are a chamber member affiliated in another capacity. Councillor Johnson added that he will be attending as a Chamber Board Member and as a representative of the City.

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor Johnson to allow any City Councillor to attend the Laurentian Chamber dinner on February 24, 2017 at Giants Ridge and for the City to bear the expense of \$105.00 if they are not affiliated in another capacity. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve the extension of the VEEDA loans with the IRRRB for buildings 1402 and 1404 in Progress Park. Motion Carried.

City Administrator See-Benes updated on the presentation from the COW meeting that Mr. Tim Flaherty from CGMC gave. He discussed the City of Virginia's LGA history as well as the current law and future proposals of LGA. He also commented on incentives available for Economic Development.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 17034 for the purchase of a 2016 Ford Utility Police Interceptor at a cost of \$27,205.00 from Ford of Hibbing to replace the 2014 squad that has been totaled due to an accident. Resolution adopted unanimously.

City Administrator See-Benes noted that a citizen ran a stop sign and crashed into the squad. There were no injuries.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to allow the City Administrator along with City staff to develop a policy for handicap parking requests for residential areas. Motion Carried.

City Administrator See-Benes also updated on the discussion that was held on calendar parking. The parking monitor will be going around to other areas of the City to monitor the calendar parking not just in the downtown area. The discussion held on the Building and Grounds portion of the meeting it was recommend naming the plat of the former Staver area. The Council agreed to name it the Franklin Industrial Addition.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to recommend naming the plat of the former Staver Foundry Area, described as Part of the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section and the Northwest Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 17, Township 58 North, Range 17 West In The City Of Virginia, Minnesota, as the Franklin industrial Addition. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve the sidewalk closure

request at the Lyric Center located at 510-514 Chestnut Street during the storefront reconstruction project.

Motion Carried.

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

City Administrator Britt See-Benes explained to the Council that the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities has an opening on their Board of Directors and they asked if See-Benes would be interested in filling the position. The meetings are by teleconference or phone so the travel would be limited to attend meetings.

Moved by Councilor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor Johnson to appoint City Administrator Britt See-Benes to the CGMC Board of Directors. Motion Carried.

Britt See-Benes gave the Council information on the Mesabi Humane Society fundraiser. They are trying to raise money for a new vehicle that is safer for animals and staff. The annual gala will be held at the Gilbert Community Center on Thursday, February 9th from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at a cost of \$35.00 each.

The library has a new web page and recommended to check it out. The website is www.virginia.lib.mn.us

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. received a letter from the MN Historical Society. If anyone would like to present a comment in writing they may send it to the State Review Board and they may find the contact information on the City's website.

Motion by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to send a letter of support to the Minnesota Historical Society for the Olcott Fountain Project to attain nomination for the National Register of Historic Places. Motion Carried.

The Mayor also noted the Annual Library Dinner and Awards Banquet is being held today, January 24th at Michael's on the Course. Mayor Cuffe, Jr. read a proclamation for the Friends of the Library.

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m. to Tuesday, February 14, 2017, at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers