

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, March 14, 2017

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Virginia, Minnesota was called to order by Mayor Cuffe, Jr. at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

Present: Councillor Littlewolf, Paulsen, Baranzelli, Johnson, Jorgensen, Baribeau

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (7)

Absent: None

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the consent agenda with the removal of item 5.6.

- 5.1 Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held February 28, 201.
- 5.2 Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 17-005 Schedule of Bills.
- 5.3 Approve the Exempt Permit Application for the Roosevelt Elementary PTSA to hold bingo at the Miner's Memorial Building on Tuesday, April 11, 2017.
- 5.4 Approve the Travel Request for Jeffrey Cielocha, Jon Carlson and Adam Metsa to attend Sectional Fire Schools in Alexandria MN, March 11- 12, 2017, at a cost of \$602.00.
- 5.5 Approve the Travel Request for Jeffrey Cielocha, Adam Metsa, and Lisa Hanover to attend Sectional Fire Schools in Alexandria MN, March 18-19, 2017, at a cost of \$1230.00.
- 5.6 Approve the Travel Request for Dustin Erickson and Kevin Poffs to attend the National Fire Academy in St. Cloud MN, April 1-2, 2017, at a cost of \$314.00.
- 5.7 Approve the Travel Request for Chris Clark to attend MN State Fire Marshal's Office in Minneapolis MN, April 10-12, at a cost of \$605.37.
- 5.8 Approve Minutes of Planning and Zoning Meeting held on March 7, 2017.

Motion Carried.

Councillor Jorgensen questioned Consent Agenda Item 5.6 due to the travel request not being signed by the City Administrator. Fire Chief Allen Lewis explained that the original travel request was signed, however it was revised to reflect a change in the employees attending.

Moved by Jorgensen and supported by Littlewolf to approve the travel request for Dustin Erickson and Kevin Poffs to attend the National Fire Academy in St. Cloud MN, April 1-2, 2017, at a cost of \$314.00 with the City Administrator's approval.

The Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation will be added to the last City Council meeting on March 28, 2017. It was requested to have the City Administrator invite those who are requesting the Land of the Loon Street Dance to attend the next Finance Committee of the whole meeting to discuss their request.

The travel request for Daniel Cerise, Dustin Erickson, Frank Roark, Adam Metsa, Robert Olivanti and Mikell Ruedebusch to attend the FDIC International Fire Instruction and Conference in Indianapolis Indiana during April 23-29, at a cost of \$11,392.50 was discussed in further detail. Chief Lewis assured the Council that grant funding should cover most of the proposed expenses of which were already budgeted for. He further explained that the Minnesota Board of Firefighters has annual funding available for each firefighter, unused funds are then redistributed to other Firefighters who apply for it. Chief Lewis also assured the Council that he does not anticipate an increase of overtime due to maintaining fully staffed shifts.

Moved by Councillor Johnson and supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve the travel request for Daniel Cerise, Dustin Erickson, Frank Roark, Adam Metsa, Robert Olivanti and Mikell Ruedebusch to attend the FDIC International Fire Instruction and Conference in Indianapolis, IN during April 23 -29, 2017 at a total cost of \$11,392.50. Motion carried.

Police Squad #4 was recently totaled on 2/7/2017, however the insurance claim was not large enough to cover a replacement squad. Chief Mattson requested the purchase of a new squad be placed in the Police Department's 2018 budget. She is requesting to purchase a 2014 Ford SUV to replace the forfeiture that she is currently using.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli and supported by Councillor Baribeau to authorize the Chief of Police to place the purchase of a new police squad in the 2018 budget and move forward with the purchase 2014 Ford SUV to replace the forfeiture vehicle. Motion carried.

It was suggested that not only the Police Department, but all employees complete a drivers safety course due to the number of accidents that have taken place this year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee of the Whole-Finance Meeting held on March 7, 2017:

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Jorgensen to adopt Resolution No. 17-044 approving the quote from American Legal Publishing in the amount of \$9,975 plus shipping/handling for Codification Services. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf and supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 17-045 approving the contract with SOS Technologies for the purchase of six new defibrillators in the amount of \$124,467.45. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen and supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution No. 17-046 authorizing the Virginia Police Department to enter an agreement with the Lake Superior Child Abduction Response Team (CART). Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen and supported by Councillor Littlewolf to adopt Resolution No. 17-047 supporting State funding for Voting Equipment Replacement. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen and supported by Councillor Paulsen to approve VEDA's disbursement of funds to acquire a Revive Virginia target property at a cost of no more than \$25,000.00.

Ayes- 6 Jorgensen, Baranzelli, Baribeau, Littlewolf, Paulsen, Cuffe Jr.

Nayes-1 Johnson

Councillor Johnson stated he could not support this at this time due to his concern of obtaining a property without a full plan in place.

Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf and supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution No. 17-048 authorizing foreclosure on the property located at 329 Chestnut Street, Virginia MN, Parcel Code No. 090-0010-04040. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Johnson and supported by Councillor Littlewolf to authorize the research of the Designation of Historical Downtown District as per the Minnesota Historical Society. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Johnson and supported by Councillor Jorgensen to table the motion to purchase four (4) two-light pavilions for the Highway 53 Bridge from WESCO in the amount of \$15,472.96, until the Council can review the expenditures included in the State's advancement, total project overages and the specific obligations each entity is responsible for. Motion carried.

Committee of the Whole-Personnel Meeting held March 7, 2017:

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen and supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 17-049 approve offering the Public Works Skilled Laborer position to Mr. Benjamin Dall, contingent upon passing the pre-employment physical, with a starting date on or after March 15, 2017, subject to a ninety (90) shift probation period and the terms of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Local 454 labor agreement. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen and supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 17-050 approve offering the Public Works Skilled Laborer position to Mr. Anders Kolstad, contingent upon passing the pre-employment physical, with a starting date on or after March 20, 2017, subject to a ninety (90) shift probation period and the terms of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO, Local 454 labor agreement. Resolution adopted unanimously.

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Councillor Littlewolf announced the Friends of the Library will be taking in book donations from April 10-21, 2017. There will be no bake sale this year at the book sale. The Friends of the Library Book Sale will take place on April 26-28, 2017.

Finance Director Sherry Erickson suggested the Council meet with Matt Reid of S.E.H next week, to walk through the financial spreadsheets of the HWY 53 Project, to bring everyone up to date.

Councillor Johnson has also requested that St. Louis County be invited to the next COW meeting to give the Council an update of their project.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. gave updates on the following:

- Councillor Littlewolf art display “This is what Democracy Looks Like”. Open reception will be held on March 21, 2017 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the Tweed Museum of Art at the UMD Duluth Campus.
- There will be a Community Meeting on April 6, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. at the Emmanuel Baptist Church located at 93 Midway Drive, Virginia MN. The purpose of this meeting is to gather input from residents regarding a new playground in Midway. The Virginia Park and Recreation Commission wants Community input regarding the location of playground and the type of equipment.
- The second Townhall meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 starting at 6:00 p.m. in the south room of the Miners Memorial to offer information and answer questions regarding: Predatory Offenders, Virtual Crime Watch, Police Body Camera Policy and Survey.
- The Mayor will be requesting that the Veterans Memorial be included in the next edition of Mesabi Magic, by the Iron Range Tourism Bureau.
- The Mayor commended the Public Works Department on all their hard work in the recent two demolitions and reports of two more structures to come down soon.
- A that a high speed chase the night of March 13, 2017 resulted in the suspect in custody, the Mayor reported.
- A house fire that took place on Northside earlier in the day was contained by the Fire Department and there were no injuries.

Adjourn at 7:50 p.m. to Tuesday, March 28, 2017, at 6:30 p.m.in the Council Chambers.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

Larry Cuffe, Jr. Mayor

Pamela LaBine, City Clerk