

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, FEBRUARY 28, 2012

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.

Bruce Grierson, President, AFSCME Local No. 454, stated a group of their members were present to express their frustration with the lack of a contract agreement. Mr. Grierson asked the Mayor and Councillors to be involved in settling a fair and equitable contract. The union has a right to strike and filed an intent to strike that will expire on February 29th. Mr. Grierson stated the union will not strike by the deadline, due to the pending snow storm.

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

follows:

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held February 14, 2012.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 02-004 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve 2012 Transient Merchant License for Walter Walls, d/b/a Barb's Fried Bread.
4. Adopt Resolution No. 12057 approving the License Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for Government Lot 1, Section 6, Township 58 North, Range 17 West.

Motions and Resolutions carried unanimously.

Scott Weappa, Representative of the Children's Memorial Park Committee, announced that the City of Virginia has been awarded a \$5,000 grant from the Blandin Foundation for the proposed park. Mr. Weappa stated Nevada Littlewolf, Dawn Heisel, Linda Niskanen and Kim Culbert recently graduated from the Blandin Community Leadership Program and thanked them for their support. Mr. Weappa stated the committee has ordered the angel statute for the Children's Memorial Park and asked the Council to consider placing it in the City Hall lobby until it can be moved to the park site. Memorial tiles (4" x 8" - \$200; 8" x 8" - \$300) are currently being sold for the Children's Memorial Park Committee and can be purchased from any committee member. Mr. Weappa stated their goal is to complete the Park by the fall of 2012 and thanked the City Public Works and Engineering Departments, Lakes Beautification Committee and Park/Recreation Director Bachman for their help and support.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Littlewolf to allow the angel statute for the Children's Memorial Park to be displayed in the City Hall lobby, until it can be moved to the park site. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported by Cuffe to adopt Resolution No. 12058, accepting the grant agreement with the Blandin Foundation for the Children's Memorial Park. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to adopt an Ordinance amending Chapter 2, Section 2.37 of the City Code entitled "Park and Recreation Commission" to increase the commission to eight members. Ordinance adopted unanimously.

City Attorney Butorac reviewed the Ordinance amending Chapter 6, Section. 6.43 of the City Code entitled "Taxi License Restrictions and Regulations". City Attorney Butorac stated this

is the first reading of the ordinance and requested that any changes or comments be submitted to him prior to adoption of the ordinance.

Moved by Russo and supported by Littlewolf to accept the resignation from Harry Grinage from the Human Rights Commission and send a letter of appreciation for his service. Motion carried.

City Operations Director Tourville reviewed the resolution to recapture expenditures through the charter bond proceeds, retroactive to January 1, 2012. City Operations Director Tourville stated Paul Steinman of Springsted will attend the March 6th Finance Committee meeting to review the capital projects and equipment that will be funded through the charter bond.

Moved by Russo and supported by Cuffe to adopt Resolution No. 12059, declaring the official intent of the City to reimburse certain expenditures from the proceeds of tax-exempt bonds to be issued by the City. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Russo and supported by Baribeau to authorize City Council to attend the League of Minnesota Cities Legislative Conference, which will be held March 21 & 22, 2012, in St. Paul. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson reported on the Finance Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on February 21, 2012.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Ralston to adopt Resolution No. 12060, approving Change Order No. 1, which decreases the contract with Minnesota Power by the amount of \$4,666.00, for Bid Package No. 1 – P & H Electrical Substation and Distribution System. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Cuffe to authorize calling for bids for C.P. 4-11, P & H Sanitary Sewer and Watermain Extension Project. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Ralston to request the City Operations Director to review the DARE officer position. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported by Littlewolf to accept RFP #3 from Lenci Enterprises, in the amount of \$2,065.00, for electrical revisions to the Olcott Park Greenhouse. Motion carried, with Councillor Ralston abstaining.

Moved by Russo and supported by Baribeau to authorize the Public Utilities to install a new gas service to the Olcott Park Greenhouse Maintenance Garage, at an estimated cost of \$1,657.15. Motion carried, with Councillor Ralston abstaining.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Sipola to accept the proposal from Abatetek, Inc., at a cost not to exceed \$5,000, to remove asbestos from the Olcott Park Greenhouse. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Cuffe to accept RFP#5 from Lenci Enterprises, in an amount not to exceed \$4,000.00, to replace the electrical service in the Greenhouse boiler room. Motion carried, with Councillor Ralston abstaining.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Littlewolf to adopt Resolution No. 12061, accepting the proposal from MTI Distributing, in the amount of \$45,571.46, to purchase a fairway mower, which will be funded through the charter bond. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Ralston to accept the proposal from Peter Nelson, in the amount of \$5,000, to purchase the basketball floor, contingent upon receipt of a certified check.

Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported by Ralston to authorize the City Operations Director to request St. Louis County to provide a free conveyance of the tax forfeited property at 312 5th Avenue North for a proposed “Habit for Humanity” project. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson reviewed the applications for the 2012 City of Excellence Award and 2012 C.C. Ludwig Leadership Award that are available through the League of Minnesota Cities. Mayor Peterson asked the City Council to work with the City Clerk if they are interested in submitting an application.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 P.M., with the next regular City Council meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, March 13, 2012.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

STEVE PETERSON
Mayor

LOIS ROSKOSKI
City Clerk