

## VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

### COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

**CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, October 8, 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, Biondich, Johnson, Baribeau, Baranzelli, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (6)

Absent: Councillor Friedlieb (1)

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. Called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. read the Proclamation for Pharmacy Week.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held September 24, 2019, the Public Hearing on September 24, 2019 and the Special Meeting held September 27, 2019.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 19-019 Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve Pay Estimate #3 to Casper Construction for the Midway Drive Improvement Project in the amount of \$484,283.98
4. Approve Pay Estimate #3 to Mesabi Bituminous for the 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue W Improvement Project in the amount of \$217,437.51
5. Approve the travel request for Britt See-Benes, Pamela LaBine, Wendy Summers, Jen Mogensen to attend the Election Training on October 31, 2019 in Hibbing MN total cost of \$89.00
6. Approve the travel request for Jason Picard, Police Department to attend the DMT-G Certification Course November 12-14, 2019 in St. Paul, MN cost of \$665.00

Motion Carried.

#### APPEARANCES

Mr. George Eilertson, Northland Securities, discussed financing recommendations for the Energy Efficiency Improvements. Mr. Eilertson gave an update on the issuance of the General Obligation Bonds. He noted that the Charter Bonds do count toward the debt limit. If the City were to do the Charter Bonds it would reduce the remaining bonding capacity to \$7.3 million dollars. Eilertson reviewed the lease option with AMERESCO and is recommending that the City pursue the lease option for the energy improvements. It can be structured to benefit the city and maintain the debt limit for future projects. Mr. John Neville, noted that

AMERESCO would do an RFP for the lease option to get a better rate for the City. See-Benes noted that the agreement with the Virginia Public Utilities has not been drafted.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, Councillor Baribeau to move forward with the RFP process for the Energy Improvement Project with AMERESCO and to solicit various institutions on the City's behalf for the tax exempt lease and for further review by the City Council. Motion Carried.

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 19131 to make application and accept funds from the Virginia Community Foundation for the Downtown Redevelopment District Commercial Rehab Program. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 19132 enacting and adopting the S-1 Supplement for the Code of Ordinances Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution 19133 accepting a donation for the Fire Department. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to accept with regret the resignation from Ellen Taube from the Human Rights Commission. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve to blocking the 300 block from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. and would like assistance in parking and block a space to move the items. Motion Carried.

Ms. Jeanette Melosonine, NE Service Coop, updated the Council regarding the employee health insurance rate increase for 2020. She noted that over the last nine years there were six below average increases. The trend is 7% annually. There are reserves available that can help buy down the pool. The rating renewal begins in July and is effective in January of the following year. Councillor Johnson noted that the increase over the last nine years was 65%. The rate for 2020 is 2.2%.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Johnson to set an Insurance Committee meeting. Motion Carried.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole Meeting held on October 1, 2019

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Biondich to adopt resolution 19134 approving the one year contract with Jerich and Associates as the lobbyist for the city of Virginia for the Public Safety Building for the yearly fee of \$36,000. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to *deny* the request by Casper Construction for an extension of the deadline of the contract for the Midway Drive Project. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 19135 for the Change Order #2 for Midway Drive Improvements for a decrease of \$8,255.83 Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported by Councillor Paulsen to adopt Resolution 19136 for the Three-year Service Agreement with ProCare Services & Stryker, for the PowerLoad Cot maintenance in the amount of \$12,190.50 per year. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the first reading of the Vacant Building Registration Ordinance with recommended changes to the vacant building application. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to move the Business Fire Occupancy Ordinance Amendment and the Business Fire Application to the October 15, 2019 COW meeting for further discussion . Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 19137 for the submission and receipt of grant funds for the Toward Zero Deaths Enforcement Project in the amount of \$51,825.00 Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 19138 approving the quote from Takala Farms for Bio-Solid Removal total quote of \$24,600.00 Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to deny the request for the handicap parking spot located at 115 3<sup>rd</sup> Street South and to send a letter regarding the denial. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the parade route for ISD #706 Homecoming Parade on October 11, 2019 and provide barricades to block the street. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Biondich to proceed with the Request for Proposals (RFP) for Legal Services for 2020. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to proceed with the hiring process for a permanent part-time library position.

Ayes: Councillor Johnson, Baranzelli, Biondich, Paulsen, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (5)

Nay: Councillor Baribeau (1)

Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the noted changes to the City Hiring Policy. Motion Carried.

Received and filed the Notice of Proposed Sale of St. Louis County Tax Forfeited Property – Parcel Code 090-0060-03850, 090-0030-02130, 090-0110-01950.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to set a Public Hearing on October 22, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. for the Amendment of Ordinance for the Storm Water Service Charge System. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Biondich to approve an on sale liquor license for the possible purchase of the MACO Theatre for an entertainment venue. Motion Carried.

#### COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

City Administrator See-Benes and Recreation Director Brian Silber will attend the School board meeting on Monday, October 14, 2019 to give an update on the Miner's Event and Convention Center.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. noted that it is Freedom Week, and recognized the two business's in the City for caring for the Vets by providing free dental services. The Council thanked Dr. Miskovich and Dr. Bern for the free services.

The Council meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m. to Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.