

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, December 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, Friedlieb, Johnson, Baribeau, Biondich, Baranzelli, 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 November 26, 2019 and the Special Meeting held November 26, 2019.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 19-023 Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve the 2020 Waste Haulers License with Waste Management
4. Approve the On-Sale and Sunday Liquor license for Lozoya, LLC, d/b/a Cazadores Restaurant
5. Approve the following licenses contingent upon submitting the required paperwork:
 - A.) Four (4) Massage Licenses-Pebble Spa, Mesabi Therapeutic, Laurentian Divide, Ahhh Massage
 - B.) One (1) Kennel License-Grooming By Jane
 - C.) Three (3) Second Hand Goods Licenses-Goodwill, Twice is Nice, Power Play Sports
 - D.) One (1) Pawnbroker License -North Star Pawn & Gun
6. Approve the Tobacco License for Dennis Yourczek d/b/a Newsette
7. Approve the Travel requests:
 - A.) Fire Department:
 - a.) Chris Clark and Jake Keehl, to attend the Campus Fire and Life Safety Code Class, February 1-2, 2020 in Duluth, MN cost of \$100 total
 - b.) Chris Clark, Jake Keehl, One City staff to attend the Study review for Code Enforcement Officer Testing, January 10, 2020 in Eagan, MN cost of \$100 total
 - B.) Police Department:
 - a.) Jason Picard and Noah Buhr to attend the Foundation Instructor Trainer March 15-20, 2020 in Edina, MN cost of \$1,450.00 each

Motion Carried

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. reviewed the Request for Proposal for the B’Nai Abraham Museum and the discussions that were previously held regarding the City taking ownership of the B’Nai Synagogue. Councillor Johnson voiced his concerns regarding the previous meeting that was held with Friends of the B’Nai. Councillor Johnson is not in favor of the City proceeding with the RFP nor the City acquiring the building. Councillor Friedlieb discussed the pros of the City advertising the RFP. Councillor Baribeau would prefer the City to take over the building and not advertise the RFP.

Moved by Councillor Friedlieb to proceed with the RFP process to help facilitate the process for the B’Nai Friends of the Abraham Museum. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Further discussion ensued on the B’Nai Abraham Museum and whether the City should obtain ownership of the building or assist the B’Nai friends with the RFP process.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to allow city staff to devise a policy on “accepting” real property in the city of Virginia. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Johnson to sever ties with the B’Nai Friends and to send them a letter of support in finding a possible owner for the synagogue.

Ayes: Councillor Paulsen, Biondich, Johnson, Baranzelli (4)

Nay: Councillor Friedlieb, Baribeau, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (3)

Motion Carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to appoint Matthew Sipola to the Eveleth –Virginia Airport Authority for a three-year term ending December 31, 2022. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to appoint Mathew Dincau to the Eveleth-Virginia Airport Authority for the remainder of the term ending December 31, 2021. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Paulsen to adopt Resolution 19184 authorizing the City of Virginia Economic Development Authority (VEDA) to make application to and accept funds from the Department of Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation Community Infrastructure Grant. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Biondich to approve the recommendation from Planning & Zoning Commission to approve the easement request from Natural Harvest Food Coop at 732 4th Street North Virginia, MN in order to construct solar panels 5’ 10” onto on City Owned Property. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to approve the extension for Lee Gorsha appeal hearing until January 1, 2020. Motion Carried.

Recessed the regular council meeting at 6:30 p.m. to the Truth and Taxation

The regular Council meeting was re-adjourned at 8:13 p.m.

Moved by Johnson, supported by Paulsen to adopt Resolution 19185 to set the final tax levy for 2019 payable in 2020 at \$5,960,530 and waive the written resolution.

Aye-Councillor Biondich, Johnson, Baranzelli, Baribeau, Friedlieb, Paulsen, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (6)
Nay- Councillor Friedlieb (1)
Resolution adopted

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Biondich to adopt Resolution 19186 to set the 2020 budget at \$16,851,504 and waive the written resolution. Resolution adopted unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole meeting held on December 3, 2019

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve the first reading of the Purchase Agreement with the Joint Powers Board of ISD #706. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the Professional Services contract with Steve Fingeroos as the Golf Course Professional beginning April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2023. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Friedlieb to adopt Resolution 19187 appointing Trenti Law Firm as the Civil Attorney for the City of Virginia. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution 19188 appointing Colosimo, Patchin, Kearney as the Criminal Attorney for the City of Virginia. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to set a Special Council Meeting on December 20, 2019 at 8:15 a.m. in lieu of the Regularly Scheduled Committee of the Whole meeting. Motion Carried.

Personnel Committee Meeting held on December 9, 2019

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 19189 to hire the

Figure Skating Coaches for 2019-2020. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Biondich to adopt Resolution 19190 authorizing the hire of additional Park & Recreation Assistants. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution 19191 authorizing the hire of Single Role EMT. Resolution adopted unanimously.

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Councillor Baribeau discussed the proposed budget for the VPUC. It is available by the City for review.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. gave an update on the Friends of the Greenhouse event to be held December 13-14, 2019 at Olcott Park.

Councillor Baranzelli noted it was Brian Silber's one-year anniversary and thanked the Public Works Department for the snow removal.

The Council meeting adjourned at 8:39 p.m. to Tuesday, December 20, 2019 for a Special Council Meeting at 8:15 a.m. in the Council Chambers