

**VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, JULY 19, 2011**

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 Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Peterson stated the past few months have been challenging and thanked City staff for their commitment and dedication to their positions. Mayor Peterson also thanked the City Council for their hard work and diligence and ability to compromise to achieve the best results.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held June 28, 2011.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 11-013 – Schedule of Bills.

Motion carried and Finance Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11121, authorizing the negotiation, execution and delivery of Lease-Purchase Agreement No. 008-0598291-300 between the City of Virginia and TCF Equipment Finance, Inc., for one new Toro Groundsmaster 4000-D, with attachments and accessories, in the principal amount of \$53,569.92. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Sipola and supported to approve the following variance for Joseph Johnson, 803 11<sup>th</sup> Street North, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission:

1. A 5 foot variance to the required 20 foot setback, in order to place a garage 15 feet from the East (8<sup>th</sup> Avenue) property line.

Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported to approve the following variances for Brian Holzer, 1009 14<sup>th</sup> Street North, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission:

1. A 6.5 foot variance to the required 8 foot setback, in order to place a garage 1.5 feet from the East property line.
2. A 4.5 foot variance to the required 8 foot setback, in order to place a garage 3.5 feet from the West property line.
3. An 88 square foot variance to the maximum 30% rear yard coverage (512 square foot), in order to place a 600 square foot garage.

Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported to approve the following variances for George Tokarczyk, d/b/a Exact Eye Care, for property located at the intersection of 17<sup>th</sup> Street South and 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, legally described as a portion of Government Lot 2, Section 18, Township 58 North, Range 17 West, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission:

1. A 10 foot variance to the required 30 foot setback, in order to place a building 20 feet from the East (Mountain Iron Drive) property line.
2. A 15 foot variance to the required 20 foot setback, in order to place a building 5 feet from the North property line.

Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to approve the following variances for Joel

Martinson, 401 9<sup>th</sup> Street South, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission:

1. A 18 foot variance to the required 20 foot setback, in order to build a garage 2 feet from the East (Avenue) property line.
2. A 4 foot variance to the required 5 foot setback, in order to build a garage 1 foot from the West property line.
3. A 289 square foot variance from the required maximum allowed 30% (503 square foot) rear yard coverage, in order to build a 792 square foot garage.

Motion carried with Mayor Peterson abstaining.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to approve the following variances for Joel

Martinson, 401 9<sup>th</sup> Street South, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission:

1. A 18 foot variance to the required 20 foot setback abutting City right-of-way, in order to place a fence 2 feet from the East (Avenue) property line.
2. A 4 foot variance to the maximum 2 foot height requirement for a fence abutting the City right-of-way, in order to construct a fence 6 feet in height.

Motion carried with Mayor Peterson abstaining.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to approve the following variance for Joel

Martinson, 401 9<sup>th</sup> Street South, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission:

1. A 18 foot variance from the required 20 foot setback, in order to build a deck 2 feet from the East (Avenue) property line.

Motion carried with Mayor Peterson abstaining.

Moved by Cuffe and supported to approve the following variance for Menard, Inc.,  
1500 17<sup>th</sup> Street South, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission:

1. A 636 square foot variance to the maximum 64 square foot allowable, in order to construct two 200 square feet of fixed signage and two 150 square feet of message signage on a pylon post sign adjacent to Trunk Highway 53, totaling 700 square feet.

Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to approve the following variance for Menard, Inc.,  
1500 17<sup>th</sup> Street South, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission:

1. A 15 foot variance to the maximum 25 foot height allowable, in order to construct a pylon sign 40 feet in height.

Motion carried.

Councillor Cuffe reported on the Liquor Ad Hoc Committee meetings held on July 5 and July 19, 2011, and stated the City Attorney will be drafting the proposed amendments for review by the City Council.

Councillor Baribeau reported on the Finance Committee meeting held as a Committee-of-the-Whole on July 12, 2011.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to authorize SEH Engineering to request the two lowest bidders (Rice Lake Construction Group and Miron Construction Co., Inc.) to extend their contract bid pricing for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvement Project through the State shutdown period. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to approve a non-recourse loan with Pace Laboratories, in an amount not to exceed \$15,000. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to support the “Safe Routes to School Plan” with the Virginia School District, contingent upon removal of the mid-street crosswalk on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street South. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt a Resolution No. 11122, to accept the bid from CPS Distributors, Inc., in the amount of \$57,800, for the Fire Hall vehicle exhaust removal system. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt a Resolution No. 11123, to accept the bid from Lanyk Electric, in the amount of \$37,800, for the Fire Hall standby generator. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to approve the position description for the Program Assistant/IT Specialist position, with the position reviewed prior to the 30 day probationary period. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11124, approving a Mutual Aid Agreement with the City of Hibbing for fire protection service. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11125, increasing the salaries for election judges to \$10 per hour. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11126, approving the purchase of a 1993 John Deere Grader, Model 722BH, in the amount of \$45,956.25, including tax, from Nortrax, Inc., with the contingency removed, as the grader met the testing for the various minimum requirements. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Ralston reported on the Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting held on July 12, 2011.

Moved by Ralston and supported to receive and file the Olcott Park traffic flow design plan as presented by Greg Gilness, Park/Recreation Commissioner. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported to request the Park/Recreation Director to prepare costs to repair the fountain in Olcott Park. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported to request the Personnel Committee to hold a meeting within the next two weeks to discuss the need for a long term plan to maintain City and blighted property. Motion carried. City Operations Director Tourville will obtain information from the City of Hibbing on their recently approved agreement with the union regarding lawn mowing.

Moved by Ralston and supported to place a surveillance camera at the Veterans Memorial Site, request the Public Utilities to provide additional lighting at the site and authorize the Public Works Department to place signage in the area stating the site is under surveillance. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported to authorize Councillors Cuffe and Baribeau to meet with Acting Chief Benz to discuss the surveillance camera for the Veteran's Memorial Site, plus other outstanding public safety issues. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11127, authorizing the submission of a Total Maximum Daily Load Grant Application to the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority for the Virginia Wastewater Treatment Plant Renovation Project. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Sipola and supported to adopt Resolution No. 11128, approving Inter-Agency Agreement between the Hibbing Community College, City of Virginia and Northeast Law Enforcement Administrators Council. Resolution adopted unanimously.

See 2011 Resolution Book for Resolution Nos. 11121 – 11128 and Finance Resolution No. 11-013.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 P.M., with the next regular City Council meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, August 9, 2011.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

STEVE PETERSON  
Mayor

LOIS ROSKOSKI  
City Clerk