

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, OCTOBER 12, 2010

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

Roll Call:

Present: Councillors Cuffe, Littlewolf, Ralston, Baribeau, Sipola, Russo, Mayor Peterson - 7

Absent: None

Mayor Peterson led the City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held September 28, 2010.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 10019 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Adopt Resolution No. 10123 approving amendment to Iron Range Resources Grant No. B43-2100 to include the installation of infrastructure to two new developments and the expansion of Iron Trail Motors, plus the extension of grant deadline to December 31, 2012.

John Ditzler appeared and reviewed information on the addiction process and Health Professional Service Program.

George Erickson was present to discuss the issues that were raised at the last Finance Committee meeting regarding the tennis facility. Mr. Erickson distributed a list of events that were held to raise money for the tennis facility fund. Mr. Erickson urged the City to seek a grant from Cleveland Cliffs to help defray costs for sporting activities. Mr. Erickson stated neither the golf course or Miners Memorial building generate enough revenue to cover their costs and did not feel the tennis facility should be held to a higher or different standard. Mr. Erickson stated the City approved a budget of \$15,000 for part-time salaries for 2010 and the expenses are anticipated to be less than \$6,000 for the year. The tennis facility is expected to have an overall deficit of \$20,000 for 2010 and

the total 2011 budget has been reduced from \$80,000 to \$63,000. Mr. Erickson stated the tennis board unanimously supports Renee Galaski as the Tennis Manager and feels she works many more hours that are required by her contract. Mr. Bob Prittinen was also present and stated he recognizes that the City cannot sustain the same level of spending and hopes to attend a Finance Committee meeting in the future with ideas.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10124, to transfer the ownership of land in the SW ¼ of the SW ¼ of Section 15, Township 58 N, Range 17 W of the 4th Principal Meridian, St. Louis County, Minnesota, owned by the former East Mesaba Sanitary Disposal Authority to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Mayor Peterson reviewed the communication from the Mesabi Range Community and Technical College requesting a letter of support for the accreditation of a self-study Paramedic Program.

Moved by Ralston and supported to authorize the Mayor to send a letter to the Mesabi Range Community and Technical College in support of the self-study accreditation for the Paramedic Program. Motion carried.

Councillor Russo stated he met with representatives of AFSCME Local Union 454 regarding the use of volunteers at the Greenhouse and an agreement was reached to allow the Americorp Conservation Corp to volunteer at the greenhouse for one week in November.

Moved by Russo and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10125, approving a Memorandum of Understanding with AFSCME Local Union No. 454 regarding volunteers at the Greenhouse. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Discussion was held on Change Order No. 1, which will increase the contract of Hibbing Excavating, Inc., by \$60,910.00 for C.P. 6-09, Demolition of Former Seppi/Virginia Ready Mix Site. Councillor Ralston explained the change order was to complete the slope grading and for additional concrete crushing.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10126, approving Change Order No. 1 to increase the contract of Hibbing Excavating, Inc., by the amount of \$60,910.00, for C.P. 6-09, Demolition of the Former Seppi/Virginia Ready Mix Site. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported to approve the transfer of the On-Sale Liquor License from the Office Bar & Lounge, 218 Chestnut Street, to 218, Inc., d/b/a The 218. Motion carried.

Councillor Ralston reported on the Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting held on October 5, 2010.

Councillor Ralston stated the extension of the walking trail around Silver Lake was referred to the Park/Recreation Commission, with a recommendation that they work jointly with the Lakes Beautification Committee.

Moved by Ralston and supported to authorize the City Operations Director to notify Kadrmas, Lee & Jackson, Engineers, that the City of Virginia is not aware of any environmental concerns and does not have any interest in property that is adjacent to the proposed land being acquired by the Eveleth-Virginia Airport. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10127, accepting the proposal from Red Flint Sand and Gravel, in the amount of \$6,006.50, for granular filter materials to be used in a Mercury Reduction Filtration Pilot Study and to request reimbursement from the Iron Range Resources for the Pilot Study, plus the additional labor costs. Resolution adopted unanimously.

The portion of the City's Comprehensive Plan that relates to lake properties will be reviewed at future Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting.

Moved by Ralston and supported to direct the City Operations Director to develop a marketing plan for all vacant City sites, excluding the lake properties. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported to authorize the Engineering Department to review the options and costs to add signage to the current "City Center Park" sign to recognize "Veteran's Memorial Park" and to make a recommendation on the dedication of a street within City Center Park as "Veteran's Memorial Drive", with the veteran's group to submit a recommendation on the wording and color scheme. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported to authorize the Public Works and Engineering Departments to redo five signs for the "Adopt a Shore" Program. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported to authorize the Virginia High School Student Council and Advisory Board to hold a bon fire at the Silver Lake beach from 6:30 P.M to 8:00 P.M. on October 14, 2010, in conjunction with the homecoming activities, contingent upon approval by the Fire Marshall, the school being responsible for clean up of the area and chaperones in attendance at the bonfire. Motion carried.

Councillor Baribeau stated he attended a public hearing on October 5th on the proposed renovations to the Virginia County House, at an estimated project cost of \$6 million, and the conceptual drawings will be available in the near future.

Mayor Peterson read the letter from the Mesabi Range and Technical College thanking Park/Recreation Director John Bachman and City staff for their assistance in the use of the Miners Memorial Building and parking lot for the motorcycle safety training.

Moved by Sipola and supported to proclaim the month of October, 2010, as “Domestic Violence Awareness Month”. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson recognized the employees of the Police and Fire Departments for their commendable job performance in responding to the recent accidents in Virginia.

See 2010 Resolution Book for Resolution Nos. 10123 – 10127 and Finance Resolution No. 10019.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:18 P.M., with the next regular City Council meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, October 26, 2010.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

STEVE PETERSON
Mayor

LOIS ROSKOSKI
City Clerk