

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, MARCH 23, 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 Russo and supported to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows:

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held March 9, 2010, and Special Emergency Meeting held March 12, 2010.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 10-006 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve MN Lawful Gambling Application for Exempt Permit for the Mesabi Range Student Advocates for Human Services for raffle to be held on April 21, 2010.
4. Approve MN Lawful Gambling Application to Conduct Excluded Bingo for Blue Devils Golf Boosters, Inc., for bingo to be held on March 28 and November 14, 2010.
5. Approve Massage License for Susan Santi, d/b/a Ahhh Massage.
6. Approve MN Lawful Gambling Application to Conduct Excluded Bingo for Marquette Catholic School for bingo to be held on April 18, May 27, September 19 and November 21, 2010.

Motions carried and Finance Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10047, authorizing Bill and Katie Harley to purchase Lot 6, Block 1, Fairview Second Addition, in the amount of \$15,000.

Resolution adopted unanimously.

Mayor Peterson reviewed the letter from Bill Hennis, Lead Engineer, submitting recommendations on the bids for the supplies for the Public Works Department for the period May 1, 2010, to May 1, 2011.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10048, accepting the bid from Mesabi Bituminous, Inc., for bituminous cold mix, in the amount of \$91.00/ton, furnished and delivered, and in the amount of \$85.00/ton, furnished only. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Sipola and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10049, accepting the proposal from North American Salt Company, to furnish crushed rock salt, in the amount of \$68.55/ton, subject to contingencies. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10050, accepting the proposal from Hawkins, Inc., to furnish aluminum sulfate, in the amount of \$400.00/dry ton. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10051, accepting the proposal from Hawkins, Inc., to furnish liquid chlorine, in the amount of \$847.00/short ton. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Russo and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10052, accepting the proposal from Ulland Brothers, Inc., for class 5 aggregate, in the amount of \$3.00/ton, furnished only. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10053, accepting the proposal from Mesabi Bituminous, Inc., for class 5 aggregate, in the amount of \$7.00/ton, furnished and delivered. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10054, accepting the proposal from Seppi Brothers, for sand, in the amount of \$7.80/c.y., furnished and delivered, and in the amount of \$3.75/c.y., furnished only. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Russo and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10055, accepting the proposal from Lawson Products to furnish assorted nuts, bolts, washers, hoses and other fittings, in the amount of \$34,420.97. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10056, accepting the proposal from Trimark Industrial, to furnish lubricants, in the amount of \$6,841.80, and fluids, in the amount of \$657.80. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Russo and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10057, accepting the proposal from Northwest Asphalt Maintenance to furnish and deliver asphaltic surface maintenance services, in the amount of \$0.40/ft. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Russo and supported to accept the quote from Benchmark Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$4,950.00, to provide professional engineering services for the Seppi North Site Demolition, Grading and Material Crushing Project. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to authorize the City Engineering Department to advertise for bids for the demolition of the former Troy Building, with bids to be opened on April 21st and awarded at the April 27th City Council meeting. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the recommendation from the Planning and Zoning Commission to require a public hearing for all variance requests, per Chapter 11 of the City Code, and to charge a fee of \$100.00 for a variance request. City Clerk Roskoski stated a public hearing notice would be mailed to all properties within 350' of the proposed variance. Currently, only the adjoining property owners are notified.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to approve the request from the Planning and Zoning Commission to require a public hearing for all variance requests and to set the variance fee at \$100.00.

Ayes: Councillors Baribeau, Sipola, Russo, Mayor Peterson - 4

Nays: Councillors Cuffe, Littlewolf, Ralston - 3

Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson reviewed the letter from the Iron Range Tourism Bureau requesting the City of Virginia to appoint a member to serve on the Board of Directors for the remainder of a three year term expiring on December 31, 2012. According to the bylaws, the City of Virginia is entitled to appoint three members to the Board of Directors and should be from lodging properties or have a vested interest in tourism.

Moved by Russo and supported to send a letter to the lodging properties to seek an individual that would be interested in serving on the Iron Range Tourism Bureau Board of Directors to represent Virginia and to contact the restaurants if there is no interest from the lodging properties. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson reported on the Finance Committee meeting held as a Committee-of-the-Whole on March 16, 2010.

Moved by Russo and supported to approve submission of an application to the Iron Range Resources for a grant, in the amount of \$5,600, for a feasibility study on the operation and management of the Washington Manor. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported to approve the travel requests for Dana Waldron and Brian Bisping to attend the Minnesota Chiefs of Police Executive Training Institute to be held April 12-15, 2010, in St. Cloud, MN. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10058, authorizing an increase in the sewer rate to \$3.50/unit as of April 1, 2010, with three percent (or approximately \$.12/unit) of the sewer rate increase to be placed in a trust fund to offset the retiree insurance for the Sewer Fund. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Sipola noted that the sewer rate increase is \$.55 per unit and equates to an average monthly increase of \$2.91, based on an average of 5.3 units per month.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10059, approving an amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with Stephen Fingeroos for the hiring, training, managing and servicing of the employees for the efficient operation of the pro shop, golf course, driving range and outside grounds maintenance crews for the 2010 golf season. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported to authorize the City Attorney to send a letter to the American Legion stating the City of Virginia will not be purchasing the property located at 221 Chestnut Street, recommending that they contact St. Louis County directly if they are interested in the property and noting that the City would be willing to act as a pass-through, if necessary. Motion carried.

Councillor Ralston reported on the Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting held on March 16, 2010.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10060, authorizing submission of an Iron Range Resources Renewable Energy Grant for improvements to the greenhouse. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 10061, authorizing submission of a grant application to the Virginia Foundation for energy improvements to the Virginia Greenhouse. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported to request the Virginia Community and Lakes Committee to include all the City planters in the “Adopt a Planter” Program. Motion carried.

Councillor Baribeau reported on the Street/Alley Committee meeting held on March 16, 2010.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to authorize City administrative staff to make adjustments to the garbage rates, based on the garbage policy, and to notify the Finance Committee of all adjustments. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported to proceed with C. P. 2-10, mill, overlay and curb repair of 16th Street North, from 4th Avenue West to 6th Avenue West. Motion carried.

Councillor Baribeau stated the crosswalks on 9th Avenue will be repainted when weather permits.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to deny the request to purchase City property located at 417 11th Street South until the discrepancies in the legal descriptions are corrected. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to approve the request for a curb cut at 1210 18th Street South, at the owner's expense, and to authorize the Public Works Department to place a handicapped signage at that location. Motion carried.

Councillor Sipola reported on the Safety Committee meeting and recommended that the Street & Alley/Public Safety Committee review the replacement of the civil defense sirens.

Moved by Sipola and supported to refer the replacement of the civil defense sirens to Street & Alley/Public Safety Committee for review. Motion carried.

Councillor Littlewolf reported on the Public Utilities Commission meeting and stated Terry Leoni has submitted his resignation as General Manager, effective April 2, 2010, and Greg French has been promoted to the General Manager position.

Councillor Russo reported on the Joint City Council/Hospital Committee Sub-Committee meetings and stated a presentation was given by Jeff Brown, Administrator of the Convalescent Nursing Care Unit, and by a representative of the Public Employees Retirement Association.

City Clerk Roskoski stated the League of Minnesota Cities is willing to give a presentation on legal issues in May. The Councillors agreed to hold the presentation in May during the evening and to invite the City Councillors, City Commissioners, department heads and representatives from the surrounding communities.

Moved by Littlewolf and supported to move forward with a presentation by the League of Minnesota Cities on legal issues in May of 2010. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson reported on the following issues:

- Received a letter of thanks from the AEOA for the upgrades to their rental space in City Hall.
- City was awarded a Federal EDA grant, in the amount of \$800,000, for the development of the area north of the golf course.
- P & H Mine Pro continues to express interest in developing the site along Highway 53.

See 2010 Resolution for Resolution Nos. 10047 – 10061 and Finance Resolution No. 10-006.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40 P.M., with the next regular City Council Meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, April 13, 2010.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

STEVE PETERSON
Mayor

LOIS ROSKOSKI
City Clerk