

**VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, AUGUST 13, 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, Ralston, Baribeau, Sipola, Baranzelli, Mayor Russo - 6

Absent: Councillor Littlewolf - 1

Mayor Russo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held July 16, 2013.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 13-014 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Adoption of Resolution No. 13105, approving amendment to Service Agreement with St. Louis County for the Collection of Residential and Commercial Recyclable Materials through December 31, 2014.
4. Approve Dance Permit for the Iron Range Youth in Action for dance to be held at the Miner's Memorial Building on August 15, 2013.
5. Approve 2 AM Liquor License for I.W. Acquisitions, Inc., d/b/a Wink's Bar, 215 Chestnut Street.
6. Approve 2 AM Liquor License for Iron Range Corporation, d/b/a Mirage, 509 Chestnut Street.

Motions carried and resolutions adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve the following variances for Craig

Aluni, 1103 10th Avenue South:

1. A .5 foot variance to the required 5 foot alley setback, in order to construct a new garage 4.5 feet from the alley property line.
2. A 10.5 foot variance from the required 20 foot City right of way setback requirement, in order to construct a new garage 9.5 feet from the East (10th Avenue) property line.

Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to approve the following variances for

Kent Olson-702 6th Street South:

1. A 15.4 foot variance to the required 20 foot setback abutting a City right of way, in order to construct a new fence 4.6 feet from the East (7th Avenue) property line.
2. A 4 foot height variance to the maximum 2 foot height allowable on a corner lot, in order to construct a new fence 6 feet in height on a corner lot, 4.6 feet from the East (7th Avenue) property line.

Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No.13106, approving the Ambulance Intercept Agreement with the Tower Ambulance Service. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Ralston reported on the Finance Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on August 6, 2013.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve the travel request for Katherine Saumer, Police Department, to attend the Lockup – Overcoming Size Differences for Female Enforcers Class, to be held October 23-25, 2013, in St. Paul, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve the travel request for Jonathan Benz, Police Department, to attend the Minnesota Annual DARE Officers Conference, to be held August 12-14, 2013, in Otsego, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve the travel request for Josh Hughes, Police Department, to attend FTO Training, to be held August 18-23, 2013, in Richfield, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve the travel request for Gwen Webb and Scott Fredrickson, Fire Department, to attend the Essentials of Tactical EMS, to be held September 22-27, 2013, in Camp Ripley, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to approve the travel request for Jason Dickinson, Fire Department, and Bob Zotti, Medical Director, to attend the Minnesota EMS Medical Directors Conference, to be held September 13-15, 2013, in Alexandria, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to accept the \$1,000 donation for the Virginia Fire/Ambulance Department donation and earmark the donation for the Ambulance Department. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to approve the travel request for William Hennis, Lead Engineer, to attend the Asbestos Inspector Refresher Course, to be held October 3-4, 2013, in Eagan, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to adopt Resolution No. 13107, approving Change Order No. 5, increasing the contract with Rice Lake Construction by the amount of \$65,800 and amending the date of final completion to August 16, 2013, for C.P. 7-11, Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve the request from Tammy Renzaglia, Chairperson of Women of Steel, Local 6115, to hold a 5K run around Silver and Bailey's Lake on September 28, 2013, which will be held in conjunction with the "Walk in the Olcott Park for Breast and Prostate Cancer". Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to offer the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency and Range Mental Health the right of first refusal, over a three year period, to purchase the City owned property located on 4th Street North (Parcel No. 090-0180-00308), contingent upon the City reviewing the project annually to determine if satisfactory progress is being made on the joint project and the City having the right to terminate the offer with a 60 day notice. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to accept the proposal from Gary and Deloris Kopp to purchase Lot 1, Block 1, Fairview Second Addition, in the amount of \$15,000. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to approve the requests from the Dream Machines Car Show for 2013 Fuzzy Dice Cruise Night and 21st Annual Summer Celebration Car Show, to be held August 16 and 17, 2013, on Chestnut Street:

- 1) Place barricades along the entire length of Chestnut Street, excluding the fire avenues, with the non-emergency avenues to be barricaded up to the alleys to allow for the location of vendors and additional participants.
- 2) Post "No Parking" signage along Chestnut Street and the avenues, up to the alleys, 24 hours prior to the 6 A.M. set up time on August 17th. No parking enforcement to begin at 6 A.M.
- 3) Place trash dumpsters along Chestnut Street on Friday, August 16th (four dumpsters per block – two on each side).

- 4) Post “Zero Tolerance for Alcohol and Traffic Violations” signs along Chestnut Street for cruise night from 6 P.M. to 10 P.M. on Friday, August 16<sup>th</sup>.
- 5) Place picnic tables and benches from Olcott Park along T Square Building on Third Avenue for use on Saturday.
- 6) Prorate vendor permits at \$75.00 and waive bonding requirement.
- 7) Allow use of downtown public address system. Confirm prior to the event that the system is in operational order. Allow use of one 110 volt electrical outlet for use by WEVE radio during cruise on Friday night and again on Saturday for car club use.

Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to adopt Resolution No. 13108, accepting the proposal from Short, Elliott, Hendrickson Engineering, in the amount of \$6,600, for wetland delineation and land survey services for the City of Virginia property located in the “Northern Heights Industrial Park”. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 13109, requesting the conveyance of State tax forfeited land located within Sections 8 and 17, Township 58, Range 17 to the City of Virginia, for a total purchase price of \$129,233.50. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to adopt Resolution No. 13110, requesting the conveyance of State tax forfeited land located at 312 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue North to the City of Virginia, for a total purchase price of \$2,417.62. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Ralston reviewed the preliminary 2014 budgets that were approved by the Finance Committee, which are contingent upon approval of the final budget analysis:

➤ Animal Control:	\$ 39,467
➤ City Engineer	\$ 353,395 ( <i>Total Capital -\$ 21,700</i> )
➤ City Assessor	\$ 220,361 ( <i>Total Capital -\$ 5,000</i> )
➤ Fire Department	\$ 568,278
➤ Ambulance	\$3,202,156
➤ Fire Hall Building	\$ 309,700
➤ Park Department	\$ 739,857 ( <i>Total Capita - \$ 567,500</i> )

- Senior Citizens Center           \$ 14,900
- Youth Center                       \$ 12,700
- Music                                 \$ 10,000
- Recreation Department         \$ 594,792 (*Total Capital - \$ 27,000*)

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to send a letter of thanks to the Land of the Loon Committee for their \$500 donation for the renovations of the Olcott Park fountain. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve the reduced green fees for the City and Utility Employee Golf Outing to be held August 22, 2013. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to authorize the Park/Recreation Director to negotiate with Steve Fingeroos on the extension of his contract for Golf Pro services. Motion carried.

Councillor Sipola reviewed the City’s plan to restore the fountain in Olcott Park and stated the City is accepting donations for the project.

Councillor Cuffe reported on the Personnel Committee meeting held on August 6, 2013, and stated he will schedule a meeting with the Fire Chief, City Administrator, Finance/HR Director and representatives of IAFF Local 390 to review staffing options and formulate a recommendation to bring back to the Personnel Committee.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to appoint Christopher Clark as a Temporary Fire Marshall, up to 120 days, and immediately begin the process to post and interview for a permanent Fire Marshall. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to authorize the Police Chief to make a conditional offer to a Patrol Officer candidate, contingent upon passing the physical and psychological testing and a background check. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baribeau to proceed immediately with the testing process and preparation of an eligibility list for the Lieutenant position for the Police Department. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to authorize advertising and testing to create an eligibility list for the Patrol Officer position. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Sipola to approve moving forward with the regional testing process for the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic, as recommended by Fire Chief L'Allier and Captain Jonassen. Motion carried.

Councillor Cuffe commended Erik Jonassen of the Fire Department for his efforts in regionalizing the testing process for the Firefighter/Paramedics.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to authorize the establishment of an eligibility list for the Firefighter/Paramedic position for the Fire Department. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to adopt Resolution No. 13111, approving the hiring of Kurt Kesanen as the Public Works Building Maintenance/Repair person, contingent upon passing a background check, pre-employment physical and occupational therapy assessment. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Ralston reported on the Finance Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on August 13, 2013, and reviewed the preliminary 2014 budgets that were approved, contingent upon approval of the final budget analysis .

➤	Police Department	\$2,365,880
➤	Parking Meters	\$ 22,842
➤	Emergency Management	\$ 31,500 ( <i>Total Capital - \$ 30,000</i> )
➤	Range Recreation Civic Center	\$ 20,084
➤	Dues and Subscriptions	\$ 22,000
➤	Cable Commission Appropriation	\$ 48,200 (Contingent upon finalizing the PEG fees and the Finance Director including the public access station lease payments as revenue through Fund 501.)

➤ Cemetery Appropriations	\$ 15,650	
○ <i>Calvary</i>		\$8,000
○ <i>Greenwood</i>		\$7,650
➤ Neighborhood Renewal Program	\$ 5,000	
➤ VEDA Appropriation	\$ 0	
➤ Contingency Fund	\$ 135,000	
➤ Economic Development Assistance	\$ 100,000	
➤ Administrative Overhead	\$ 320,000	

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to deny the request to subsidize the Laurentian Chamber any more than the current budgeted allocations for 2013. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to approve paying an additional \$40,000 into the “Other Post Employment Benefits” investment account for the year 2014. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by to authorize the City Administrator, Finance Director and Fire Chief to work out a blanket purchase order with the vendor for medical supplies for the ambulance service. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to approve the establishment of an Enterprise Fund for the Ambulance Department as of January 1, 2014. Motion carried.

Councillor Cuffe stated a legislative bonding session will be held on September 25, 2013, and informed the public that the City of Virginia will be submitting requests for the relocation of utilities and the Mesabi Trail that are currently in place along Highway 53 and for a new joint office building between the AEOA and Range Mental Health.

Discussion was held on the numerous telephone calls that are received regarding the sale of synthetic drugs in Virginia. Councillor Baribeau stated the Public Safety Committee will be reviewing a proposed ordinance at a meeting scheduled for 8 AM on Tuesday, August 20, 2013.



Councillor Baribeau gave an update on the Highway 53 Impact Committee and stated he had recently attended meetings with the City of Gilbert, City of Hoyt Lakes and the Mesabi Community College to request support in opposing the westerly option to reroute Highway 53.

Councillor Baranzelli thanked the Blight Officer and his crew for the great job in cutting the trees and brush on the east shoreline of Silver Lake.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Ralston to allow City Administrator Tourville to continue as a board member for the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities for the year 2014. Motion carried.

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 27, 2103.

LOUIS J RUSSO  
Mayor

(CORPORATE SEAL)

LOIS ROSKOSKI  
City Clerk