

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, FEBRUARY 9, 2010

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

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held January 26, 2010.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 10-003 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve Application for Exempt Permit for Dave Salsman Memorial Chapter Ruffed Grouse Society for raffle to be held on April 22, 2010.
4. Approve Transient Merchant's License for Barb's Fried Bread.
5. Adopt Resolution No. 10036, authorizing execution of agreement with Land of the Loon Ethnic Arts & Crafts Festival, Inc., for use of Olcott Park for the Land of the Loon Festival.
6. Approve travel request for Britt See-Benes, MCFOA Annual Conference, March 16-19, 2010, St. Cloud, MN.

Motions carried and Resolutions adopted unanimously.

Keith Nelson, St. Louis County Commissioner, thanked the City of Virginia for acting as a conduit to transfer the land owned by St. Louis County to the Virginia Rifle Club. Mr. Nelson assured the City Council that he will continue to work with United States Steel on the acquisition of additional property that is adjacent to the current shooting facility, which would be suitable for the relocation of the trap club. Mayor Peterson thanked Commissioner Nelson for his efforts on the land exchange for the Virginia Rifle Club.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10037, authorizing transfer of the property located in the Northeast Quarter of the Northeast Quarter of Section 30, Township 58 North, Range 17 West, to the Virginia Rifle Club. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Scott Asbach, Hometown Focus, clarified discussion held at the January 23rd City Council meeting regarding the designation of the legal newspaper and stated the Hometown Focus is qualified to be a legal newspaper. Mr. Asbach asked the City Council to reconsider their motion to designate the legal newspaper for 2010.

Mayor Peterson stated the City Council has not taken any formal action to reverse the motion to designate the Mesabi Daily News as the official newspaper for 2010 and stated the City could use the Hometown Focus for other advertising.

Moved by Ralston and supported to approve the first reading of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Section. 2.37 of the City Code entitled "Park and Recreation Commission". Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson reported on the Finance Committee meeting held as a Committee-of-the-Whole on February 2, 2010.

Moved by Russo and supported to approve a partnership with the Virginia Foundation to pursue a development plan for the former ICO building located on Chestnut Street, with the City Operations Director to provide a timeline for possible funding sources to clean up the site. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported that the Public Utilities pay their portion of the City Attorney services for the years 2009 and 2010 and continue to reimburse the City until a new agreement is negotiated between the City, Hospital and Public Utilities. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported to authorize City staff to develop a golf course reorganization plan. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported to utilize \$7,500 from the excess pension fund for the 2010 Fourth of July fireworks display. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson stated a public hearing will be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, February 23, 2010, to review the Wastewater Treatment Plant Facilities Plan.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10038, entering into a contract with St. Louis County for striping roads and highways for the City of Virginia in 2010, at an estimated cost of \$4,000. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Ralston reported on the Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting held as a Committee-of-the-Whole on January 28, 2010.

Moved by Ralston and supported to authorize City staff to work with Jim Skurla of the University of Minnesota to prepare a request for proposals for the lease and operation of the greenhouse. Motion carried.

Councillor Sipola reported on the League of Minnesota Cities Conference for Newly Elected Officials, which he and Councillor Cuffe attended. Councillor Sipola suggested that information be obtained from the League of Minnesota Cities on the possibility of holding a seminar in Virginia to provide additional training on legal issues for the City Council and City Commissioners.

Moved by Sipola and supported to authorize City staff to research holding a seminar in Virginia to provide additional training on legal issues for the City Council and City Commissioners and possibly representatives from the other quad cities. Motion carried.

Councillor Littlewolf stated the Iron Range Youth in Action recently raised \$3,000 to help offset medical costs for a student involved in an accident and noted that the Virginia Schools raised the most money for the fundraiser.

Councillor Littlewolf encouraged the City Council to attend the 15th Annual Iron Range Youth in Action Young Leaders Conference, which will be held on February 17, 2010, at Fortune Bay.

City Operations Director Tourville stated the Public Works Department has nominated Tom Cyr as a Team Leader.

Moved by Russo and supported to appoint Tom Cyr as a Team Leader for the Public Works Department. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson recommended the appointment of Rob Marwick to the Virginia Economic Development Authority for the vacant position.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to appoint Rob Marwick to the Virginia Economic Development Authority for a term ending December 31, 2011, as recommended by Mayor Peterson. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson reported on the meeting of the City Council/Hospital Commission Sub-Committee held on February 5th and stated Dr. Samuel Kriegler was appointed as a member of the sub-committee. Mayor Peterson stated the meetings will be held every Tuesday at 7:00 A.M. at the VRMC and Councillor Russo was appointed as the Chairperson. Councillor Russo stated two more members of the community will be appointed to the sub-committee, with applications/resumes accepted through February 12, 2010.

See 2010 Resolution Book for Resolution Nos. 10036 – 10038 and Finance Resolution No. 10-003.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:10 P.M., with the next regular City Council Meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, February 23, 2010.

STEVE PETERSON

Mayor

(CORPORATE SEAL)

LOIS ROSKOSKI

City Clerk