

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, MARCH 8, 2011

Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Virginia, Minnesota, was called to order by Mayor Peterson at 6:35 P.M. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

Roll Call:

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

Absent: None

Mayor Peterson led 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 February 22, 2011.
 2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 11-005 – Schedule of Bills.
 3. Approval of Transient Merchant/Solicitor License for Wayne Walls, d/b/a Barb's Fried Bread.
- Motions carried and Resolution adopted unanimously.

Steve Johnson, Vice-Chair of the Virginia Teen Center Board, appeared before the Council to give an update on the Virginia Teen Center. The Board has started taking attendance since November 2010 and the numbers are increasing. The Board currently has five members and abiding by the by-laws, has two youth serving on the Board. The Board is looking for additional members from the community. It was the consensus of the Council that the Virginia Teen Center Board is doing an outstanding job for our local youth and offered assistance through the City where we can.

Moved by Sipola and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11044, requesting the District Court Judge to appoint Earl Heisel to the Virginia Charter Commission for a four year term.

Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Russo and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11045, requesting the District Court Judge to reappoint Rocci Lucarelli to the Virginia Charter Commission for a four year term. Resolution adopted unanimously.

The Mayor stated he had received correspondence from the Dream Machines Motor Club requesting assistance from the City again in preparation for the 2011 Fuzzy Dice Cruise Night and 19th Annual Summer Celebration Car Show to be held in downtown Virginia on August 19th and 20th. Councillors unanimously agreed to give them the annual support.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11047, approving Change Order No. 1, to decrease the contract with Ulland Brothers, Inc., by \$23,146.65, for C.P. 1-09, Reconstruction of 6th Avenue, from 8th Street South to 13th Street South.. Resolution adopted unanimously. Councillor Russo requested City Operations Director John Tourville to check into the fund account that the credit will be applied to.

Moved by Ralston and supported to approve Final Pay Request No. 9 with Ulland Brothers, Inc., in the amount of \$74,763.83, for C.P. 1-09, Reconstruction of 6th Avenue from 8th Street South to 13th Street South. Motion carried.

Councillor Russo reported on the Special Meeting of the Personnel Committee held on February 22, 2011, for a Step Four Class Action alleged grievance brought by MAPE regarding the City's employment agreement entered into with IAFF Local #360 member, Dan L'Allier as the temporary assignment to Fire Chief. The Personnel Committee denied the alleged grievance at this step.

Mayor Steve Peterson reported on the Finance Committee of the Whole meeting held on March 1, 2011.

Moved by Russo and supported to table the Equitable Cost Sharing Program until further information is received from Jeff Brown, VCC Administrator. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11047, approving a Billing Agreement with Advantage Billing Concepts for ambulance billing services, at a cost of \$27.00 per run and a one-time set up fee of \$500.00 for initial computer setup and insurance notifications. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Discussion followed regarding insurance agreements needing to be in place prior to billing for services, along with Medicare/Medicaid billings questions. Mayor Peterson read a letter from Advantage Billing addressing some of these concerns. The Mayor stated these questions were not germane to the motion. Councillor Russo also suggested that Councillors Baribeau and Sipola meet with Advantage Billing, along with City Operations Director John Tourville, Finance/HR Director Sherry Erickson, and EMS Coordinator Jason Dickinson to discuss concerns raised.

Moved by Russo and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11048, accepting the proposal from Image Trend, Inc., for ambulance reporting software, setup and training, at an initial cost of \$16,500.00. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11049, approving the Fire and Rescue Services Agreement with Cliffs Natural Resources, Inc., for the sum of \$24,000 annually, and activation charges, as outlined in the agreement, for a two year period beginning March 1, 2011. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to approve the purchase of radios through the Public Safety Interoperable Communication Grant. Motion carried. Councillor Cuffe stated that this grant was applied for by Police Chief Waldron for the Police Department (PD) and that the PD would be taking the lead on the grant while collaborating with the Fire Department.

Moved by Sipola and supported to appoint Councillor Littlewolf as the alternate City representative to the Northeast Minnesota Regional Radio Board. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported to authorize the City Operations Director to send a letter to St. Louis County stating the City of Virginia is not interested in pursuing the Joint Law Enforcement Center at the Virginia Courthouse at this time. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11050, approving Memorandum of Understanding with AFSCME Local #454 to move Wendy Summers to the Accounting Clerk III position, at a wage of \$24.90 per hour, effective March 9, 2011. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11051, accepting the quote from Minnesota Elevator, Inc., in the amount of \$8,300.00, to upgrade the elevator at the Virginia Public Library. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11052, approving the purchase of fifty 300-gallon garbage cans from Rotonics Manufacturing, Inc., at a cost of \$285.00/each, or a total of \$14,250.00, to be funded from the Garbage Fund. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported to approve the City covering the costs to demolish the house and garage at 602 12th Street North, with the property owner responsible for the costs of the asbestos inspection/abatement. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to authorize the Finance Department to continue to pay the Tennis Manager and her employees through June 1, 2011, with payments to be made through the accounts payable system and to report the compensation for services with a 1099 reporting form. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported to proclaim the week of March 7, 2011 as "Range of the Arts Festival Week." with a copy of the proclamation sent to the newspaper. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson stated that Councillor Cuffe was unable to attend the dinner to commemorate the donation of the mining shovel by Bucyrus to the Mesabi Range College, which was held on March 8, 2011, at the Coates Hotel, due to family reasons. Councillors were asked to attend the ceremonies at the Mesabi Range College on Wednesday, March 9, 2011, at 9 A.M.

Councillor Littlewolf reported that she attended the Youth in Action last Thursday, March 3, 2011, where Virginia Patrol Officer Nicole Young-Mattson gave an outstanding presentation on educating the young people on pharmaceutical drug abuse. Councilor Littlewolf suggested that Officer Nicole Young-Mattson be given recognition for her outstanding efforts with our youth.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to put a letter of recognition in Officer Nicole Mattson- Young's personnel file for her outstanding efforts with the youth. Motion carried.

Councillor Littlewolf also thanked the Youth in Action and Parks and Recreation staff for working together in staffing the ice rinks this winter.

Councillor Littlewolf requested that the City give community member Mike Wade, Jr., a letter of support for work on the Native American Community Center. Funding for Mr. Wade's endeavors is being contributed by area Native American tribes.

Moved by Russo and supported to approve sending a letter of support from the City to Mike Wade, Jr., in recognition of the Native American Community Center. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson reported on the following issues:

- Provided an update on the Steering Committee that has been meeting with Wipfli. An RFP is being finalized and will go out to interested organizations soon.
- Received correspondence from Jefferson Bus Lines requesting Council support for a bus route from Duluth into Virginia and over to Grand Rapids and ultimately to Minneapolis. This would be a regular bus route.

Moved by Sipola and supported to approve sending a letter of support to Jefferson Bus Lines for increasing service in the area. Motion carried.

Councillor Cuffe praised the Public Works Department for a job well done in tearing down the blighted house.

See 2011 Resolution Book for Resolution Nos. 11044 – 11052 and Finance Resolution No. 11005.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 P.M., with the next regular City Council meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, March 22, 2011.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

STEVE PETERSON
Mayor

SHERRY ERICKSON
Finance Director