

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, JANUARY 28, 2014

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, Sipola, Baranzelli, Mayor Russo - 6

Absent: Councillor Baribeau - 1

Mayor Russo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councillor Cuffe removed Item 5 a. and b. from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Sipola to approve the Consent Agenda, with the exception of Item 5 a. and b.

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held January 14, 2014.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 14-002 ó Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve Application to Conduct Excluded Bingo for Sacred Heart Church on March 10 and November 10, 2014.
4. Adopt Resolution No. 14028, authorizing submission and acceptance of an Iron Range Resources Grant to extend the water, sewer and site work for the Kunnari business expansion.
5. Approve 2014 Tobacco License for:
 - a. Chestnut Spirits, 118 Chestnut Street.
 - b. The Virginia Smoke Shop, LLC, 114 2nd Avenue South.
6. Approve 2014 Secondhand Good Dealers License for G & B Trading Co., 104 2nd Avenue South.

Motions carried and Resolutions adopted unanimously, with the exception of Item 5.

City Attorney Butorac assured the City Council that the Police Department will continue to monitor the businesses and deal with any synthetic drug issues through the synthetic drug/public nuisance ordinances that were recently adopted.

Moved by Cuffe and supported to approve a 2014 Tobacco License for Chestnut Spirits, 118 Chestnut Street. Motion carried.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Sipola to approve a 2014 Tobacco License for the Virginia Smoke Shop, LLC, 114 2nd Avenue South. Motion carried.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Baranzelli to adopt Resolution No. 14029, approving an amendment to the Access/Use License Agreement with RGGGS Lands and Minerals, Ltd., for property located in Section 3 1, Township 59 North, Range 17 West, through December 31, 2014. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Ralston reported on the Finance Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on January 14, 2014.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to approve a one percent rent increase for the Washington Manor, effective April 1, 2014. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to obtain a design proposal in 2014 for the purchase/installation of a backup generator for the Washington Manor, which will be included in the 2015 budget. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to authorize the Housing and Redevelopment Authority staff to prioritize the capital improvement items for the Washington Manor for the budget period beginning April 1, 2014. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Littlewolf to form a subcommittee, including the City Finance Chair, two Council PUC liaisons and two members of the Public Utilities Commission, to review the usage of credit cards to pay utility bills in October of 2014. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve the travel request for Thomas Butorac, City Attorney, to attend the Minnesota City Attorney Educational Conference, to be held February 6-8, 2014, in Bloomington, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve the travel request for Lois Roskoski, City Clerk, to attend the MCFOA 2014 Conference, to be held March 18-21, 2014, in St. Cloud, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to approve the travel request for Nicole Young-Mattson, Police Department, to attend the CLEO Command Academy, to be held April 28-May 2, 2014, in Little Falls, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to adopt Resolution No. 14030, accepting the quote from Physio-Control, Inc., in the amount of \$37,646.60, to purchase three Lucas Chest Compression Systems, plus accessories. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to adopt Resolution No. 14031, accepting the quote from M & T Fire and Safety, in the amount of \$5,420.00, to purchase ten sections of fire hose and to authorize the Fire Department to process the 2014 grant reimbursement. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to allow the Boy Scouts to assist with clearing snow from the fire hydrants, contingent upon coordinating the project through the Department of Public Utilities. Motion carried.

Councillor Ralston asked the citizens to assist in clearing the snow around the 300 gallon garbage containers.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Littlewolf to authorize staff to proceed in hiring up to three firefighter/paramedics, contingent upon passing the requirements and background checks. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Cuffe to adopt Resolution No. 14032, accepting the quote from Northeast Technical Services, in an amount not to exceed \$9,242.00, for the limited site investigation for the leaksite at the former Troy Building site. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Sipola to approve the payment of the 2014 dues for the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities, in the amount of \$13,051. Motion carried.

Councillor Ralston stated the resolution to participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities Program failed at the committee level.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Littlewolf to approve the same amount that was donated in 2013 to the Iron Range Youth in Action for the Young Leaders Convention.

Ayes: Councillors Ralston, Sipola, Baranzelli - 3

Nays: Councillors Cuffe, Littlewolf, Mayor Russo - 3

Motion failed.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Cuffe to approve a \$100 donation to the Iron Range Youth Action for their 2014 Make a Difference Conference.

Ayes: Councillors Cuffe, Littlewolf, Ralston, Mayor Russo - 4

Nays: Councillors Sipola, Baranzelli - 2

Motion failed, as five votes are required for a financial expenditure.

Mayor Russo stated he will donate \$100 from the Mayor's Contingency Fund to the Iron Range Youth in Action for their 2014 Make a Difference Conference.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to deny the request for a donation to the St. Louis County Fair. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Sipola to deny the request for a donation to Range Mental Health Center. Motion carried.

Councillor Cuffe reported on the Personnel Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on January 21, 2014.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Sipola to appoint W. William Culbert to the Public Utilities Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2017. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to reappoint Rob Raplinger to the Public Utilities Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2017. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to appoint Zella Ellshoff to the Library Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2017. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Sipola to appoint Arlene Jershe to the Library Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2017. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to appoint Scott Weappa to the Park/Recreation Commission for the unexpired term ending February 1, 2015. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to reappoint William Claviter to the Park/Recreation Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2017. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Littlewolf to reappoint John Dickinson to the Park/Recreation Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2017. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to reappoint Christine Springhetti to the Advisory Hospital Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2017. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to reappoint Mary Kay Lundmark to the Human Rights Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2017. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Littlewolf to reappoint Bruce Kniivila to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2017. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Baranzelli to reappoint Don Bird to the Planning and Zoning Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2017. Motion carried.

Moved by Cuffe and supported by Littlewolf to authorize the City Clerk to advertise one additional time for the vacancies on the City commissions. Motion carried.

Mayor Russo stated he received notice from Bill Culbert that he is resigning from the Housing and Redevelopment Authority.

Councillor Littlewolf reported on the Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting held on January 21, 2014.

Councillor Littlewolf stated the Police Chief will work with Tony Yeley and Scott Norcia to find a better suited location for their proposed indoor shooting range.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Sipola to receive and file the letter from St. Louis regarding the classification of tax forfeited properties, with no changes or comments submitted. Motion carried.

Councillor Littlewolf stated the Laurentian Chamber was requested to submit a formal letter stating their position on the management of the Mineview in 2014, which will be further discussed by the Finance Committee.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Sipola to authorize the Park/Recreation Director to apply for a DPS ó Keep America Beautiful grant for recycling bins. Motion carried.

Councillor Littlewolf stated the presentation on Silver Bay aqua-ponics facility has been rescheduled for the February 3, 2014, Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Sipola to authorize the City Administrator to work with the City Hall staff to utilize space in the former Girl Scout Room as a workout room for City Hall employees, contingent upon the City Attorney reviewing the liability issues. Motion carried.

Councillor Cuffe reported on the following items:

- Attended the January Public Utility Commission meeting on January 27, 2014, where discussion took place on the wood boiler maintenance issues, credit card processing fees and water break due to the extreme cold temperatures.
- Attended the DARE fundraiser hockey game on January 24, 2014, between the Virginia Schools/Public Safety and the Eveleth Schools/Public Safety teams.

Mayor Russo reported on the following items:

- Requested that representatives from the Virginia School District attend a Finance Committee meeting to discuss the proposed new joint high school.
- Notified the public that vehicles are being ticketed or towed if they are blocking the graders and snow plows.
- Attended the public hearing on the Polymet mining project that was held in Aurora on January 22, 2014.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 P.M., with the next regular City Council meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, February 11, 2014.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

LOUIS J. RUSSO
Mayor

LOIS ROSKOSKI
City Clerk