

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, February 14, 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.

An Oath of Office Ceremony was held for the Police Department to swear in Mr. Troy Michael Mealey to the Virginia Police Department. Police Chief Mattson also presented the following Commendation Awards for the Police Department:

Lieutenant Matt Kelley received commendation for his professionalism and compassionate approach in dealing with a potentially volatile situation involving a suicidal female.

Officer Banks received commendation for a courageous and unselfish service during a time of distress while an infant was choking on a marble.

Officer Rengstorff received commendations for apprehending a male suspect on felony warrant with the help of a confidential informant and two other Virginia Police Officers. The suspect was armed and selling methamphetamine. After a high speed pursuit and shooting, the suspect was apprehended.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. congratulated Mr. Mealey and thanked the others for their professionalism and excellent police work for the City of Virginia.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held January 24, 2017; Public Hearing
2. Minutes of February 8, 2017.
3. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 17-003 Schedule of Bills.

3. Approve training request for Nicholas Grivna to attend the DMT-G Training in St. Paul April 3-6, 2017 cost of \$589.12.
4. Approve training request for Jen Brozek to attend the Anatomy of Critical Incident in Minneapolis, March 7-9, 2017 cost of \$907.14.
5. Approve Henry Trunk & Paul Stromberg to attend the MSANI-LAN-AM Training in Nisswa May 24-26, 2017 cost of \$547.00 each.
6. Approve training request for Nancy Maxwell to attend the Library Legislative Day in St. Paul February 21-22, 2017 cost of \$461.82.
7. Approve training request for Fire Marshall Chris Clark to attend the MN IAAI Conference in St. Cloud March 21-24, 2017 cost of \$873.65.
8. Approve the exempt permit for the Virginia Band Boosters to conduct a bingo on February 26, 2017 at the Holy Spirit Church.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Baribeau pulled item 5.4 regarding travel for Jen Brozek. City Administrator Britt See Benes noted that a police vehicle will be used if available and if not the mileage cost would be \$145.70.

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the training request for Jen Brozek to attend the Training Investigative strategies for Child Abduction in Hermantown February 21-24, 2017 with the cost of mileage at \$145.70 and meals of \$22.00. Motion Carried.

Councillor Littlewolf asked if there was a conflict of interest with Mr. Stone on the VEDA board as he is currently the Chair of Revive Virginia and they receive money from VEDA. Attorney Butorac noted that Revive Virginia does receive money from the VEDA board but that would not be a conflict with Mike Stone on the VEDA board.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to appoint Mike Stone to the VEDA Board for a six year term ending December 31, 2022. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Paulsen to appoint Councillor Jorgensen as a VEEDA Representative from the Virginia City Council to attend a special VEEDA Board meeting date and time to be determined. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to review the information on the

League of MN Legislative Conference to be held on March 23, 2017 in St. Paul and authorize travel for City Council, Mayor and staff to attend. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to amend Resolution 17035 to reflect the correct amount for the Pace Analytical quote for the WWTP testing. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve the Mesabi Humane Society request to allow leashed dogs in Olcott Park on Thursday, August 17, 2017 for their BBQ in the Park Fundraiser. Motion Carried.

Councillor Johnson asked if the rules are being applied to this event in order to waive the fees as there has been discussion in the past. City Administrator See-Benes responded that they do fall under the test of questions that allow the city to waive the fees.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to waive the rental fee for the Lions Building in Olcott Park for the Mesabi Humane Society BBQ in the Park Fundraiser August 17, 2017. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to adopt Resolution 17036 to approve the Comprehensive Plan as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to appoint Jenna Ballinger to a one year term on the Human Rights Commission ending on 2-1-18. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to appoint Rose Adams to a two year term on the Human Rights Commission ending on 2-1-19. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to appoint Ellen Taube to a three year term on the Human Rights Commission ending on 2-1-20. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to appoint Nancy Rosewall to a three year term on the Advisory Hospital Commission ending 2-1-20. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the Employment

Agreement for Sherry Erickson Finance Director. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the City Attorney Contract with Tom Butorac, \$130.00 per hour, approximately 15 hours per week and on a month to month basis. Motion Carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

COW Meeting held February 8, 2017:

HRA discussion on the residential garbage rate increase that went into effect in January and how it affects Washington Manor. City Administrator See-Benes will be meeting with Dana Hiltunen for further discussion and will report to the Council with the new information.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the revised quote and entering into an agreement with DSC Communications for the installation of the Motorola Radios in the amount of \$5,775.00 for Fire and \$4,238.50 for the Police Department. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve the rental of a Portable Restroom for the Farmers Market and Veterans Park area at approximately \$650.00 for the 2017 season and will be adding to the existing contract for the park facilities. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve the revised City of Virginia Purchasing Policy with updated name changes and language clarification. Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 17037 approving the UHL/ABE proposal in the amount of \$24,205.00 for the library controls upgrade for the heating unit. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 17038 approving the quote from MTI/TORO for the controls for the watering system at the Virginia Golf Course in the amount of \$49,433.90. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution 17039

approving the quote from UHL/ABE for the City Hall Cooling Tower Replacement in the amount of \$69,386.00. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve entering into an agreement with SBB Inc. for a one year right of first refusal on the City Owned property located on 4th street North, Parcel ID #090-0180-00308. Motion Carried.

Greg Gilness was present to discuss the Olcott Fountain and requested to retain DSGW for phase I construction of the fountain.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to approve retaining DSGW for the Professional Engineering Services for the Olcott Park Fountain Phase 1 in an amount not to exceed \$13,400.00 Motion Carried

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Paulsen to authorize entering into an agreement with Commercial Aquatics for Fountain Mechanical Systems in the amount of \$93,000. Motion Carried.

Greg Gilness suggested waiting until the Historical Society makes a decision on the status of the park before removing any trees. The quotes have come in \$100,000 lower than anticipated. In the process of getting items ordered and with hope to get the fountain operational by 8-17-17, which was the original anniversary date of the Olcott Fountain.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to authorize the Park/Rec Department staff to remove trees in the Olcott Park Fountain area as necessary contingent upon approval of the Historical Society decision to nominate Olcott Park to the National Register. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Paulsen to authorize the City Administrator to work with the First Apostolic Lutheran Congregation to discuss the foot print and purchase price for the portion of the Midway School area they would like to obtain for parking and to bring back to the Council for further discussion. Motion Carried.

The Police Chief Mattson was present to discuss the need for a canine unit. Chief Mattson also updated

the Council on how the canine assists with searches for drugs and fleeing suspects as well as location searches.

An \$8,000.00 grant is available for the training of the canine which is a 12 week period.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve the implementation of the Canine Unit for the Virginia Police Department at an approximate cost of \$13,000.00. Motion Carried.

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Councillor Littlewolf updated on the Iron Range Youth in Action. Approximately 30 students from Virginia HS Communications attended. It was a great event for the youth. Councillor Littlewolf will be attending lobby day with the Iron Range Youth in Action students.

Councillor Littlewolf was appointed to the working group for young woman and is serving on the Greater MN area working group. The group is girls and teens that weigh in on issues they feel that are important and will bring their requests to Governor Dayton.

Councillor Baribeau updated the council on a meeting at the NE Coop with Secretary of State regarding the election equipment and the possibility of updating the equipment with at 50/50 match in the near future.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. gave updates on the following events:

- Humane Society Fundraiser, February 16, 2017 at the Gilbert Community Center cost of \$35/each.
- The Laurentian Chamber Annual Dinner, February 24, 2017 at Giants Ridge, cost of \$105/each
- A town hall meeting on March 15, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. predatory offender registration information at the Miners Memorial Building.
- Olcott Park Green with Envy fundraiser drive on Saturday, March 18, 2017 cost of \$5/ non-members.

The Mining 2016 tax guide for Minnesota was released by the MN Department of Revenue. \$106,987,276.00 was given to local communities in production tax.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. received an email regarding money for Mesabi Trail for the ATV Route between Virginia and Gilbert. A new ATV club is being formed that will maintain the trail and a grant is available for \$50,000.00, the Mayor has preauthorized the City of Virginia to be the fiscal agent for the grant.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve the City of Virginia as the Fiscal Agent for the \$50,000.00 ATV Grant. Motion Carried.

City Administrator See-Benes and the Mayor met with Don Berg and Todd Fidora US Bank and they have a program called the Parks and Play Program and provide money for parks. It is a matching funds program and the City will be looking into this as we move forward to look at this

The DARE graduation May 5, 2017 at Roosevelt High school at 1:00 p.m. Mayor Cuffe, Jr. and Councillor Paulsen met with Dr. Noel Schmidt, Superintendent from VHS and discussed the strategic plan and

collaborative issues. Dr. Schmidt has taken an interest in the community and attends all functions and expressed the gratitude and the Council's willingness to help with the school district. There is an open dialogue between the City and school district. Currently there is discussion for an SRO and we are working with Chief Mattson and checking any grants that may be available.

Councillor Baribeau discussed the withdrawal resolution that was presented by RAMS regarding the BLM-USFS. It will be discussed further at the next COW meeting.

Adjourn at 7:33 p.m. to Tuesday, February 28, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.in the Council Chambers.