

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA April 26, 2016

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.

Roll Call:

Present: Councillors McReynolds, Littlewolf, Jorgensen, Sipola, Baranzelli,
Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (6)

Absent: Councillor Baribeau (1)

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Councillor Sipola supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the consent agenda as follows:

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held April 12, 2016.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 16-008 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve dance permit for Jeff Anderson for a Teen Dance at the Miners Memorial Building May 7, 2016.
4. Approve travel request for John Bachman to the MN Ice Arena Managers Workshop in Woodbury, MN on May 3, 2016, cost of \$140.00.

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to approve the easement for the Mesabi Trail Hwy 53 easement with the State of Minnesota. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor McReynolds, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to approve the request from Selah Reid, the “Shop” Coffeehouse/218 Taphouse to block off the portion of Third Avenue the evenings of May 19, June 16, July 21, and August 25, 2016, from 3:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. for a musical event and to allow Artisan Vendor Tables on the sidewalk. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli, supported to Councillor McReynolds to appoint Interim City Administrator Sherry Erickson to the VEDA Board.

Motion was rescinded after discussion regarding the number of board members needed. Sherry Erickson will serve as a liaison for the Council as opposed to a voting member and to allow the City Clerk to advertise for another VEDA board member.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve the partial street repair of the 900 block of 9th Street south, approximate cost of \$22,831.20, work to be done by the Public Works Department. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the Resolutions for bids for commodities for Public Works Department for year beginning May 1, 2016:

- Resolution No. 16080 Bituminous Cold Mix: Mesabi Bituminous, \$96.00/ton (furnish and deliver) and \$90.00/ton (furnish only).
- Resolution No. 16081 Crushed Rock Salt: Compass Minerals, \$80.63/ton.
- Resolution No. 16082 Gravel – Class 5 Aggregate: Mesabi Bituminous, \$7.50/ton (furnished and delivered) and \$5.50/ton (furnish only).
- Resolution No. 16083 Granular Material: Forest Concrete Products, \$10.80/c.y. (furnished and delivered) and \$6.00/c.y. (furnish only).
- Resolution No. 16084 Assorted Nuts, Bolts, Washers, Hoses and Other Fittings: Fastenal Company, \$29,000.
- Resolution No. 16085 Lubricants and Fluids: Tri-Mark Industrial, lubricants - \$5,174.95, fluids - \$793.95.
- Resolution No. 16086 Asphaltic Concrete Surface Maintenance Services: Northwest Asphalt Maintenance, \$.68/ft.

Resolutions adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve Resolution 16087 for the purchase of a fuel master pump reader from B&D Pump, in the amount of \$13,700.00. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve to fill two Skilled Labor positions for Public Works Department. Motion Carried.

Motion by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve Resolution 16088 accepting funds from IRRRB for Virginia Carefree Living for infrastructure development in the amount of \$350,000.00. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve Resolution 16089 for the OSHA matching grant application for the Police Department, with the City contribution of \$12,763.00 contingent upon determining what safety equipment is necessary for the police department. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Sipola, supported by Councillor McReynolds to approve Resolution 16090 to approve the OSHA matching grant application for the Fire Department, with the City contribution of \$14,840.00. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to approve Resolution 16091 accepting funds of \$10,000.00 for the Library from the OSHA Safety Grant. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve an asbestos inspection and clean up and to expedite the process at 107 1st Street. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor McReynolds, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve the 50/50 matching grant program thru VEDA to assist Virginia business owners in building renovations and energy improvements, up to \$5,000.00.

Ayes: Councillor McReynolds, Jorgensen, Baranzelli, Littlewolf, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (5)

Nay: Councillor Sipola (1)

Motion Carried

Councillor Sipola voiced his concerns in regards to the grant program. There was discussion on the authority of the VEDA board and the use of General Fund or tax payer money for this purpose. The majority of the grants are aligned with the AEOA program for energy improvements. The VEDA board will review the applications and make a decision on awarding the grants. Mayor Cuffe, Jr. noted that the City is trying to clean up the community. The City has done a lot to help our business' survive. The downtown needs a facelift. Its time to take an opportunity to preserve our history in the downtown area and throughout the City of Virginia.

Councillor Littlewolf updated on the Building & Grounds Committee-of-the-Whole meeting on April 19, 2016.

Councillor Littlewolf noted that the basis of the meeting was the continuing discussion on the Property Maintenance Code. Changes are noted in the minutes from that discussion and the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Councillor Littlewolf updated on the Building & Grounds Committee-of-the-Whole meeting on April 26, 2016:

Councillor Littlewolf discussed the continuation of the Property Maintenance Code. Also discussed at the meeting was the Farmer's Market. An update was given by Marlise Riffel.

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor McReynolds to allow the Public Works Department to initially clean the Farmer's Market site before they open and also when needed. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor McReynolds to approve a Resolution 16092 for Essentia to move forward with a sub-lease with Benedictine Health System contingent upon the City

reviewing the final documents with Essentia and Benedictine Health System in the joint venture.

Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Littlewolf voiced her concerns regarding Essentia and the changes being made in the contract. Mayor Cuffe, Jr. noted that we will utilize our City Attorney and the professionals that drafted the contract to review and bring back to the City for our approval.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve Pay Estimate #4 to Lenci Enterprises for City Hall Exterior Stair Repair in the amount of \$27,495.00. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor McReynolds to adopt Resolution 16093 for the Range Paper quote for 750 cases of blue garbage bags at \$41.00 per case for a cost of \$30,750.00. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor McReynolds to approve staff to follow up with Waste Zero and bring a full analysis on garbage pickup to the Council. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to adopt Resolution 16094 and 16096 for the purchase of garbage cans from Snyder Industries \$20,269.00 and MacQueen Industries \$3,348.86 for the Public Works Department. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve Resolution 16095 to hire Samuel Cantsey as a Patrol Officer for the City of Virginia starting on or after July 4, 2016 or after. Resolution adopted unanimously.

The reports received from Waters and Company were fine, there were some minor changes made and they are drafting the brochure for the Administrator position.

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Councillor Littlewolf attended the Library Commission meeting held today, they updated the information regarding the OSHA grant for the security system and the front door repairs. There is a leaking window and elevator issue that Public Works is taking care of. They discussed the landscaping for 2017. The slip and fall accident report and the drainage in front of the library are also an issue. The new employee at the library is doing really well with staff and children. There will be a Traveling Trunk Show at 9:30 on April 29, 2016, and is open to the public, for age's birth to five. There will be a group art activity after the program. The Spring Book Sale starts April 27, 2016 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Councillor Baranzelli attended the Park & Recreation meeting held April 20, at 4:30. The Zamboni area had a leak which was repaired. The Virginia Golf Course opened last Friday, April 29th, 2016 for the season. Hairball was a huge success and the Miner's Memorial Building and there were no incidents at the event. On May 1, 2016 the new disc golf course will open. There will be a car show at the Miner's Memorial Building thru April 30 2016.

Councillor McReynolds noted that the next Comprehensive Plan meeting will be on April 27, 2016 in the Club Room. There is a link on the City website regarding the comp plan. Strong Towns will be having a meeting for quad cities. It is open to the public, and will be held on May 19, 2016 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. will be attending the LMC conference on June 14-17, 2016. You need to register by tomorrow, April 27, 2016 to get the registration discount.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor McReynolds to allow any Councillor to attend the LMC Conference June 14-17, 2016. Motion Carried.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. will proclaim April 30, 2016 as the March for Babies Walk, to be held at the Mesabi Community College. Registration begins at 9:00 a.m., walk begins at 9:30 a.m. Mayor Cuffe Jr. is unable to attend and Councillor Littlewolf volunteered to attend to read the proclamation.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. updated on the following:

April 28, 2016 the Downtown Business Association will clean up Chestnut Street beginning at 5:00 p.m. The group will meet at the Senior Center. The Mayor also noted that the Public Works Department did clean the street the last week.

There may be a new site for the Mineview in the Sky overlook. MNDOT has an area they would give authority to use. There would need to be cooperation from RGGGS to put a road in the area and also an easement would be needed. MNDOT will start giving tours to general public, they last about twenty minutes, and it would be a tour of the progress on the bridge and the Hwy 53 area, as the camera isn't working at this time.

Legislative update, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. met with the Range Delegation regarding Cuyuna Drive, there are a couple of bills are in the House and Senate to keep the Cuyuna Drive open in Midway. House file 3799 and Senate file 3539

The bill regarding the ½ percent sales tax to allow the City of Virginia the authority to collect this from the general public for purpose of leveraging funds to renovate the Miner's Memorial Building. The City would have the authority to collect a ½ percent up to \$18 million dollars. House file 3876 and Senate file 3505

There is a bill to request appropriation of \$4 million dollars from the bonding bill for renovating the Miner's Memorial Building. We had previously requested \$12 million. If granted we are required to have two public hearings and it will also be on the ballot in November 2016. Once the project is complete the sales tax sunsets and it doesn't apply to vehicles. The Mighty Ducks Grant is available and we will be applying for that to offset the purchase of a new Zamboni. House file 3442 and Senate file 3013

The death of Prince has been in the news and is being recognized by the State of Minnesota and throughout the United States. The Mayor had the opportunity to meet Prince and visit his facility.

Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m. with the next regular meeting to be May 10, 2016, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

Larry Cuffe, Jr., Mayor

Pamela LaBine, City Clerk