

AGENDA
AUGUST 11, 2010 – 6:30 P.M.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. PUBLIC FORUM (Limited to 5 minutes per Council protocol)

5. CONSENT AGENDA (Note: Motion will be to approve the Consent Agenda as listed.)
The following items will be enacted by one motion unless a Councillor or Citizen of the City of Virginia requests that the item be considered separately:

5.1 Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held July 20, 2010.

5.2 Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 10-015 – Schedule of Bills.

5.3 Approval renewal of 2 AM Liquor License for Iron Range Corporation, d/b/a Mirage, 509 Chestnut Street.

5.4 Approve Dance Permit for the Iron Range Youth in Action to hold dances at the Miners Memorial Building on August 25, October 1, October 15, November 19 and December 22, 2010.

5.5 Adopt Resolution instructing District Judge to reappoint Dennis Lindberg to the Virginia Charter Commission.

6. APPEARANCES (Limited to 10 minutes)

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

7.1 First reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 9, Section 9.10 of the City Code of the City of Virginia entitled “Parking Regulations”.

7.2 Sale of Lot 1, Block 2, Fairview Second Addition, to Keith and Emma Peterson. (If approved, adopt Resolution.)

8. DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1 Accept resignation from William Bruemmer from the Planning and Zoning Commission for term ending February 1, 2013.

8.2 Communication from Planning and Zoning Commission submitting recommendations from meeting held on August 2, 2010:

A. Approval of a 15.3 foot variance to the required 20 foot front yard setback for Phyllis Hokkanen of 704 8th Avenue South, in order to place a deck 4.7 feet from the West property line.

B. Affirm the denial of two variances for Stephanie Strand of 114 11th Street South, as identified in the July 12th Planning and Zoning Commission minutes.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Finance Committee as a Committee-of-the-Whole (August 3, 2010)

A. Fiscal agent for grant through NLEAC for purchase of radios.

B. Grant application for Public Safety Interoperable Communications Grant.

C. Law Enforcement Policy Manual and daily training bulletins.

D. Changes to proposed ordinance for overuse of police services.

E. Approval of travel request for Dana Waldron and Renee Anderson, Police Department, BCA Criminal Justice Information Users Conference, September 27-29, 2010, St. Cloud, MN.

- F. Lease Agreement with Youth Hockey Association for use of Miners Memorial Building. (If approved, adopt Resolution.)
 - G. Fall Ice Program.
 - H. Request proposals for auditing services.
 - I. Application for TMDL grant to Minnesota Public Facilities Authority. (If approved, adopt Resolution.)
 - J. Reduced golf rate for City of Virginia Employee Golf Outing.
- 9.2 Buildings/Grounds Committee (August 3, 2010)
- A. Purchase of gas or electric hot water heater for greenhouse.
 - B. Property tax exemption for Virginia Senior Citizens Center. (If approved, adopt Resolution.)
 - C. Development plan for former Troy Laundry Building site.

10. COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

11. ADJOURN TO TUESDAY, AUGUST 24, 2010, AT 6:30 P.M., COUNCIL CHAMBERS

5.4

**CITY OF VIRGINIA
APPLICATION FOR PERMIT TO HOLD DANCES**

APPLICANT
FULL NAME:

APPLICANT
FULL NAME:

Christopher Todd Ismil
7147 Wildwood Drive
Britt MN 55710

12/17/73 (DOB)

ORGANIZATION:
ORGANIZATION ADDRESS:

Iron Range Youth in Action (IRYA)
Northland Office Center, 307 1st St. So., 2R
Virginia, MN 55792

DATE OF DANCE:

All Dances 9:00 p.m. – 12 Midnight
Thursday-August 26, 2010
Friday-October 1, 2010
Friday-October 15, 2010
Friday-November 19, 2010
Wednesday-December 22, 2010

LOCATION OF DANCE:

Miner's Memorial Building, North Room

This dance permit will be subject to such condition as the City Council may prescribe and the requirements of the state of Minnesota.



APPLICANT SIGNATURE

APPLICANT SIGNATURE

State of Minnesota)
St. Louis County)
City of Virginia Property Owners)

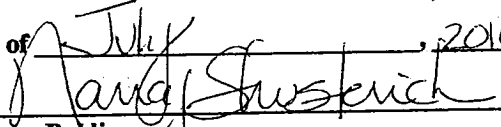
WITNESS (Property Owner) Full Name

WITNESS (Property Owner) Full Name

being duly sworn, on oath say: that they have known the applicants who made and signed the foregoing application for a permit to hold and conduct public dances for more than _____ years; that said applicants are people of good moral character and reputation in the community in which they life; that said applicants have not, within five years prior to making said application, been convicted of any felony, grow misdemeanor, or of violation of any of the laws of the state of Minnesota relating to holding and conducting public dances, and they are proper and responsible people to receive a permit to hold and conduct the dance specified in this application.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 30th

day of July, 2010.

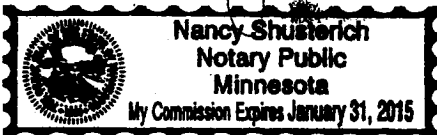


Notary Public

WITNESS SIGNATURE

WITNESS SIGNATURE

Revised 12/21/01



COUNCIL CHAMBERS

5.5

Resolution No.

City of Virginia, Minnesota, August 11, 2010

Resolution **instructing District Judge to reappoint Dennis Lindberg to the Virginia Charter Commission**

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Virginia, that

WHEREAS, the City of Virginia is a charter city; and

WHEREAS, currently, the Charter Commission has ten (10) active members; and

WHEREAS, Dennis Lindberg's term on the Charter Commission will expire on August 15, 2010, and he is interested in being reappointed for an additional four year term; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Virginia request the District Court Judge to reappoint Dennis Lindberg for a four year term to the Virginia Charter Commission.

Moved by Councillor supported by Councillor that the above resolution be adopted.

Ayes:

Nays:

ORDINANCE

An Ordinance Amending CHAPTER 9, SEC. 9.10 of the City Code of the City of Virginia Entitled "Parking Regulations"

The City Council of the City of Virginia does ordain as follows:

Section 1.

That, pursuant to the provisions of CHAPTER 9 of the City Code, SEC. 9.10 shall be amended to read as follows:

"SEC. 9.10. CALENDAR PARKING

Subd. 1. Calendar Parking November 1st – April 30th

"Beginning on November 1st and continuing through April 30th of each calendar year, vehicles parked pursuant to provisions of Section 9.09, Subdivision 1, except when otherwise posted or metered, shall be parked on alternating sides of the street at 6:00 P.M. on the evening prior to the designated day. Vehicles shall be parked on the side of the street bearing even numbered U.S. Post Office addresses on even numbered days of the month and on the side of the street bearing odd numbered U.S. Post Office addresses on odd numbered days of the month."

Subd. 2. Calendar Parking May 1st – October 31st

"Beginning at 6:00 p.m. on May 1st and continuing through October 31st of each calendar year, vehicles parked pursuant to provisions of Section 9.09, Subdivision 1 except when otherwise posted or metered, shall be parked as follows:

The 1st day of the month through the 16th day of the month, vehicles shall park on the odd side of the street, with a changeover time of 6:00 p.m. on the 16th day of the month.

The 17th day of the month through the last day of the calendar month, vehicles shall park on the even side of the street, with a changeover time of 6:00 p.m. on the 1st day of the month."

Section 2.

This ordinance becomes effective upon its passage and publication according to law.

Moved by _____, supported by _____, that the ordinance be adopted.

The Mayor declared the ordinance adopted.

Adopted: _____

Steve Peterson, Mayor

Attest: _____

Lois Roskoski
City Clerk

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

7.2

Resolution No.

City of Virginia, Minnesota, August 11, 2010

Resolution **authorizing the sale of property to Keith and Emma Peterson**

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Virginia, that

WHEREAS, Keith and Emma Peterson are desirous of purchasing Lot 1, Block 2, Fairview Second Addition, in the amount of \$15,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is desirous of selling such property, as is, at said price; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to execute the appropriate documents to sell the above-mentioned property to Keith and Emma Peterson, in the amount of \$15,000.00, contingent upon the purchaser meeting the Fairview Addition covenant requirements.

Moved by Councillor supported by Councillor that the above resolution be adopted.

Ayes:

Nays:

8.1

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION

August 3, 2010

The Honorable Mayor
and City Council
City Hall
Virginia, MN 55792

Dear Mayor & Council:

At the regular meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission held on Monday, August 2, 2010, the following items were discussed, and are now brought before you for final approval.

I. PUBLIC HEARING

A.) To consider the following variances for Phyllis Hokkanen of 704 8th Avenue South:

- 1.) A 15.3 foot variance to the required 20 foot front yard setback, in order to place a deck 4.7 feet from the West property line.

Moved by Krenz and supported by Kauppi to approve a 15.3 foot variance to the required 20 foot front yard setback, in order to place a deck 4.7 feet from the West property line. MOTION CARRIED.

BASIS OF DECISION

- Applicant has a corner lot which requires a 20 foot setback
- Existing house encroaches into that required setback by approximately 5 feet.
- Deck will replace two unsafe entrance steps.
- No City sidewalk exists along the avenue that the deck will front on.
- Deck will not create any traffic line of sight problems
- No Neighbor objections

II. OLD BUSINESS

Council referred the Stephanie Strand Variance Request back to Planning & Zoning. After some discussion by the commission there was a unanimous vote to affirm the denial of both variances for the reasons identified in the July Planning and Zoning minutes.

B) Moved by Krenz and supported by Krog to affirm the denial of both variances. Motion Carried Unanimously.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or any Planning and Zoning Commission member.

Sincerely,

Bruce Kniivila
Planning and Zoning Chairperson

BK/bns

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
MONDAY, AUGUST 2, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bruce Kniivila, Dale Krog, and Duane Krenz, Marcia Kauppi

MEMBERS ABSENT: William Bruemmer

ALSO PRESENT: Debbie Judnick, Engineering Department

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chairperson Kniivila.

II. APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING:

Chairperson Kniivila stated that the minutes from the following meeting were distributed to all Commissioners:

- July 12, 2010 Meeting Minutes. **Moved by Krenz and supported by Krog to approve the July 12, 2010 minutes and file the same with the City Clerk. MOTION CARRIED.**

III. PUBLIC HEARING

1. To consider the following variances for Phyllis Hokkanen of 704 8th Avenue South:

- 1.) A 15.3 foot variance to the required 20 foot front yard setback, in order to place a deck 4.7 feet from the West property line.

Phyllis Hokkanen was in attendance to discuss her request and to answer questions from the Commission.

Open Public Hearing at 4:32

Moved by Krenz and supported by Kauppi to approve a 15.3 foot variance to the required 20 foot front yard setback, in order to place a deck 4.7 feet from the West property line. MOTION CARRIED.

Public Hearing Closed at 4:46

BASIS OF DECISION

- Applicant has a corner lot which requires a 20 foot setback
- Existing house encroaches into that required setback by approximately 5 feet.
- Deck will replace two unsafe entrance steps.
- No City sidewalk exists along the avenue that the deck will front on.
- Deck will not create any traffic line of sight problems
- No Neighbor objections

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Council referred the Stephanie Strand Variance Request back to Planning & Zoning. After some discussion by the commission there was a unanimous vote to affirm the denial of both variances for the reasons identified in the July Planning and Zoning minutes.

Moved by Krenz and supported by Krog to affirm the denial of both variances. Motion Carried Unanimous

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Next Planning and Zoning Meeting will be moved to Tuesday, September 7, 2010.

VII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 5:03pm.

OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS
PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION
MONDAY, JULY 12, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bruce Kniivila, Dale Krog, and Duane Krenz

MEMBERS ABSENT: Marcia Kauppi, William Bruemmer

ALSO PRESENT: Debbie Judnick, Engineering Department

I. The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chairperson Kniivila.

II. APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING:

Chairperson Kniivila stated that the minutes from the following meeting were distributed to all Commissioners:

- June 7, 2010 Meeting Minutes. **Moved by Krenz and supported by Krog to approve the June 7, 2010 minutes and file the same with the City Clerk. MOTION CARRIED.**

III. PUBLIC HEARING

1. To consider the following variances for Scott and Danya Johnson of 1201 11th Street South:

- 1.) A 2 foot variance to the required 5 foot setback, in order to place a garage 3 feet from the West property line.
- 2.) A 20 square foot variance to the maximum allowance of 1,000 square feet of accessory structures allowed in a residential district.
- 3.) A variance to the requirement of no more than 1 garage allowed per residence, in order to allow 2 garages on this parcel.

Scott Johnson was in attendance to discuss his requests and to answer questions from the Commission.

Open Public Hearing at 4:32

Public Hearing Closed at 4:45

Moved by Krenz and supported by Krog to deny a 2 foot variance to the required 5 foot setback, in order to place a garage 3 feet from the West property line. MOTION CARRIED.

BASIS OF DECISION

- Applicant's double lot is shown to have a 65 foot wide rear yard which would be wide enough to accommodate both garages, and with the new garage meeting the 5' side yard setback requirement.
- The hardship stated in the variance application did not warrant the setback variance request.

- Applicant will still be able to place and utilize the second garage without this variance.

Moved by Krenz and supported by Krog to allow a 20 square foot variance to the maximum allowance of 1,000 square feet accessory structures allowed in a residential district. MOTION CARRIED.

BASIS OF DECISION

- Minimal variance request
- Request is needed because he is moving an existing garage on the property and the size is already determined.
- No Neighbor Objections

Moved by Krenz and supported by Krog to allow a variance of no more than one garage allowed per resident, in order to allow 2 garages on this parcel.

BASIS OF DECISION

- Applicant has double lot
- Will not create line of site traffic problems
- No Neighbor Objection

2. To consider the following variances for Stephanie Strand of 114 11th Street South:

- 1.) A 2 foot variance to the required 5 foot setback, in order to place a garage 3 feet from the South (Alley) property line.
- 2.) A 2 foot variance to the required 5 foot setback, in order to place a fence 3 feet from the South (Alley) property line.

Niece Strand was in attendance to discuss her requests and answer questions from the Commission.

Public Hearing Opened at 4:45 p.m.

Public Hearing Closed at 5:04

Moved by Krenz and supported by Krog to deny a 2 foot variance to the required 5 foot setback, in order to place a garage 3 feet from the South (Alley) property line. MOTION CARRIED.

BASIS OF DECISION

- No hardship was given for varying from the city code

- The new garage can still be placed and utilized on the lot without this variance.
- Lot Depth is a standard 120 feet
- Lot Width is 37 ½ feet

**Moved by Krenz and supported Krog by to deny a 2 foot variance to the required 5 foot setback, in order to place a fence 3 feet from the South (Alley) property line.
MOTION CARRIED.**

BASIS OF DECISION

- No hardship was given for varying from the city code
- The new fence can still be placed and utilized on the lot without this variance.
- Lot Depth is a standard 120 feet
- Lot Width is 37 ½ feet

IV. OLD BUSINESS

VI. NEW BUSINESS

VII. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Meeting adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

FINANCE COMMITTEE AS A COMMITTEE-OF-THE-WHOLE

Tuesday, August 3, 2010 - 9:00 A.M.

Council Chambers, City Hall

9.1

Present: Councillors Cuffe, Littlewolf, Ralston, Sipola, Russo, Mayor Peterson - 6
Absent: Councillor Baribeau - 1

Also Present: Sherry Erickson, Finance/Human Resources Director; John Tourville, City Operations Director; Rick Puhek, City Assessor; John Bachman, Park/Recreation Director; Dana Waldron, Police Chief; Lois Roskoski, City Clerk; Glenn Patrick, VEDA President; Bill Hennis, Lead Engineer; Tom Butorac, City Attorney; Bill Hanna, Mesabi Daily News; Ed Alto, Public Works Team Coordinator

Police Chief Waldron requested permission to allow the City of Virginia to be the fiscal agent for a grant through the Northeast Law Enforcement Administrators Council. NLEAC is applying for a \$500,000 COPS grant, which would be used by 30 agencies to purchase 800 MHz mobile and portable radios. Police Chief Waldron also stated he has requested NLEAC to consider the cost for Virginia to prepare an independent audit for the grant when distributing the radios, as a fair way to compensate the City for taking on the fiscal agent responsibilities.

A) Moved by Russo and supported to authorize the City of Virginia to serve as the fiscal agent for the grant through the Northeast Law Enforcement Administrators Council for the purchase of 800 MHz radios. Motion carried.

Police Chief Waldron requested permission to submit an application for a PSIC (Public Safety Interoperable Communications) grant for the purchase of four mobile radios and two portable radios. The grant application requires a twenty-five percent match, which would be \$8,428.25 for Virginia. Police Chief Waldron recommended that the match be funded through the Excess Police Pension Fund.

B) Moved by Russo and supported to approve the submission of an application for a Public Safety Interoperable Communications (PSIC) grant, in the amount of \$33,713.00, with the twenty-five percent match to be funded from the Excess Police Pension Fund. Motion carried.

Police Chief Waldron stated the Minnesota Chiefs of Police and the Minnesota Sheriff's Association have contracted with a firm to write and update the Law Enforcement Policy manual. Police Chief Waldron recommended participating in the project, with an initial cost of \$6,850 and annual update fee of \$2,650. Daily training bulletins would be included the first year and available at an additional cost of \$2,800 after the first year.

C) Moved by Russo and supported to authorize the Police Chief to subscribe to the Law Enforcement Policy Manual and daily training bulletins, with the initial cost to be funded from the Excess Police Pension Fund. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the proposed ordinance for overuse of police services. The following changes were proposed to the ordinance:

Subd. 4:

- Delete "a subsequent police response or responses are necessary to the pursuant of this ordinance" from the first sentence.
- Change the word "building" to "owner" in the first sentence.
- City Attorney to clarify the language regarding the "response to the same location or address within a ninety day period".

Subd. 6:

- Change "Chief of Police or his/her designee" to "Administrative Board" in the first sentence.

Subd. 7:

- Delete the words "or any other conduct" from Subdivision 7.
The City Council was directed to give any additional suggestions or changes regarding the ordinance to the City Attorney or Police Chief.

D. Moved by Cuffe and supported to authorize the City Attorney to make the proposed changes to the Ordinance for overuse of police services, determine the members of the Administrative Board and clarify the fees, with the ordinance to be readdressed at the next Finance Committee meeting. Motion carried.

E. Moved by Littlewolf and supported to approve the travel request for Dana Waldron and Renee Anderson, Police Department, to attend the BCA Criminal Justice Information Users Conference, which will be held September 27-29, 2010, in St. Cloud, MN. Motion carried.

Park/Recreation Director Bachman presented the renewal of the agreement with the Youth Hockey Association for a five year period, as follows:

2010-2011	\$12,000.00
2011-2012	\$12,360.00
2012-2013	\$12,730.00
2013-2014	\$13,100.00
2014-2015	\$13,500.00

Councillor Ralston stated the Youth Hockey Association also contributes an additional \$5,000 per year to offset maintenance costs for the back building.

F. Moved by Sipola and supported to adopt a resolution approving the Lease Agreement with the Youth Hockey Association for use of the Miners Memorial Building for the years 2010 through 2015. Motion carried.

Park/Recreation Director Bachman presented a cost estimate of \$22,800 to provide a six-week Fall Ice Program beginning September 13, 2010. The Youth Hockey Association has agreed to reimburse the City for the cost of the program.

G. Moved by Cuffe and supported to authorize a six-week Fall Ice Program, beginning September 13, 2010, with the Youth Hockey Association to reimburse the City for all costs. Motion carried.

Finance Director Erickson reviewed a spreadsheet that itemized the status of all the grants.

H. Moved by Russo and supported to authorize the Finance Director to request proposals for professional auditing services for the fiscal year ending 2010, with the option to renew the auditing services for fiscal years ending 2011 and 2012. Motion carried.

Finance Director Erickson reviewed the status of the heating conversion and energy loans and stated approximately \$90,000 in loan payments are delinquent.

City Operations Director Tourville requested permission to submit an application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority for a Total Maximum Daily Loan (TMDL) grant for the renovations to the Wastewater Treatment Plant.

I. Moved by Russo and supported to adopt a resolution to approve the submission of a TMDL grant application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority. Motion carried.

Public Works Team Coordinator Alto stated the new system to store and distribute City garbage bags is working well.

Councillor Cuffe volunteered to help with the City of Virginia Employee Golf Outing, which is tentatively scheduled for August 19, 2010.

J. Moved by Cuffe and supported to approve a rate of \$7.50 for 9 holes for the City of Virginia Employee Golf Outing. Motion carried.

Finance Director Erickson stated the City's health insurance premium will increase by 9.7% for 2011.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 AM.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

9.1F.

Resolution No.

City of Virginia, Minnesota, August 11, 2010

Resolution approving Lease Agreement with Virginia Youth Hockey Association for use of the Miners Memorial Building for the years 2010 - 2015

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Virginia, that

WHEREAS, the Virginia Youth Hockey Association's lease with the City of Virginia for the use of the Miners Memorial Building expired on March 31, 2010; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Youth Hockey Association has agreed to enter into a new five-year agreement to lease the Miner's Memorial Building, including the Multi-Purpose (Back) Building, at the following rates:

October 2010 – March 2011	\$12,000.00
October 2011 – March 2012	\$12,360.00
October 2012 – March 2013	\$12,730.00
October 2013 – March 2014	\$13,100.00
October 2014 – March 2015	\$13,500.00

WHEREAS, in addition, the Youth Hockey Association has agreed to pay \$5,000.00 per year into a Capital Improvement Fund, which will be used for maintenance of the back hockey building,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk are authorized to execute a five year lease with the Virginia Youth Hockey Association for the use of the Miners Memorial Building and Multi-Purpose (Back) Building for hockey.

Moved by Councillor supported by Councillor that the above resolution be adopted.

Ayes:

Nays:

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

9.1.I.

Resolution No.

City of Virginia, Minnesota, August 11, 2010

Resolution authorizing the submission of a Total Maximum Daily Loan (TMDL) Grant Application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Virginia, that

WHEREAS, under the provisions contained in Minnesota Statutes 446A.073, the Total Maximum Daily Loan (TMDL) grant program was created and funds appropriated; and

WHEREAS, a TMDL study has been approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has determined that renovations to Virginia's Wastewater Treatment Plant are necessary to meet the waste load reductions required by the TMDL,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Virginia has the legal authority to apply for the grant, and the financial, technical and managerial capacity to ensure proper construction, operation and maintenance of the project for its design life,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, upon approval of its application by the PFA, the City of Virginia may enter into an agreement with the PFA for the above referenced project, and that the City of Virginia certifies that it will comply with all applicable laws and regulations as stated in all contract agreements described in the compliance listing of the grant application,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Operations Director, or their successors in office, are hereby authorized to execute such agreements and amendments thereto, as are necessary to implement the above project on behalf of the City of Virginia.

Moved by Councillor supported by Councillor that the above resolution be adopted.

Ayes:

Nays:

9.2

**BUILDINGS/GROUNDS COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2010
Council Chambers, City Hall.**

Present: Councillors Ralston, Littlewolf, Sipola - 3
Absent: None

Also Present: Councillor Cuffe; Quentin Bloomquist; John Bachman, Park/Recreation Director; Rick Puhek, City Assessor; Glenn Patrick, VEDA President; Bill Hennis, Lead Engineer; Lois Roskoski, City Clerk; John Tourville, City Operations Director; Tom Butorac, City Attorney

Councillor Ralston called the meeting to order at 10:13 A.M.

City Operations Director Tourville stated he met with the person interested in contracting with the City to provide commercial plan reviews/inspections and working with the Engineering Department on the condemnation of blighted houses. City Operations Director Tourville will work out a proposal for the building official contract and bring to a future meeting for approval.

Lead Engineer Hennis stated they are moving forward with a plan to provide demolition services by the Public Works Department. The hazardous waste removal would continue to be contracted out. The Lead Engineer and City Operations Director will be meeting with staff from St. Louis County to determine if the County would assist with the costs for the tax forfeited properties. Lead Engineer Hennis stated funds are available from grants that have been awarded to the City and he anticipates scheduling a few demolitions for this fall.

The City Operations Director was directed to reopen negotiations to purchase the former Culligan building on Silver Lake.

Lead Engineer Hennis stated the Public Works Department will be doing some additional work on the City Hall steps.

Discussion was held on the status of the greenhouse project. A meeting is scheduled for August 4th with staff from the Iron Range Resources to discuss funding and, once the IRR determines the amount they are willing to fund, a plan can be developed on how to move forward with the renovations. Lead Engineer Hennis stated work could possibly begin this fall on the project.

A. Moved by Sipola and supported to authorize the Engineering Department to purchase and install a gas or electric hot water heater for the greenhouse. Motion carried.

City Assessor Puhek stated he values tax exempt properties every six years. City Assessor Puhek provided a draft resolution, which would allow the Senior Citizens Center to continue to operate as a tax exempt property.

B. Moved by Sipola and supported to adopt a Resolution to approve the property tax exemption for the property that is leased and operated by the Virginia Senior Citizens Center. Motion carried.

City Assessor Puhk stated other properties that are exempt, but leasing from a taxable entity, will need to be addressed in the future, and include the Mesabi Humane Society and Kline-Cuppoletti Gun Club.

Lead Engineer Hennis gave an update on the following projects: 1) Demolition will begin on the former Virginia Ready Mix building this week. 2) Virginia has contracted with St. Louis County for street striping and the project will be done within the next two weeks.

Lead Engineer Hennis stated the paperwork for the former Troy Laundry Building demolition project should be completed within two months and suggested closing the project prior to calling for proposals for the property.

C. Moved by Sipola and supported to request City staff to prepare a development plan for the former Troy Laundry building site. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 AM.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

9.2B.

Resolution No.

City of Virginia, Minnesota, August 11, 2010

Resolution approving the property tax exemption of the real estate leased and operated by the Virginia Senior Citizens Center

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Virginia, that

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes 272.02, Subd. 14, authorizes a property tax exemption for property not exceeding one acre that is owned and operated by any senior citizen group or association of groups that, in general, limits membership to persons age 55 or older and is organized and operated exclusively for pleasure, recreation, and other nonprofit purposes, no part of the net earnings of which inures to the benefit of any private shareholders; provided the property is used primarily as a clubhouse, meeting facility, or recreational facility by the group or association and the property is not used for residential purposes on either a temporary or permanent basis; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to said statute, the exemption is subject to the approval by the governing body of the municipality in which the property is located, along with the County Assessor; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Senior Citizens Center, Inc., leases and operates a senior citizen facility, which is located in the City of Virginia and legally described as Lot 25, except part west of a line running from a point on south line 1.38' easterly of southwest corner to a point on north line 1.30' easterly of northwest corner and all of Lots 26 thru 28, Block 20, Original Addition to Virginia, and identified by Parcel Number 090-0010-04760; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Senior Citizens Center meets the requirements of the statute; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia Senior Citizens Center has requested City approval of property tax exemption as required by the statute,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Virginia approves the property tax exemption of the real estate leased and operated by the Virginia Senior Citizens Center, Inc.

Moved by Councillor supported by Councillor that the above resolution be adopted.

Ayes:

Nays: