

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, APRIL 10, 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.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held March 27, 2012.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 12-0007 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve renewal of Optional 2 AM Liquor Application for Martini, Inc., d/b/a Tommy's Rainy Lake Saloon & Deli, 207 Chestnut Street.
4. Approve Application for Exempt Permit for Iron Range Juvenile Diabetes Support Group to hold a raffle on May 19, 2012.
5. Approve variances for David Gianlorenzi, 1001 16th Street North, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission:
 - A. A 1 foot variance to the required 8 foot setback, in order to place a garage 7 feet from the West property line.
 - B. An 11 foot variance to the required 20 foot setback, in order to place a garage 9 feet from the East property line.
 - C. A 4 foot variance to the required 2 foot maximum height, in order to build a 6 foot high fence on the East (corner lot) property line. It can extend no further South than the South edge of the entrance door of the NE corner of the house.
 - D. A 20 square foot variance to the maximum allowable 1,000 square foot, in order to construct a 30 X 34 (1020 square foot) garage.
 - E. An 87 square foot variance to the maximum allowable rear yard coverage of 30% (933 square foot), in order to construct a 1020 square foot garage.

Motions carried and Resolution adopted, with Councillor Ralston abstaining from Item 2. .

Brenda Krueger, Springsted, stated five bids were received for the General Obligation Charter Bonds, Series 2012A. The winning bid was submitted by the UMB Bank, with a true interest rate of 1.7292%. Ms. Krueger stated Moody's Investors reaffirmed the City's current bond rating of

A1 and put the City on a negative credit watch and stated there is a high possibility that the credit rating could go down to an A2, due to the negative credit watch. Ms. Krueger recommended adoption of the Resolution to award the sale of the Charter Bonds.

Mayor Peterson reviewed the report from Moody's Investors Service and stated the negative outlook reflects the precipitous decline in General Fund reserves, due to interfund advances that resulted from insufficient planning for capital projects and challenged enterprise operations. Mayor Peterson stated the City has begun to implement a financial plan to address concerns to reverse the negative outlook.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 12090, to award the sale of General Obligation Charter Bonds, Series 2012A. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baribeau to approve the application for an On-Sale Wine License for Aszendrops, LLC, d/b/a Aszendrops Coffeehouse, 235 Chestnut Street, contingent upon meeting the licensing requirements. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Littlewolf to adopt Resolution No. 12091, instructing the District Judge to reappoint Gary Carlson to the Virginia Charter Commission for an additional four year term. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Russo and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 12092, instructing the District Judge to reappoint Don Sipola to the Virginia Charter Commission for an additional four year term. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Sipola to adopt Resolution No. 12093, approving the Lease Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the establishment, operation and maintenance of an Off-Highway Vehicle State Recreation Area on land owned by the City of Virginia. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Baribeau to allow the City Council and administrative staff to attend the 2012 League of Minnesota Cities Annual Conference, to be held June 20-22, 2012, in Duluth, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Councillor Baribeau stated a Joint Animal Task Force was formed and consisted of staff from the City of Virginia and Mesabi Humane Society.

Councillor Sipola reviewed a power presentation from the Joint Animal Task Force and presented their final recommendations, as follows:

- The first step in better animal control was to emphasize and enforce the basic animal licensing.
- City Council immediately approve a concentrated effort to educate the public and pet owners on the City's licensing requirements, which would be done this spring and summer. In the late summer, a month long period will be designation for license inspections, enforcement and education, with warnings, which would be followed by intermittent short periods of intense targeted license enforcement, with fines. .
- Public and Pet Owner Education would include advertising in the newspapers (Mesabi Daily News, Manney Shopper, Hometown Focus), City website, Public Access Channel, Utility/Humane Society newsletters, communications with current license holders, letters to area veterinarians, dog groomers and dog trainers, and a City proclamation.
- City Council would create a long term plan of action to address:
 - 200 foot off-leash rule.
 - Maximum number of animals.
 - Locations and suitability of four pet exercise areas.
 - Address rental property pet abandonment and regulations.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Sipola to begin the public education portion on the animal ordinance, followed by targeted enforcement during the summer and fall of 2012. Motion carried.

Councillor Baribeau stated the Public Safety Committee will review the animal ordinance and prepare the recommended changes to the ordinance, prior to beginning the education portion.

Mayor Peterson reported on the Finance Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on April 3, 2012.

Moved by Russo and supported by Cuffe to adopt Resolution No. 12094, accepting the quote from Rotonics Manufacturing, Inc., for the purchase of twenty-five 300 gallon garbage cans, with lids, at a cost of \$307.00/each, plus tax. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 12095, accepting the proposal from SEH Engineering, Inc., at a fee not to exceed \$3,900.00, to complete a topographic survey and prepare a base map of the Sundell development site. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Russo and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 12096, accepting the quote from Athletica Sport Systems, at a cost not to exceed \$11,561.74, including tax, to replace the plexi glass for the Miners ice arena and request the Park/Recreation to negotiate for the pre-April pricing. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Ralston to adopt Resolution No. 12097, approving a Professional Services Agreement and Amendment with Paul Checco for the operation of the City of Virginia's Golf Course Clubhouse full service bar/restaurant for the period May 1, 2012, through May 1, 2013. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Baribeau to approve the transfer of the On-Sale/Sunday Liquor License from Michael Checco to Paul Checco for Michael's on the Course, effective May 1, 2012, contingent upon meeting the licensing requirements. Motion carried.\

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Sipola to request the Park/Recreation Director to research the cost to install a point of sales system for golf course restaurant. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Ralston to approve the conceptual plan for the Silver Lake Trail, as presented by Architectural Resources, Inc. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to request Architectural Resources, Inc., to prepare an itemized budget for the portion described as Area A of the conceptual plan of the Silver Lake Trail. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Littlewolf to authorize the Buildings/Grounds Committee to seek funding to update the City Parks and Trails Master Plan. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 12098 to approve the Medical Director Agreement with the Duluth Clinic, Ltd., for a one year period, with a fee of \$165.00 per hour for services provided, contingent upon review and approval by the City Attorney. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Russo and supported by Cuffe to allow the Fire Chief to sell the used cardiac monitors as surplus equipment. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Littlewolf to adopt Resolution No. 12099, extending the contract with Pat Green, Northern Energy Development, as the City of Virginia's Building Official, on a month-to-month basis. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Russo and supported by Cuffe to request the City Operations Director and Lead Engineer to meet with Keith Nelson, County Commissioner, and Bob Krepps, County Land Department, to obtain additional information and address concerns on the former Staver property for further discussion at a future Finance Committee meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to approve the travel requests for Officer Matt Kelley and Officer Steve Estey to attend the Minnesota Alcohol Traffic Safety Association's 38th Annual Conference on April 25-27, 2012, in St. Cloud. Motion carried.

Councillor Russo reported on the Personnel Committee meeting held on April 10, 2012.

Moved by Russo and supported by Cuffe to approve the job description for the Police Confidential Administrative Assistant position and authorize the Human Resources Director to post the position. Motion carried.

Councillor Russo stated the Hiring Policy and Promotional Policy for the Police Department were tabled to a Personnel Committee-of-the-Whole meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 24th, and asked the City Council to submit comments to the Human Resources Director by April 20th.

Moved by Russo and supported by Cuffe to move forward with the process to hire a third new Firefighter/Paramedic for the Fire Department, contingent upon the employee beginning at least one month after the other two new hires. Motion carried.

Councillor Russo stated the Personnel Committee closed the meeting to review a personnel issue and voted to dismiss the complaint at the Personnel Committee level.

Moved by Russo and supported by Cuffe to authorize the Human Resources Director to post for the Detective vacancy, contingent upon approval of the Promotional Policy. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported by Littlewolf to approve the donation of four adult golf passes for the March for Babies Walk, to be held on May 5, 2012. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson read a proclamation to proclaim the month of April, 2012, as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Littlewolf to allow Tim Koivunen, former Police Department employee, to purchase his tactical vest and gun holster for a total of \$18.50. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 P.M., with the next regular City Council meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, April 24, 2012.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

STEVE PETERSON
Mayor

LOIS ROSKOSKI
City Clerk