

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, MARCH 12, 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 Ralston, Baribeau, Sipola, Baranzelli, Mayor Russo - 5

Absent: Councillors Cuffe, Littlewolf - 2

Mayor Russo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Baranzelli to open the Public Hearing to consider the proposed amendments submitted by the Charter Commission to amend Sections 3.02 and 3.04 of the Virginia City Charter. Motion carried.

Councilor Sipola explained that the public hearing was a requirement of the Charter and part of the criteria required in order to make any changes. He went on to explain that the Charter is changing section 3.02 which previously spoke about two commissions which were the Hospital and Public Utilities Administrative Commission. Since we no longer need a Hospital Commission due to Essentia Health taking over the management of the Hospital, the Charter would need to be changed to reflect this but the remaining language in the Charter would remain the same. Section 304 would delete the duties and powers of the previous charter and eliminate the requirement to have the Hospital Commission. Instead a Hospital Advisory Committee has been formed to oversee the Hospital. Councilor Ralston pointed out that the Published Corrections to the Charter were incorrect due to the

fact that they read “the Public Utilities commission may issue or sell obligations for any purpose” This is incorrect due to the fact that the Public Utilities Commission may not sell. The corrected verbiage should read that the Public Utilities may not issue or sell.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Mayor Russo to Close the Public Hearing meeting due to the fact that all Council Members must be present to vote and there are two council members whom are absent. Motion carried.

Moved by Sipola and Supported by Baribeau to move the Charter Amendments to the next council meeting agenda of March 26, 2013; after the City Clerk has provided all Council Members with the correct verbiage on the proposed Charter sections 3.02 and 3.04. Motion carried.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes:
 - A. Regular Meeting held February 26, 2013.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 13005 – Schedule of Bills:
 - A. Report dates: 3/1/2013 – 3/8/2013.

Motions carried and Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Sipola to adopt Resolution No. 13060, approving the hiring of Eric Thomsen as a Patrol Officer, contingent upon passing the pre-employment physical, occupational therapy assessment and psychological assessment, with a starting date on or after March 18, 2013, and subject to a twelve month probation period and the terms of the Law Enforcement Labor Services Local 195 Labor Agreement. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baranzelli to adopt Resolution No. 13061, approving the hiring of Nathan Thronson for the Heavy Equipment Operator position in the Public Works department for the City of Virginia, contingent upon passing the pre-employment physical and background check, with a starting date on or after March 15, 2013, and 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.

John Tourville City Operations Director discussed the progress on the Sundell Eye Associates development. They are moving forward to Phase I and we are ready to sign a Warranty Deed to transfer the property from the City of Virginia to Sundell Eye Associates. Mr. Tourville stated the amount of land they are building on has decreased by a small amount and therefore a new resolution would need to be approved to reflect the correct legal description that would be on the Warranty Deed.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Ralston to adopt Resolution No. 13062 approving the transfer of City property to Sundell Eye Associates for the development of an eye clinic by signing the warranty deed with the legal description as follows: *Lots 19-26, Block 12, GREAT NORTHERN ADDITION TO VIRGINIA, and that part of vacated 5th Street North which lies southerly and adjacent to said Lot 26, Block 12, GREAT NORTHERN ADDITION TO VIRGINIA, and which lies northerly of the following described line: Commencing at the southwest corner of said Lot 26; thence South 03 degrees 07 minutes 07 seconds East, assigned bearing, along the southerly extension of the west line of said Block 12, a distance of 62.54 feet to the point of beginning of the line to be herein described; thence North 86 degrees 45 minutes 58 seconds East 120.05 feet to the southerly extension of the east line of said Block 12 and said line there terminating.* Resolution adopted unanimously.

Paul Steinman the Vice President of Springstead Incorporated appeared before the council to discuss the sale of the Taxable General Obligation Tax Abatement Bonds Series 2013A. Springstead Inc. took bids on these bonds today and at 10 A.M. he received 21 bidders. The highest bidder is Northland Securities Inc. at a rate of 3.6960% for taxable GO unrated. He stated that if the bond would have been rated then the rate would have differed by 10 or 15 basis points better. They

also made an adjustment after the sale from the bond proceeds in the amount of \$168,000.00 for administration costs that were incurred by the project that we will be reimbursed for. Discussion arose regarding the due date of the first payment of the bond. Steinmen did clarify that the first payment that will be due on 2/1/2014 was funded by the bond itself. The second payment due on 8/1/2014 would be fully covered by taxes that are being collected in May of 2014.

Moved by Sipola and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 13063 accepting the bid with Northern Securities at the rate of 3.6960% for the sale of the General Obligation Tax Abatement Bonds Series 2013A. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to adopt Resolution No. 13064 accepting the Mutual Aid Agreement Training for Fire Protection and Ambulance Services with the City of Duluth, City of Cloquet and the City of Virginia. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to approve invoicing U.S. Steel Mintac at a rate of \$600.00 per hour for fire rescue services as requested. Motion carried.

Travel request for Jason Dickenson and Fire Chief Dan L'Allier obtained Scholarship funds to cover the costs of attending the 8th Annual EMS Leadership Workshop.

Moved by Ralston and Supported by Baribeau to approve the Travel Request for Jason Dickenson and Fire Chief Dan L'Allier to attend the 8th Annual EMS Leadership Workshop, to be held March 22-23, 2013, in Walker, Minnesota. Motion Carried.

Moved by Ralston and Supported by Baribeau to deny the request for a donation in the amount of \$500.00 from the Summer Outreach Project. A letter was sent out to the organization stating they are being denied due to lack of documentation on how this program would meet the public purpose requirements of the City of Virginia. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to approve the Travel Request for Cory Rondeau to attend the Interview & Interrogation training course offered by the BCA, to be held on May12-14, 2013 in St. Paul Minnesota. Motion carried.

Councillor Ralston reported of a Finance Committee Meeting which was held on March 5, 2013. He stated that John powers from Applied Insights presented the master plan on Parks and trail which was compiled of a great amount of information for the lakes, parks, trails and was received and filed by the Finance Committee. Moving forward with the plan will require a considerable amount of work and some changes to the plan may be made depending upon the funding that is available. Funding will also determine the changes we can make in the future.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baranzelli to adopt Resolution No.13065 accepting the quote from Lundgren Motors for the purchase of a 2013 Ford Utility Police Interceptor AWD, in the amount of \$26,909.68. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Ralston discussed a purchase of a 2002 John Deer 770CH grader that would like to be purchased by the Public Works department in the amount of \$80,700.00. Nortrax is selling the grader and would take in on trade our 1988 Champion 720A grader giving us a credit in the amount of \$18,000.00 towards the purchase of the new grader. The resolution should state that we are trading in a grader not a Sander to Nortrax for this purchase.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No.13066 accepting the quote from Nortrax for the purchase of a 2002 John Deer 770CH Grader, in the amount of \$80,700.00, which the net amount will \$67,010.63 after receiving a credit in the amount of \$18,000.00 from the trade in of our 1988 Champion 720A Grader. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and Supported by Baribeau to approve the Travel Request for Krystina Nickila, to attend the Minnesota Municipal Clerks Institute Year One of training to be held on

April 21-26, 2013, in Brooklyn Center Minnesota contingent upon the common knowledge that she would not be guaranteed a future position of Deputy Clerk by attending this training. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported by Baribeau to adopt Resolution No. 13067 approving Change Order No. 4 to change dates on the contract with Rice Lake Construction, for C.P. 7-11 Wastewater Treatment Facility Improvements. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councilor Baribeau announced that on Thursday March 14, 2013 the CIRI Board will meet at The City Hall to find out the procedure for Phase I and or Phase II for properties. He also reported that they may be able to access grant funds in order to pay for Phase I and Phase II. Phase one will protect the City of Virginia from getting back any properties after they have been subdivided.

Mayor Russo congratulated Nevada Littlewolf, Paul Monacelli and Heather Surla on doing an excellent job on the Green House event which was held on March 2nd. The event brought in approx. 160 people to the greenhouse.

Moved by Baribeau and supported by Baranzelli to support the March of Dimes which is being held at the Mesabi Range Community & Technical College in Virginia by donating 2 golf passes and also two \$100.00 gift certificates to Tennis for All. Motion carried.

Mayor Russo reported about a possible future bus transportation that would provide daily service and intercity bus connections in Duluth and Minneapolis. Jefferson Lines is applying to the Minnesota Department of Transportation for 5311(f) Intercity Bus Federal Funds to provide intercity bus service between Duluth, Virginia, Hibbing, Grand Rapids, Hill City, Aitkin, Garrison, Onamia, Milaca, Princeton, Cambridge, Blaine and Minneapolis.

Moved by Sipola and Supported by Baribeau to send a letter of support for the Bus to establish the Bus Line and a stop in Virginia. Motion carried.

Mayor Russo presented The Virginia McKnight Binger Awards in Human Service which honoring those in Human Services. If you have a nomination it needs to be presented by April 3, 2013.

Meeting adjourned at 7:18 P.M., with the next regular City Council meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, March 26, 2013.

LOUIS J. RUSSO
Mayor

(CORPORATE SEAL)

KRISTEN JOHNSON
Administrative Assistant