

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, November 26, 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, Friedlieb, Johnson, Baribeau, Biondich, Baranzelli, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (7)

Absent: None

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held November 12, 2019 and the Special Meeting held on November 19, 2019
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 19-022 Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve Council and administration attendance at the annual RAMS Dinner on December 19, 2019.
4. Approve the 2020 liquor licenses renewals for all of the establishments that have met the requirements for liquor renewals:
 - a. 9-On-Sale Liquor
 - b. 1-On Sale 3.2 Beer
 - c. 3-Off-Sale Liquor
 - d. 4-Off Sale 3.2 Beer
 - e. 10-Sunday License
 - f. 3-Club License
 - g. Approve On-Sale and Sunday Liquor License for Virginia Bowling Garden's, LLC d/b/a Virginia Bowling Gardens
5. Approve 2020 Taxi License for C&M Taxi
6. Approve 2020 Tobacco License:
 - a. Edwards Oil, Inc., d/b/a Lucky Seven Northside.
 - b. Edwards Oil, Inc., d/b/a Lucky Seven Hoover Road.
 - c. Miner's, Inc., d/b/a Super One Foods – North.
 - d. Miner's, Inc., d/b/a Super One Foods.
 - e. Renda, Inc., d/b/a Rocket Liquor.
 - f. Applegreen Midwest, LLC., d/b/a Freedom Valu Center #3.
 - g. Holiday Stationstores, Inc., d/b/a Holiday Stationstore #148.
 - h. Holiday/Corman LLC, d/b/a Holiday Stationstore #41.

- i.. C & B Warehouse Distributing, Inc., d/b/a Virginia Short Stop.
 - j. C & B Warehouse Distributing, Inc., d/b/a Virginia Short Stop Express.
 - k. Brenda Peloquin, d/b/a Brenda's Mini Mart.
 - l. DG Retail, LLC d/b/a Dollar General-
 - m. Super Once Liquor, LLC. d/b/a Super One Liquor
 - n. The Virginia Smoke Shop, LLC d/b/a Virginia Smoke Shop
7. Approve the Temporary Liquor licenses for the Lyric Center on December 12, 2019 and Friends of the Greenhouse on December 13, 2019
 8. Approve the Request for the Annual Recognition Banquet for the Virginia Fire Department cost of \$30 per employee to be held on January 17, 2020
 9. Approve travel request for Kevin Poffs to attend the ARMER Train the Trainer December 5th-6th in Pine City MN, cost of \$130.00

Motion Carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution 19172 for the second reading of the sale of land to ISD #706. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve the Development Agreement with ISD #706 for the purchase of land for the development of a consolidated school facility. Motion Carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mr. George Eilertson reviewed the Lease Purchase Financing for the Energy Efficiency Improvements-AMERESCO Project B and recommends approval of the Resolution.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution 19173 providing for the Execution of a Lease-Purchase Agreement in the amount of \$520,410. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Mr. Eilertson reviewed the Taxable General Obligation Tax Abatement Bonds, Series 2019A for the Downtown Grant Program Bond Sale: two financing bids were received with the low bid at a rate of 2.8% with American Bank.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to adopt Resolution 19174 approving Property Tax Abatement for certain property located in the City of Virginia. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to adopt Resolution 19175 authorizing the Issuance, Sale and Delivery of \$312,000 General Obligation Tax Abatement Bonds, Series

2019A for the Downtown Redevelopment Program through VEDA. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Biondich to approve the Tax Abatement Agreement with SBB, Inc. for property located on 4th Street North. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 19176 to support the investment by St. Louis County HRA into the Bill's House Rehabilitation Project. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Biondich to adopt Resolution 19177 approving the application for the CDBG Block Grant for 10th Street South Infrastructure Replacement Project in the amount of \$200,000 grant. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to adopt Resolution 19178 to submit an application for the CDBG Block Grant for the Virginia Downtown Redevelopment District Commercial Rehabilitation Program in the amount of \$150,000. Resolution adopted unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole meeting held Tuesday, November 5, 2019

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve the continuation of the Sulfate Reduction Study pilot program with NRRI at the Virginia Wastewater Treatment Plant. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to request NRRI provide an exemption letter from the MPCA that the Sulfate Reduction pilot program will not affect the Virginia Wastewater permitting process. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Biondich to adopt Resolution 19179 for the Professional Engineering Services Agreement with S.E.H from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve the winter suspension for the Midway Drive Project as requested by Casper Construction. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to adopt Resolution 19180 authorizing

the Sale of \$19,615,000 in Tax Exempt General Obligation Sales Tax Revenue Bonds, Series 2020A for the Miner's Event and Convention Center. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 19181 to submit to the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) Brownfield Assessment Grant Application with City of Virginia to act as fiscal agent for the project. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution 19182 ordering preparation of a report on improvement for the 2021/2023 Street & Infrastructure Improvement Project by S.E. H., the Engineer of record. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported by Councillor Biondich to proceed with the modification of the entrance to the Virginia to Eveleth Snowmobile Trail at Bourgin Road and Highway 135 as requested.
Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution 19183 approving the contract with Isaac Sports Group to provide contracted service to obtain Sponsorship, Advertising and Marketing contracts for the Miners Event and Conference Center with the requested changes to the contract. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to proceed with the hiring process of two casual staff for the public library.

Aye: Councillor Biondich, Johnson, Baranzelli, Friedlieb, Paulsen, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (6)

Nay: Councillor Baribeau (1)

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to appoint Councillor Baribeau to the Range Area Municipal and Schools for a two year term beginning January 1, 2020. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Paulsen to appoint Councillor Johnson to the Area Regional Development Commission (ARDC) Board for a three year term beginning January 1, 2020.
Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Biondich, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to appoint Councillor Paulsen to the

VEDA Sub-Committee to update VEDA'S Mission Statement. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported by Councillor Paulsen to appoint Mayor Cuffe, Jr. to the

VEDA Sub-Committee to update VEDA'S Mission Statement. Motion Carried.

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Councillor Baribeau gave an update on the VPUC meeting held on Monday, November 25, 2019. To date 618 steam conversions have been completed. The meeting times will be changed beginning December 9th to 4:30 p.m. Once the conversion is complete the VPUC will be updating the smaller boilers. Councillor Johnson discussed concerns with the conversion process.

City Administrator See-Benes thanked everyone who attended the Holiday Parade.

The Truth and Taxation meeting will be held at 6:31 a.m. on December 10, 2019

Councillor Friedlieb thanked all that helped out with the Festival of Trees event.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. discussed the frustration of the property tax increase for residents in Virginia. St. Louis County assessed all properties in Virginia which has an extensive increase in valuation on some property. It was suggested to contact the County or to attend a meeting to discuss the increases.

The Council meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m. to Tuesday, December 10, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.