

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, DECEMBER 16, 2014

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

Roll Call:

Present: Councillors Cuffe, Ralston, Baribeau, Sipola, Baranzelli, Mayor Russo - 6

Absent: Councillor Littlewolf - 1

Mayor Russo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Cuffe to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows:

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Cuffe to approve, as follows:

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held November 25, 2014, and Special Meeting held December 9, 2014.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 14-022 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve 2015 Used Metal Dealers License for A+ Auto Salvage.
4. Approve 2015 Secondhand Good Dealers License:
 - a. The Encore Shop.
 - b. The Salvation Army Thrift Store.
5. Approve 2015 Pawnbrokers License for Northstar Pawn & Gun, Inc.
6. Approve 2015 Solid Waste Haulers License for Waste Management.
7. Approve 2015 Massage License:
 - a. Mesabi Therapeutic Massage.
 - b. Laurentian Divide Salon and Spa.
 - C. Ahhh Massage.
 - D. The Pebble Spa Company.
8. Approve 2015 Kennel License for Grooming by Jane.
9. Approve 2015 Taxi License:
 - a. C & M Taxi.
 - b. Quad City Cab.
10. Approve 2015 Tobacco License:
 - a. Edwards Oil, Inc., d/b/a Lucky Seven Northside.
 - b. Edwards Oil, Inc., d/b/a Lucky Seven Hoover Road.
 - c. Inter City Oil Co., Inc., d/b/a ICO.

- d. Miner's, Inc., d/b/a Super One Foods – North.
 - e. Miner's, Inc., d/b/a Super One Foods.
 - f. Renda, Inc., d/b/a Rocket Liquor.
 - g. Erickson Oil Products, Inc., d/b/a Freedom Valu Center #3.
 - h. The Virginia Smoke Shop, LLC, d/b/a Smoke Shop.
 - i. Holiday Stationstores, Inc., d/b/a Holiday Stationstore #148.
 - j. Holiday/Corman LLC, d/b/a Holiday Stationstore #41.
 - k. Dennis Yourczek, d/b/a Newsette.
 - l. C & B Warehouse Distributing, Inc., d/b/a Virginia Short Stop.
 - m. C & B Warehouse Distributing, Inc., d/b/a Virginia Short Stop Express.
 - n. Brenda Peloquin, d/b/a Brenda's Mini Mart.
11. Approve Application to Conduct Excluded Bingo for Virginia Band Boosters for a bingo to be held on February 16, 2014.
- Motions carried and Finance Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to approve the transfer of City property located in the Southwest Quarter of the Southeast Quarter of Section 16, Township 58 North, Range 17 West, to Ulland Brothers, Inc., with the resolution considered at the January 13, 2015, meeting.

Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the purchase of the property located at 408 First Street South. Councillor Cuffe stated it is the City's intention to purchase the property, demolish the building, expand the parking lot and sell the parking lot to St. Louis County.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to adopt Resolution No. 14271, authorizing the purchase of property located at 408 First Street South from John Cochems, in the amount of \$60,000, contingent upon leasing the property to Mr. Cochems until April 1, 2015.

Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to approve the request from the North Star Church for a Conditional Use Permit to utilize the building located at 302 North 2nd Avenue for a church, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to adopt Resolution No. 14272, instructing the District Judge to appoint Gail Baribeau to the Charter Commission for a four year term. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Cuffe to adopt Resolution No. 14273, accepting the proposal from AbateTek Environmental Services, in the amount of \$11,800, to remove asbestos containing materials from three residential locations in Virginia: 113 8th Street South; 1108 17th Street South and 906 4th Avenue South. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to reappoint Jim Tieberg and Kim Culbert-Blaeser to the Virginia Economic Development Authority, for two year terms ending December 31, 2016, as recommended by Mayor Russo. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Baranzelli to authorize the Finance Department to process the accounts payables for the second half of December, 2014. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 14274, adopting the budget for the year 2015, in the amount of \$12,157,090. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to adopt Resolution No. 14275, setting the final tax levy for the year 2014, payable in 2015, at \$4,111,190. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Ralston to re-label the General Fund “Miscellaneous-Economic Development” accounting code, as “Economic Development”. Motion carried.

Councillor Ralston reported on the Finance Committee of the Whole meeting held on December 2, 2014.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to adopt Resolution No. 12476, approving Change Order No. 1, to increase the contract with Rachel Contracting, Inc., by an amount not to exceed \$7,120, to haul and dispose of asbestos tar found on the foundation from the former East Range Clinic building. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to adopt Resolution No. 14277, approving Change Order No. 2, to increase the contract with Grivette Environmental Management, by the amount of \$7,577, to remove additional asbestos and lead from the former East Range Clinic building. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to remove the Special EDA Levy from the final tax levy for 2014, payable in 2015. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to designate the Washington Manor as a smoke free building and request the HRA to select the effective date. Motion carried.

Councillor Ralston reported on the Finance Committee of the Whole meeting held on December 9, 2014.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to authorize the Mayor to send a letter to the CIRI Brownfields Program Coalition Members stating the City of Virginia will act as the Coalition

Leader and Fiscal Agent for the US Environmental Protection Agency Brownfield Assessment Grant and naming John Tourville, City Administrator, as Virginia's contact person. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to authorize the Park/Recreation Director and City Administrator to renegotiate the hockey contracts with the Virginia High School and Virginia Youth Hockey Association. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 14278, accepting the proposal from Everest Emergency Vehicles, in the amount of \$214,296, for a new Dodge 4500 4 x4 Ultramedic Road Rescue Ambulance for fiscal year 2015. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to authorize the Fire Department to sell the Medic 3 - 2008 Chevrolet Ambulance, contingent upon delivery of the new ambulance. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to authorize the Finance Director to reduce the 2015 Capital Expenditure Plan for the Fire/Ambulance Departments by eliminating the Chevy Tahoe and Chevy Pickup. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to authorize the Fire Department to submit a 2015 Regional Fire Assistance Grant to the State of Minnesota, Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to approve the sale of Parcel No. 90-130-2130 to Range Landscape, in the amount of \$500, contingent upon obtaining a survey, legal description and assuming any environmental issues. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to authorize the City Administrator to work Dr. Miskovich on an agreement to purchase additional City land on Fourth Street North for expansion of the dental practice, including the stipulations, as discussed at the 12/9/14 Finance Committee meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 14279, approving the Development Agreement with the Virginia Coop Credit Union. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to approve the travel request for Bill Cole, Engineering Department, to attend the ICC Upper Great Plains Region III Educational Institute, which will be held February 1-6, 2015, in Chaska, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to request Louis Russo to submit a proposal to the Personnel Committee to negotiate the AFSCME and MAPE union contracts. Motion carried, with Mayor Russo abstaining.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to authorize the Investment Committee to reinvest products that will mature by the end of 2014. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to authorize City staff to explore costs to purchase tablets or laptop computers for the City Council. Motion carried.

Councillor Cuffe reported on the Personnel Committee meeting held on December 9, 2014.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to allow the Park/Recreation Director use his discretion in allowing staff to work overtime to flood the skating rinks. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported Cuffe to approve the final draft of the Hiring Policy, contingent upon incorporating the final changes that were discussed at the Personnel Committee meeting held on December 9, 2014. Motion carried.

Councillor Sipola reported on the Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting held on December 9, 2014.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to request the Public Works Team Coordinator to provide an estimate to remove the boulders from the property located at 1612 Third Avenue North in the Fairview Addition. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to authorize the Building Inspector to inspect the property located at 212 South 9th Street to determine if condemnation or demolition is necessary. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Cuffe to authorize the City Attorney to proceed with court action to raze the building located at 111 12th Street South after the 20 day waiting period, if there is no response from the property owners. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baribeau to authorize the City Attorney to publish the certified resolution to raze the garage located at 610 6th Street South, following the appropriate legal notification. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Cuffe to authorize the City Attorney to proceed with court action to raze the building located at 302 11th Street South after the 20 day waiting period, if there is no response from the property owner. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baribeau to proceed with the demolition of the house located at 408 7th Street South, pending conveyance to the City. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Cuffe to request Engineering Department staff to inspect the house located at 1019 7th Avenue North and refer to the Building Inspector to determine if condemnation is necessary. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to authorize City staff from the Police, Attorney and Engineering Department work with the Social Services to provide the necessary intervention for the property located at 1006 2nd Avenue South, as it appears uninhabitable. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to place the house located at 222 10th Street South on the demolition list for 2015. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to forward the “Policy to Name City-Owned Public Buildings, Properties, Parks and Park Facilities” to the City Council, with final action taken in 2015. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Ralston to authorize the Park/Recreation Director to place an advertisement and one photo in the newspaper to notify the public of the damage that was done to the Olcott Park Fountain and offer a \$1,000 reward for the arrest and conviction of the vandals. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to accept the recommendation from the City Attorney and proceed with the demolition of the rear building located at 520 5th Street South. Motion carried.

Councillor Cuffe reported on the Personnel Committee meeting held on December 16, 2014.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 14280, approving a contract with Louis Russo, for a lump sum payment of \$10,000, to negotiate the City union labor contracts for the period January 1, 2015, through December 31, 2015. Resolution adopted unanimously, with Mayor Russo abstaining.

Councillor Baranzelli reported the heat exchanger project at the Miners Memorial Building was completed on December 8, 2014.

Councillor Baribeau reported on the Highway 53 PAC meeting held on December 15th

and provided the following information:

- Request for proposals for the construction manager and general contractors has been prepared.
- A plan for bridge structure is in place. Steel for the new bridge will be ordered in June of 2015.
- Draft Environmental Impact Statement has been completed and a public open house will be held on January 22, 2015.
- Final Environmental Impact Statement should be completed by the fall of 2015.
- Cost for the E2 realignment route is estimated between \$180-\$240 million. New bridge is estimated at \$4 million.

City Administrator Tourville noted a committee will be formed to choose colors and materials for the new bridge.

Councillor Cuffe stated the Department of Public Utilities is preparing a power point presentation to educate the public on the history, operation and future of the biomass system.

The City Council and staff expressed their appreciation to Mayor Russo and Councillor Ralston for their years of service, as this was their last meeting.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baribeau to send a letter of commendation to Mayor Russo and Councillor Ralston for their exemplary service to the City of Virginia. Motion carried.

Councillor Cuffe extended an invitation to Mayor Russo and Councillor Ralston and their spouses to attend the Reorganizational Meeting scheduled for 5:00 P.M. on January 2, 2015, when a formal presentation will be held to honor them.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 P.M., with the Reorganizational Meeting to be held at 5:00

P.M. on Friday, January 2, 2015.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

LOUIS J. RUSSO
Mayor

LOIS ROSKOSKI
City Clerk