

**VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, JANUARY 22, 2013**

Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Virginia, Minnesota, was called to order by Mayor Russo at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

Roll Call:

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

Absent: None

Mayor Russo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held January 8, 2013.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 13-002 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Adopt Resolution No. 13034 designating depositories for 2013.
4. Approve issuance of 2013 Secondhand Good Dealers License to Dianna Oinonen, d/b/a Consigning Women.

Motions carried and Resolutions adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Littlewolf to approve the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission accepting former Lots 14-20, Weidner Addition, into Lots 1-7, Block 1, Weidner First Addition. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 13035, approving an amendment to the Service Agreement with the St. Louis County Environmental Services Department to extend the collection of residential and commercial recyclable materials for a one year period through December 31, 2013. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Ralston reported on the Finance Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on January 15, 2013.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to adopt Resolution No. 13036, accepting the proposal from Everett Emergency Vehicles, Inc., to purchase a 2013 Road Rescue Ultramedic Type III Ambulance Body, in the amount of \$144,862.00, and three Styker Power Pro Cots, in the amount of \$34,611.00, to complete the ambulance. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to allow staff to proceed with the sale of the 2006 Ford Ambulance. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to schedule the presentation on the Fire Department Business Plan for 10 A.M. on Tuesday, February 19, 2013, during the Finance Committee-of-the-Whole meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve moving forward with the Grant Contract with the State of Minnesota and City of Hibbing to study shared services with the multiple Fire Departments. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 13037, accepting the proposal from Emergency Services Consulting International to perform the study to share services with the various Fire Departments, with Virginia's portion of \$2,025.00 to be funded from the 2013 Fire Department budget. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to authorize the Fire Chief and City Attorney to work out the details to allow the City of Mt. Iron to use a Virginia fire truck for a limited period of time and provide a recommendation to the City Council. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve the travel request for Police Chief Benz and Fire Chief L'Allier to attend to attend the Governor's Homeland Security and Management Conference, to be held February 12 – 14, 2013, in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Littlewolf approve funding up to \$1,000 to be used as gap funding for the Strategic Plan for the Greenhouse, to be funded from the 2013 Park Department budget. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 13038, accepting the proposal from Bobcat of Duluth, in the amount of \$10,418.00, plus tax, to purchase a Bobcat 3400 for the Park Department. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to adopt Resolution No. 13039, accepting the proposal from Versatile Vehicles, Inc., to purchase ten new E-Z-GO TXT golf carts, in the total amount of \$42,696.66, and to authorize the Park/Recreation Director to sell eight used golf carts to the public, at a price of \$1,300 per cart. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston supported by Sipola to adopt Resolution No. 13040, accepting the proposals from Commercial Refrigeration for the following items for the Golf Course Restaurant:

- Bottle Cooler – True TBB-4G \$ 3,440 plus tax
- Sandwich Unit/Beverage Aid Spe72-08 (right hand opening) \$ 3,146 plus tax
- Crown Tonka Walk-In Freezer/Cooler \$15,443 plus tax
- Installation \$ 5,000 estimate

Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to adopt Resolution No. 130401, accepting the proposal from Lundgren Motors, in the amount of \$19,170.00, plus tax, title and license, to purchase a 2013 Ford Escape for the Park/Recreation Department. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to authorize the Park/Recreation Director to continue to negotiate with the City of Cloquet on the sale of the holiday light display, with the stipulation that Cloquet pick up the lights. Motion carried.

Councillor Ralston reported that the City Attorney will send a certified letter to St. Louis County asking them to notify Virginia regarding any properties that become tax forfeit and to include any assessments in their final sale price.

Councillor Ralston reported that Attorney Robert Vose and the Cable Commissioners will be invited to a Finance Committee meeting in February to discuss the cable franchise renewal with Medicom.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to adopt Resolution No. 13042, approving a contract with Terry Hartikka, as an Independent Contractor, for the operation of the cable public access television, subject to final review by the City Attorney. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Littlewolf to authorize Terry Hartikka, Public Access Programmer, to purchase three new delegate microphones for the Council Chambers sound system, at a cost of \$428.00/each. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to refer the information regarding the 2013 Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities Economic Development Partnership Program to the Virginia Economic Development Authority, Virginia-Eveleth Economic Development Authority and the Laurentian Chamber. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported by Baribeau to allow Pat Green to continue to provide building official services on a monthly basis and that he be requested to submit a monthly invoice. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to approve the travel request for Lois Roskoski, City Clerk, to attend the 2013 MCFOA Conference, which will be held March 19-22, 2013, in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to approve the travel request for Thomas Butorac, City Attorney, to attend the Minnesota City Attorneys Educational Conference, which will be held February 7-9, 2013, in Bloomington, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to authorize the City Attorney to send a letter to Amy and Tom Martinich notifying them that they have thirty days to apply for the On-Sale Liquor License for their proposed establishment in Midway. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to authorize payment for any City Councillor to attend the Laurentian Chamber annual banquet, which will be held on February 8, 2013, at the Elks Club. Motion carried.

Councillor Littlewolf reported on the Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting held on January 15, 2013.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Baribeau to add the house located at 1307 10<sup>th</sup> Street South to the Engineering Department's list of blighted properties that are in need of demolition. Motion carried.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Cuffe to reapply for a 2013 Trails Legacy Grant and utilize information from the successful grants when preparing the application. Motion carried.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Baranzelli to request the Park/Recreation Director to inquire and report back on the appropriateness of submitting another application for a 2013 Park Legacy Grant for the Olcott Park fountain restoration project and/or look for other funding sources. Motion carried.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Sipola to direct the Park/Recreation Director to obtain fees for the Mt. Iron Community Center and Eveleth Hippodrome for use in updating the Miners Memorial Rental Policy, which will be reviewed at the next Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Sipola to request the City Operations Director to develop an accelerated marketing plan and creative pricing for the vacant City lot located at the corner of Sixth Avenue and Chestnut Street and provide a recommendation to the Buildings/Grounds Committee. Motion carried.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Baranzelli to authorize the City Attorney to act as the City liaison and attend a meeting of the Lyric Center Board of Directors to provide legal assistance to expedite the completion of the Lyric Center renovations. Motion carried.

Councillor Littlewolf stated a public hearing will be held at 6:30 P.M. on Wednesday, January 23, 2013, at the Miners Memorial Building to review the final Parks and Trails Master Plan.

Councillor Cuffe reported on the Personnel Committee meeting held on January 22, 2013.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to reappoint James Petroskey to the Public Utilities Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2016. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to reappoint Jon Jacobson to the Public Utilities Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2016. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to reappoint Bill Smolensky to the Park/Recreation Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2016. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Ralston to reappoint Chad Seppala to the Park/Recreation Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2016. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to appoint Greg Gilness to the Park/Recreation Commission to fill the vacant unexpired term ending February 1, 2015. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to reappoint Kathryn Cremers to the Library Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2016. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Littlewolf to reappoint Patricia Monacelli to the Library Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2016. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported by Baribeau to reappoint Dale Krog to the Planning/Zoning Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2016. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Ralston to reappoint Roger Rosandich to the Planning/Zoning Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2016. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to reappoint Dennis Yourczek to the Cable Commission for a three year term ending December 1, 2015. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to appoint Tony Bertucci to the Cable Commission for the vacant term ending December 1, 2015. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to adopt Resolution No. 13042, approving the hiring of Ross Gramling as a Firefighter/Paramedic, contingent upon passing a background check, pre-employment physical and occupational therapy and psychological assessments. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to director the Fire Chief, Mayor, City Operations Director and Finance/Human Resources Director to meet with two Fire Union representatives to discuss a proposal to change the qualifications when hiring staff for the Fire Department, with a recommendation provided to the Personnel Committee. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to authorize the City Operations Director and Mayor to meet with County Commissioner Nelson to verify issues on the former Staver property, negotiate a purchase agreement, with contingencies, and make a recommendation to the Buildings/Grounds Committee. Motion carried.

Councillor Baribeau stated he provided information to the City Council from the Laurentian Visioning Partnership meeting.

Councillor Cuffe stated the St. Louis County Board received a recommendation to award Virginia a \$200,000 Community Development Block Grant to be used for infrastructure in the area of 4<sup>th</sup> Street North.

Councillor Sipola stated the Charter Commission met earlier today and the recommendations will be referred to the Finance Committee meeting.

Councillor Littlewolf reported on the Library Commission meeting. The Mayor and City Council were invited to discuss staffing needs and general operations with Library Commissioner Cope. She also reported the 2013 Brown Bag Lunch Series began on January 17<sup>th</sup> and will continue through April 18, 2013.

Councillor Littlewolf reported on attending a meeting of the Virginia Schools Facilities Study Committee and stated no final recommendations have been made to the School Board.



Attorney Butorac reviewed the request from Northeast Technical Services to approve a Consent and Assignment Agreement, which would allow them to assign the current contract for the operation of the Wastewater Treatment Plant to People Choice, Inc., effective February 1, 2013.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to approve the Consent and Assignment Agreement to assign the contract with Northeast Technical Services for the operation, maintenance and management of the City of Virginia Wastewater Treatment Plant, to People Service, Inc., effective February 1, 2013. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M., with the next regular City Council meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, February 12, 2013.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

LOUIS J. RUSSO  
Mayor

LOIS ROSKOSKI  
City Clerk