

**VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, MARCH 10, 2015**

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.

Roll Call:

Present: Councillors Littlewolf, McReynolds, Jorgensen, Baribeau, Sipola, Baranzelli, Mayor Cuffe Jr. - 7

Absent: None

Mayor Cuffe led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held February 24, 2015.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 015-005 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve Transient Merchant/Solicitor License for Barb's Fried Bread for the Land of the Loon Festival in the Olcott Park and Chestnut area plus any street dances or scheduled car shows
4. Approve Application for Exempt Permit for the Holy Spirit Church to hold a raffle May 2, 2015.

Motions carried and Resolutions adopted unanimously.

Councillor Baribeau explained the proposed resolution in support of the public process to designate water subject to the MPCA water wild rice quality standard. He stated that would affect the City of Virginia's Wastewater Treatment Plant and we need to make sure this does not happen.

Councillor Littlewolf also voiced support stating that this resolution also requires the MPCA to follow

the 2011 legislation and amend its rules to designate each body of water. Mayor Cuffe Jr. stated that the resolution is asking that MPCA not impose any requirements on wastewater dischargers regarding the wild rice water quality standard until the MPCA has completed the designation process they were already required by the 2011 law.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported by Jorgensen to adopt Resolution No. 15061, In Support of the public process to designate waters subject to the MPCA water wild rice quality standard. Resolution adopted unanimously.

A request was discussed concerning a request from Amy Martinich to hold a Land of the Loon Street Dance on Saturday, June 20, 2015. Councillor Baranzelli suggested having her attend a Street and Alley meeting to discuss concerns such as public safety and in-kind services for Public Works and Police Department Services.

Moved by Baranzelli and supported by Sipola to approve the request from Amy Martinich to hold a Land of the Loon Street Dance on Saturday, June 20, 2015 contingent upon her attending a Street and Alley Meeting and being able to meet the requirements set forth. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to approve the variance for Earl Heisel – 615 9th Street North: A 30 foot variance to the required 30 foot setback on the South (9th Street) property line in order to construct an addition to the existing building on the South property line in a B-1 Central Business District. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to approve the variance for Earl Heisel – 615 9th Street North: An 11 foot variance to the required 15 foot side yard setback in order to construct an addition to the existing building 4 feet from the East property line in a B-1 Central Business District. Motion carried.

Moved by Jorgensen and supported by Baranzelli to approve the variance for Rodney & Kim Huewe – 727 10th Street North: a 1033 square foot variance to the allowable 1,000 square foot

for accessory buildings, in order to permit a total of 2,033 square feet for the additional of a new 1,380 square foot detached garage with the condition of putting rain gutters on the East side of the garage.

Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Jorgensen to approve the variance for Rodney & Kim Huewe – 727 10th Street North: a variance to the maximum allowable two accessory structures per dwelling, to allow three accessory structures per dwelling. Motion carried.

Moved by Jorgensen and supported by Littlewolf to approve the Transfer of On-Sale Liquor License from Danger Boys, LLC, d/b/a Uncle Eric's, located at 218 Chestnut Street to Pauly G's, contingent upon successful Criminal Back Ground Check. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by McReynolds to adopt Resolution No.15062, Ratifying the proposed agreed upon MAPE Union Contract for 2015-2017. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Baranzelli to approve the Ad Hock Committee with the purpose of rejuvenating the fountain and stone work in the Olcott Park, said Ad Hock Committee would pass all items through the Park and Rec Director John Bachman first, who would address items to the council when needed. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Sipola to approve the sale of City owned property legally described as S ½ of Lot 19 and all of Lot 20 Block 103 Virginia 2nd Addition to Delores Mullikin in the amount of \$1,000 plus the cost of any recording or transfer fees. Motion carried. (first reading)

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Jorgensen to authorize the Park and Rec Director to advertise the 34 used lights and the used backboards for sale. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by McReynolds to approve the Travel Request for Jared Kral and Steve Estey, Crime Scene Course, March 30-April 2, 2015 in Bemidji MN. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Jorgensen to approve the Travel Request for John Swenson and Katherine Saumer, Basic Narcotics Training, March 23-26, St. Paul, MN. Motion carried.

The City Attorney stated that the property of 111 12<sup>th</sup> Street South has been condemned and the owners have been served. There has been no response from either owner of this property.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Sipola to approve moving forward with demolition of 111 12th Street South as long as the City of Virginia has met all of the legal obligations. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Littlewolf to approve the sale of City property legally described as Lot 1, Block 1, Fairview Second Addition to Mary C. Person and Duane F. Person in the amount of \$15,000 plus the cost of any recording or transfer fees. Motion carried. (first reading)

Moved by Baribeau and supported by McReynolds to adopt Resolution No. 15063, forgiving the invoice for Housing and Redevelopment Authority for Pine Mill Court Street Repair in the amount of \$840.00. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Jorgensen to receive and file the information of the LED stop signs for 12th Avenue/13th Street South. Motion carried.

Mayor Cuffe Jr. discussed the ballot that was received by RAMS and read off the candidates for President and Directors. Councillor Baribeau removed himself from this discussion.

Moved by Jorgensen and supported by Littlewolf to vote for Charles Baribeau as President of RAMS, and the following as Directors of RAMS: Walt Hautala, Bob Berrini, Herb Sellars, Brad Hadrava and Paul Kess. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by McReynolds to adopt Resolution No.15064, approving the contract with Revize in the amount of \$8,000 for the City of Virginia's website to be upgraded. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Six District St. Louis County Commission Keith Nelson came before the Council and stated that the first assessment for the City of Virginia for residential properties will be in 2019 payable in 2020. They will continue to do maintenance and do Assessment of new construction between now until then. Commissioner Nelson stated he wanted to improve communications with the City Council and the St. Louis County regarding tipping fees in the future. He also commended the City of Virginia on our large efforts in being a number one example on recycling. He notified the Council that we are less than 30 days way from the ½ cent Transportation Tax that will be used for transportation needs.

Mayor Cuffe Jr. reported on the following items:

- Mayor Cuffe Jr. updated the Council on the proposed noise barrier in Midway associated with the Hwy 53 Relocation. He wants to let Midway residents know again how important it is to return their ballot and vote. Residents have until March 20, 2015 to vote. If you do not vote, your vote turns into a yes. He urges residents to call MNDot or the City of Virginia with any questions they may have.
- Mayor Cuffe also addressed the issue of the Heating Conversion Loans that are in the arrears and assures residents that we are taking proper steps to collect these on the tax rolls. Councillor Sipola explained that this loan program was developed to help residents whom were forced to convert off of the steam system. If money was leftover, it could also be used for weatherization improvements; however this was not a personal loan. This was put on the homeowner's property taxes as a Special Assessment over a ten year term the same as a street improvement would be. When a homeowner defaults their taxes or the home goes tax forfeit and the property sits for a period of years, the City is unable to collect on the installment amounts during the time the property is abandoned. When the

property is purchased and or the payments of property taxes are resumed, the payment of the assessment continues on the property until paid in full.

- Mayor Cuffe Jr. also warns Midway residents to continue to run their water was approach these warmer temps, the frost runs deeper and Midway does have a shallower environment. Please call Virginia Public Utilities with questions 748-7540.
- Washington Manor is going to be smoke free.
- Washington Manor currently has a security system where the residents can see the parking lot on Chanel 5. After Mediacom changed their channel lineup, channel 5 is now public access channel. Dana Hiltunen is trying to work with installing a trap so the residents can still view the parking lot and also get their Public Access Chanel. This is a problem until Mediacom places the City of Virginia over to digital cable service.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M., with the next regular City Council meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, March 24, 2015.

LARRY CUFFE JR  
Mayor

(CORPORATE SEAL)

KRIS JOHNSON  
Administrative Assistant-  
Network Technician