

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, MAY 28, 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 Ralston and supported by Sipola to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows:

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held May 14, 2013.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 13-010 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Adopt Resolution No. 13095 approving Amendment to Easement No. 12925 with RGGGS Land & Minerals, Ltd., for utility lines to Briarwood Estates.
4. Approve renewal of Optional 2 AM Liquor Permit for Northeast Investment & Mgmt, LLC, d/b/a Sunny's Magic Bar, 116 Chestnut Street.
5. Approve Secondhand Good Dealers License for the Virginia Smoke Shop, LLC, d/b/a Buy/Sell/Trade/Computer Repair at 104 South 2nd Avenue.
6. Approve Transient Merchant/Solicitor License for Ofelia Jonas, d/b/a First Philippina Food Stand.

Motions carried and Resolutions adopted unanimously.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Cuffe to amend Section H of “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 10, Section 10.31 of the City Code of the City of Virginia Entitled ‘Minnesota Uniform Fire Code’” by inserting “offensive odor or smoke in the neighborhood”, after “nuisance problems”. Motion carried.

City Attorney Butorac recommended that the Police Department report on the effectiveness of the Fire Code ordinance approximately sixty days after it goes into effect.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Littlewolf to adopt “An Ordinance Amending Chapter 10, Section 10.31 of the City Code of the City of Virginia Entitled ‘Minnesota Uniform Fire Code’”, as amended. Ordinance adopted unanimously.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 13096, approving an Agreement with the Land of the Loon Ethnic Arts & Crafts Festival, Inc., to use Olcott Park on June 14, 15 and 16, 2013. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baribeau to approve the request from the Land of the Loon Ethnic Arts & Crafts Festival, Inc., to hold a parade at 9:00 A.M. on Saturday, June 15, 2013, with the parade beginning at the East end of Chestnut Street, turning left on Fifth Avenue to Eighth Street South and to ban parking along the parade route and designate handicapped parking on Fifth Avenue by the Virginia High School. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to approve the request from the Virginia Liquor Association to hold a street dance on Saturday, June 15, 2013, from 7:00 P.M. until 11:30 P.M. and barricade the 100, 200, 300 and 400 blocks of Chestnut Street. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to approve the request from Popper’s Bar to barricade the 100 block of Chestnut Street from 11:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Saturday, June 15, 2013, to hold a bean bag tournament. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to approve the request from Carly Gobats, The 218, to rent the City lot located at 220 Chestnut Street for a fee of \$75.00 on Saturday, June 15, 2013, from 11:30 A.M. to 3:30 P.M. for musical entertainment. . Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to approve the request from Flaimer's Bar to serve beer at the Southside Park softball fields on June 15 and 16, 2013, during the Land of the Loon Softball Tournament. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to approve a Transient Merchant License for Penny Vlasich, d/b/a Northland Variety, for period ending December 31, 2013. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to hold one City Council meeting during the month of July at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, July 16, 2013. Motion carried. Councillor Ralston noted the Finance Committee will meet on July 9, 2013.

Councillor Ralston reported on the Finance Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on May 21, 2013.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to table the purchase of the tax forfeited property located at 312 5th Avenue North until additional is obtained by the City Attorney on the interest by the adjoining property owners and Habitat for Humanity. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to authorize Lead Engineer Hennis to work with Karen Zeisler, St. Louis County Land Department, on the process for blighted tax forfeited properties, including abatement, investigation and tipping fees. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to authorize the Public Works Department to move forward with the demolition of the building located at 104 1st Street North. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported Baribeau to authorize the Park Department to till the City property located behind Pohaki Lumber for a community garden, as recommended by the Park/Recreation Commission. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to adopt Resolution No. 13097, accepting the quote from Ken Waschke Auto Plaza for a 2013 GMC ¾ Extended Cab Truck, with Fisher Plow, for a total purchase price of \$31,583.92, and request Waschke Auto Plaza to hold the price until the change in the sales tax rule becomes effective. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to authorize Councillors Sipola and Baribeau to serve on an Ad Hoc Committee, along with the EMS Coordinator and Finance Director, to meet with Advantage Billing to discuss the ambulance billing system, with the Finance Director responsible for scheduling the meetings. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Littlewolf to authorize the Fire Department to respond to Fortune Bay with the ladder truck when requested by the Greenwood Township Fire Department, at a rate of \$600 per hour. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve the travel request for Jason Dickinson and Erik Jonassen, Fire Department, to attend the Image Trend EDS Conference, to be held July 16-19, 2013, in Bloomington, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to authorize Mayor Russo and Finance Chair Ralston to continue discussions with St. Louis County regarding the expansion of the landfill area. Motion carried.

Councillor Littlewolf reported on the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting held on May 21, 2013.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Baranzelli to authorize the Public Works Department to install a permanent barrier on the City property next to the fence located at 310 1st Street North to prevent further damage to the fence. Motion carried.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Baranzelli to authorize the Public Works Department to repair the fence that was damaged at 310 1st Street North and authorize the City Attorney to send a letter to Dental Associates requesting that they repair the sod that was damaged by the person hired to snow plow the parking area. Motion carried.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Baranzelli to authorize the Public Works Department to lock the gate on Sixth Avenue South that leads into the off-leash dog area and designate the area as a “non-vehicle off leash area” to walk dogs, except for access by City vehicles. Motion carried.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Sipola to request the City Assessor to determine the fair market value for five residential lots on the Horace Mann site. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to authorize advertising in the top and bottom banners of the Manney Shopper Real Estate Guide in June, July and August, 2013, for the City property that is available for residential housing, at a cost of \$145 per banner. Motion carried.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Sipola to have the Buildings/Grounds Committee review the covenants for the Fairview and Northern Heights Addition and formulate covenants for a residential development on the Horace Mann site. Motion carried.

Councillor Littlewolf reported the Buildings and Grounds Committee did not have any issues with displaying street art on private Virginia businesses on a temporary basis. Businesses that decide to keep the art on a permanent basis would require further review by the City Council.

Councillor Sipola stated the Silver Lake beach will open on Sunday, June 16th and close on Friday, August 16th, with a work day scheduled at the beach site from 9 A.M. until 12 Noon on Saturday, June 8th.

Councillor Cuffe stated he will be meeting with all department heads to discuss staffing levels in preparation for the 2014 budget process.

Councillor Baribeau gave an update on the Highway 53 relocation and stated a revised westerly route has been developed. Drawings of the new westerly route option will be obtained for the City Council.

Councillor Ralston stated the Library Commission is receptive to working on ideas to resolve the staffing issues.

City Operations Tourville stated he attended a legislative recap and reported that legislation has changed to eliminate sales tax for cities and local government aid has been increased for 2014.

Mayor Russo stated he will obtain the legislation that includes the language that the westerly option to relocate Highway 53 will not be considered.

City Operations Director Tourville stated funding may be available to install turn lanes on Highway 53 to the Joy Global site to increase safety.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 P.M., with the next regular City Council meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, June 11, 2013.

LOUIS J. RUSSO
Mayor

(CORPORATE SEAL)

LOIS ROSKOSKI
City Clerk