

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, JUNE 14, 2016

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 Baribeau, Sipola, McReynolds, Jorgensen, Baranzelli, Mayor Cuffe, Jr.(6)

Absent: Councillor Littlewolf (1)

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. led the Pledge of Allegiance

PUBLIC FORUM:

Fire Chief Allen Lewis gave a presentation to recognize to Mr. Ross Gramling for the award from the American Legion Post 239. The award is given out annually from the firefighter program with the American Legion. They have to meet certain criteria to be nominated for the award. Mr.Gramling will be honored on July 19, 2016 in Rochester at the State Convention. Marvin Hill-Vice Commander and Donovan Goblirsch.

Discussed the lease agreement with Saxhaug Construction. The Mayor noted that they are being displaced by the Hwy 53 construction and would like to remain in Virginia.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor McReynolds to approve the lease agreement with Saxhaug Construction on 8th Street South adjacent to Tritec. Motion Carried.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held on May 24, 2016 and the Special Meeting held on May 31, 2016.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 16-011 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve Pay Estimate #4 to Hoover Construction for the Joy Global Site Grading in the amount of \$49,421.85.
4. Adopt Resolution 16110 for the purchase of a power load cot and comp kit from Everest Emergency Vehicles, Inc. in the amount of \$22,345.59.

Motions made and Resolutions adopted unanimously.

APPEARANCES:

Commissioner Keith Nelson discussed the Northland Office Building and the proposed new Government Service Center. The County has been working for ten years for a safer more secure work place for

their employees. GSC North will be the new building for the County. Councillor Baribeau asked if the deconstruction permit needs to be authorized by the Council for the design or the bonding process. Commission Nelson stated the County would need affirmation and that it will afford us to do the deconstruction in order to keep the process moving. If the City issues the permit there is nothing saying that they can't change their mind if something changes in the process. The County needs the permit to follow thru with the paperwork process with the issued permit.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor McReynolds to adopt Resolution 16111 approving the sale and transfer of City property, Lot 1-4, Block 31, to St. Louis County, for a price of \$118,000.00, second reading. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 16112 approving the sale and transfer of City property, Lot 23, Block 1, Rooney's Addition to Virginia, to Mr. Paul Maki, for a price of \$300.00 second reading. Resolution adopted unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Moved by Councillor McReynolds, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt a Resolution approving the sale and transfer of City property, Lot 10, Block 36 to Natural Harvest at no cost with the final resolution to be considered at the June 28, 2016 Council Meeting. Motion Carried.

Communications from Planning and Zoning Commission submitting recommendations from meeting held on June 6, 2016.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Sipola to consider the following variance requests from J.M. Krikelas to construct a garage at 501 2nd Street South, Virginia, Minnesota.

1. Approve a 3' foot variance to the required 5' foot side yard/alley setback in order to construct a garage 2' feet from the East side yard property line.
2. A 1' foot variance to the required side yard setback of 5' feet in order to construct a garage 4' feet from the West side yard property line with the condition of installing rain gutters on the West side of the garage.

Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt a Resolution 16113 to accept the IRRRB grant funding for Twistars Enterprise, LLC renovation project in the amount of \$69,299.00.

Resolution adopted unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baribeau to accept the resignation letter from John Bachman as the Parks and Recreation Director as of July 1, 2016 with regret. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to accept the resignation letter from Joseph Baker from the Virginia Fire Department as of July 5, 2016 with regret. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor McReynolds to approve Resolution 16114 for the salary step increase for Nicole Mattson. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Sipola, supported by Councillor Baribeau to move the Self- Assessment of Nicole Mattson to the Finance Meeting Agenda on June 21, 2016 for review. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor McReynolds to approve the Rutabaga Project in the City and to allow the use for gardens on the City owned properties. 13th Street North, the property East of Pohaki Lumber, 216 Chestnut Street, and the old Jefferson school site. Motion Carried.

Reminder: the Farmer's Market is open on Thursday's from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. through the summer.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to approve the Resolution 16115 for the low bid from Tony's Construction in the amount of \$478,559.99 for the Spectrum Virginia Carefree Living Project. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Sipola to accept the classification of the tax forfeited land to non-conservation as requested by St. Louis County. Motion Carried.

Councillor Jorgensen discussed the Olcott Park Fountain area there has been vandalism in the area, as it gets closer to the construction project there will be cameras installed.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to allow the City Attorney to file paperwork to foreclose on the mortgage on the property at 329 Chestnut Street for the outstanding balance plus interest on the VEDA loan. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Jorgensen to approve to place a lien on the property of all loan requests approved by the VEDA Board. Motion Carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor McReynolds to approve the Resolution 16116 for the tank replacement from UHL/ABE in the amount of \$7,114.00 at the library. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor McReynolds to approve Resolution 16117 for the piping repairs from UHL/ABE in the amount of \$11,117.00 at the library. Resolution adopted unanimously.

COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS:

Councillor Jorgensen is on the joint powers board for the Range Recreation Center, they had a meeting to discuss the repair of a broken pipe in the Civic Center. The LMC insurance policy is covering the majority of the repair and there shouldn't be any payment on the part of the City.

Councillor McReynolds noted the times of the Comp Plan meetings, June 15th from 11: 30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and also 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Elks Lodge in Virginia and they are open to the public.

Interim City Administrator Sherry Erickson made the council aware of the audit. There will be a preliminary update from the auditor at the next Finance meeting.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. gave notice from MNDOT regarding the traffic deviation on 2nd Ave, South and 10th Street South to complete the water main pipe. It will be closed June 20-24th, 2016 from 6:00 a.m. Monday, June 20th to Friday 5:00 p.m. June 24th.

Councillor Sipola gave an update on the Hwy 53 bridge tour that he and the Mayor attended. They both noted it was a very interesting tour.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. met with Representative Metsa regarding the bonding bill. None of the requested projects came to fruition, but he is asking what the City's priority is. The utility lobbyist is working on the \$3.5 million dollar funding and the City lobbyist is working on the Miner's Memorial Building funding. His request is the City has to pick one project. As of now the priority at the Legislature is the \$3.5 million dollar funding gap.

The Mayor asked each Councillor to comment on the project that they think the City should prioritize. The majority of the Councillor's and Mayor agree the Miner's Memorial Building project should be the main priority at the legislative session.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported Councillor Sipola to notify Representative Metsa that the City of Virginia's priority for the bonding bill is the Miner's Memorial Building. Motion Carried.

The Council will be in the Land of the Loon Parade with the Olcott Fountain group handing out favors.

On June 10th the Virginia Golf Course celebrated its 80th anniversary. There was a party held at the Golf Course and the Mayor thanked all the Park and Recreation crew for helping with the event.

Lieutenant Anthony Guilen will retire as of July 4, 2016. He is moving to Arkansas and we wish him the best. Joe Baker from the Fire Department will also be retiring as of July 5, 2016 and congratulations go out to him and his family.

Jeanne Maki asked about making application for a demolition permit. If the County has to make application to the City Engineers office, how does the Council have the power to issue the permit? Councillor Baribeau noted the council needs to make the official recommendation to the engineer's office and they will send the permit to the County.

The meeting was adjourned at 8: 30 p.m. to Tuesday, June 28, 2016, at 6:30 p.m., in the Council Chambers.

Official Seal

Mayor Larry Cuffe, Jr.

Pamela LaBine, City Clerk