

VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, JUNE 9, 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, Baribeau, Sipola, Baranzelli, Mayor Cuffe - 6

Absent: Councillor Jorgensen - 1

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:
 - a. Regular Meeting held May 26, 2015.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 15-011 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Approved Transient Merchant/Solicitor License for Gerald Breyer, d/b/a Generous Jerry's Fireworks.
4. Approved Transient Merchant/Solicitor License for Christopher Ulmer, d/b/a TNT Fireworks.

Motions carried and Resolution adopted unanimously.

Fire Chief Allen Lewis acknowledges and administers the oath of office to the following firefighters who were promoted within the Virginia Fire Department:

Erik Jonassen – Battalion Chief “A” Shift
Joseph Baker – Captain “B” Shift
Adam Metsa – Engineer “B” Shift
Mikell Ruedeusch – EMS Coordinator (not present)

Scott Fredrickson – Captain “C” Shift (not present)
Chris Clark – Captain/Fire Marshal
Joel Martinson – Engineer “C” Shift

Mayor Cuffe congratulates the promoted firefighters.

Jacqueline Halberg, Northeast Community Coordinator of Conservation Minnesota, gave an overview of the organization to the Council. Ms. Halberg presented the results of their energy survey given to Virginia citizens. The top concern is renewable energy. Conservation Minnesota has 60,000 members statewide, with over one half living in greater Minnesota. Ms. Halberg informed the Council that she serves as a resource for energy conservation to key decision makers.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Littlewolf to adopt Resolution 15117 approving the transfer of City property to Laborers Local #1097. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf and supported by Councillor McReynolds to adopt Resolution 15118 in support of funding through the 2016 Capital Budget Bonding Bill for the Miners Memorial Community Center Renovation Project. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor McReynolds and supported by Councillor Baribeau to adopt Resolution 15119 authorizing execution of agreement with Land of the Loon Ethnic Arts & Crafts Festival, Inc., for use of the Olcott Park for the Land of the Loon Festival, June 19 – 21, 2015. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Sipola and supported by Councillor Baranzelli to authorize a parade permit for the annual Land of the Loon parade, from East end of Chestnut Street to Fifth Avenue, to Eighth Street South on June 20, 2015 starting at 9 AM. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Sipola and supported by Councilor Baranzelli to approve two and half (2.5) foot variance to the required eight (8) foot side yard setback on the Laura Montgomery, 818

7th Street South property in order to construct a new garage five and half (5.5) feet from the West property line. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor McReynolds and supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve two (2) foot variance to the maximum six (6) foot high fence height in a side yard, on the Eric Osterguard, 1915 Hazel Avenue property in order to construct a new fence eight (8) feet in height between the existing house and garage, adjacent to the North property line. Motion carried.

Councillor Sipola reported on the Personnel Committee meeting held on June 2, 2015.

Councillor Sipola congratulated the Fire Department employees who were recently promoted.

Councillor Sipola announced the City Clerk Lois Roskoski will be retiring on September 11, 2015.

Moved by Councillor Sipola and supported by Councillor Baranzelli to post immediately for the City Clerk position. Motion carried. Mayor Cuffe stated that the job description was being reviewed and updated by the appropriate staff.

Councillor Baribeau reported on the Finance Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on June 2, 2015. Councillor Baribeau noted that the Bouska development item presented to the Committee is to be considered under the 2016 budget as an EDA item.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Baranzelli to place the building located at 205 North 3rd Street on the IRRRB demolition list and notify the American Bank that the City will hold the insurance proceeds and apply towards the demolition costs, if necessary. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Sipola to adopt Resolution 15120 accepting proposal from Parsons Electric in the amount of \$2,246, for installation of electric receptacles in the City Hall Council Chambers. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 15121 accepting the proposal from Benchmark Engineering, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$76,620 for site design and construction phase engineering services for the proposed Waschke auto sales and service business. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Littlewolf to adopt Resolution 15122 accepting the bid from Northeast Technical Services in the amount not to exceed \$5,205.00; for the 2nd Street Materials Testing Quotes. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 15123 accepting proposal from Ulland Brothers, Inc., in the amount of \$1,014,914, for the Second Street South Improvement Project. Motion carried. Councillor Baribeau stated this would replace all infrastructures of water and sewer and widen the area to increase parking ability for all of the St. Louis County businesses.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor McReynolds to adopt Resolution 15124 approving Change Order No. 1 to increase the contract with E.H. Lawrence Co., Inc., in the amount of \$10,377.00, for the Virginia Public Library reroofing project. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 15125 accepting quote from Red Power Diesel Service, Inc., in the total amount of \$9,452.65, to repair the 2003 Pierce Fire Engine. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Littlewolf to approve the payment of the 2015 dues for the Coalition of Greater Minnesota, in the amount of \$13,645. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Sipola to authorize the project to connect the walking trails around Bailey's Lake and Silver Lake behind Lakeshore Motor Inn, and pursue any necessary easements, with the project to be funded from the Lakes Beautification Fund. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau and supported by Councillor Littlewolf to table and refer the request from the Virginia Coop Credit Union for a north bound exit onto Ninth Avenue to the next Street/Alley/Public Safety Committee meeting. Motion carried.

Councillor Baranzelli reported on the Street/Alley/Public Safety Committee meeting held on June 9, 2015.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli and supported by Councillor Sipola to table the request from Virginia Coop Credit Union for a curb cut. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli and supported by Councillor Littlewolf to have the request to remove a utility pole at 1804 Wolf Road to be referred to Virginia Public Utilities to see if it is feasible, and bring recommendation back to Finance Committee. Councillor Sipola questioned that this item be referred to the Public Utilities Commission to make a determination period. Councillors Littlewolf and Baranzelli agreed to amend their original motion as follows.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli and supported by Councillor Littlewolf to have the Virginia Public Utilities Commission Board review the request to remove a utility pole at 1804 Wolf Road. Motion carried.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli and supported by Councillor Sipola to authorize The Shop Coffehouse to block off the 100 block of Third Avenue North for two musical events on July 23, 2015 and on August 13, 2015; and to send Selah Reid a letter stating that all beverages are to be served and consumed only in the designated area, and the business is responsible for cleanup of the Avenue

area after the events. Motion carried. The City Public Works will provide a garbage receptacle at the site.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli and supported by Councillor McReynolds to obtain a quote for new globing and LED bulbs for Fifth Avenue light standards and refer to the Finance Committee for 2016 Budget. Motion carried.

Mayor Cuffe made a clarification that along Fifth Avenue, the light standards are being refurbished through paint and labor from the City and Public Utilities, as well as a professional entity is assisting in the repair of the light standards. New lights are to be replaced by the Library.

Moved by Councillor Baranzelli and supported by Councillor Sipola to refer the concerns with traffic speed on 20th Street South, between 12th Avenue and 14th Avenue to the Engineering Department to review and make a recommendation to the Street/Alley/Public Safety Committee. Motion carried.

Councillor Baribeau reported on the Highway 53 Coffee n' Conversation meeting held

June 4, 2015,

- June 5th contractor process will be 90% complete
- June 18th, Work plan #1 to be completed, requiring 10 million pounds of steel to go into the bridge.
- September 2nd, and September 20th, Work plan #2 to be completed
- November 24th, Work plan #3 to be completed – Roadway lights to be completed
- MN DOT is seeking an office in the Virginia area for Highway 53 project for 65 employees over the next two years.
- MN DOT is planning a drone survey of the East wall, weather/wind permitting.
- Residents can still vote or change their vote regarding the sound barrier. Over the next couple of months they will be accepting the votes/changes.
- June 22, 2015 – Final Environmental Impact Study statement is due to go onto the Federal government.
- Tentative date of July 3, 2015 from 9 AM to 3 PM , Congressman Nolan is going to be available in Virginia to discuss projects in the area. We will be getting notification as the date gets closer.

Mayor Cuffe reported on the following items:

- Preliminary meeting with IRRRB, City Administrator, Fire Chief regarding funding for a new Fire Hall and Miners project. Possible bonding opportunity.

Councillor Littlewolf reported on the following items:

- Highway 53 Visual Quality Committee had their last meeting this spring, next meeting is scheduled for the fall. Any recommendations for visual quality above and beyond the MN DOT costs, the City would be responsible for. Recommendation report will be coming soon.
- Sound barriers along Midway, must meet Federal code for funding – if it doesn't meet the codes the money goes away. In addition, if the citizens want the sound barriers, the City has to put our request in now; otherwise it is not an option later. Residents can still vote or change their vote – on the Southside area – next couple of months they will be accepting the votes/changes.
- Strong recommendation for welcome signage – especially at the 2nd avenue entrance by the Committee.
- Signage should be considered in the City's new Comprehensive plan.

Mayor Cuffe encouraged residents to get out and vote on the sound barrier issue since it is almost a tie. Four votes are left. Residents can change their vote.

Councillor Baribeau asked who is responsible for future repair and update of the sound barrier. Mayor Cuffe said the State of Minnesota is responsible.

Councillor Sipola reported on the following:

- The Airport Authority was notified that Minnesota has increased Airport appropriations from 66% now up to 75% for maintenance costs.
- The Silver Lake beach annual cleanup held on Saturday, June 6, 2015 was a success thanks to the Lakes Committee and numerous volunteers.

Mayor Cuffe reported on the Library Time Capsule dedication held on June 2, 2015 and thanked everyone for their participation, especially Chris Holmes's Fifth grade students.

Councillor Baribeau, noted that the next Finance Committee meeting will be held on June 16, 2015 at 1 p.m. in the afternoon to review the City's preliminary 2014 Audit report.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 P.M., with the next regular City Council meeting to be held at 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, June 23, 2015.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

LARRY CUFFE JR.
Mayor

SHERRY ERICKSON
City Finance/HR Director