

## **VIRGINIA CITY COUNCIL**

### **COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, July 11, 2017**

The regular meeting of the City Council the City of Virginia, Minnesota was called to order by Mayor Cuffe, Jr. at 7:15 p.m. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

Present: Councillor Baribeau, Paulsen, Littlewolf, Baranzelli, Jorgensen, Johnson,  
Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (7)

Absent: None

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. read the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held June 27, 2017.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 17-013 schedule of Bills.
3. Approve to extend the street show for The Shop to allow one extra night, September 7, 2017.
4. Approve the temporary liquor permit for Friends of the Greenhouse on August 19, 2017 for Brewfest in Olcott Park.
5. Allow Jessie Holecek of VPD to attend Basic SRO Training on August 14-18, 2017 in Shakopee, cost of \$945.00
6. Allow John Carlson , Lisa Hanover, Jeff Cieloch, Thomas Hegge of VFD to attend the Nozzle Forward Class on August 21-22, 2017 at Camp Ripley cost of \$931.00
7. Approve Steve Johnson to attend the STEPS(Security Emergency Training) July 26, 2017 in Superior WI, cost of \$73.83

#### **APPEARANCES**

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. noted that Steve Gustafson would not be attending the meeting regarding a variance request denied by Planning and Zoning. Mr. Gustafson is using another avenue in which to address this issue.

#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor Baranzelli to adopt Resolution 17094 to

approve the quote from Mesabi Bituminous for the Bailey Lake Trails Project in the amount of \$23,574.25  
Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve the request from The Shop to bolt down 10 minute parking sign.

Councillor Baribeau suggested not bolt the sign down in the sidewalk due to snow plowing during the winter. Another suggestion was to post sign on the building or to provide a heavier base for the sign. After further discussion on the placement of the sign the Council agreed to rescind the previous motion.

Moved by Councillor Paulsen, supported by Councillor Johnson to rescind the previous motion.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Baribeau to work with city staff to devise a solution for the 10 minute parking sign at The Shop Coffee House. Motion Carried.

A request was received from Chief Mattson to allow the Virginia Police Officers to sign up for shifts for the City of Chisholm events. City Administrator Britt See-Benes noted that the City of Chisholm will indemnify the police department for any shifts that the Virginia Police Officers would be working.

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor Paulsen to allow Virginia Police Officers to sign up for open shifts for City of Chisholm events. Motion Carried.

City Administrator See-Benes explained the purpose of the approval for the Modification #01 to the Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement and that it is an ongoing agreement for fire protection with the Superior National Forest.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve the Modification #01 to the Cooperative Fire Protection Agreement with Superior National Forest. Motion Carried.

City Administrator See-Benes explained the request by IAFF Local 390 for the MOU regarding donation of sick leave. If an employee is ill or is a new employee and they don't have enough sick time available then the other employees can take their time out of the bank and donate to the employee. The sick time would be deducted from the bank of the employee that is donating their time. The intent is to bridge the gap between the time the employee goes out on sick leave and when the STD kicks into place. Using the sick

pay does reduce the sick leave bonus at the end of the year. It was suggested to review the contracts and make adjustments for new employees.

Moved by Councillor Johnson, supported by Councillor Littlewolf to approve the MOU from IAFF Local 390 regarding donation of sick leave to other employees from the sick leave bank.

Ayes-Councillor Baranzelli, Littlewolf, Paulsen, Johnson, Mayor Cuffe, Jr. (5)

Nay-Councillor Jorgensen, Baribeau (2)

Motion Carried.

Approve variances, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission at regular meeting held July 5, 2017:

A. Merten Property Management to construct a deck at 1201 – 1201 ½ 19<sup>th</sup> Street South, Virginia, MN

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve an 18.9 foot variance to the required 20 foot setback from the public right of way in order to construct a deck 1.1 feet from the East (12<sup>th</sup> Ave.) property line. Motion Carried

B. Stephen & Linda Palazzari to construct a garage at 821 4<sup>th</sup> Street South, Virginia, MN:

Moved by Councillor Littlewolf, supported by Councillor Johnson to approve a 2.7 foot variance to the required 5 foot alley setback in order to construct a garage 2.3 feet from the alley property line and to approve a 6.4 foot variance to the required 8 foot side yard setback in order to construct a garage 1.6 feet from the West property line. Motion Carried.

City Administrator See-Benes updated the Council on the new law that went into place on May 3, 2017 regarding soliciting and expending funds for Police orientated events such as National Night Out.

Moved by Councillor Baribeau, supported by Councillor Johnson to adopt Resolution 17095 to authorize the City or Police Department to solicit and expend funds for National Night Out. Motion Carried.

City Administrator See-Benes explained the request from the City of Duluth Police Department to participate in the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act Project to reduce the opioid abuse overdose death rate within St. Louis County.

Moved by Councillor Jorgensen, supported by Councillor Baribeau to approve sending a letter of support to reduce the opioid abuse overdose death rate within St. Louis County. Motion Carried.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. noted that the Duluth squad cars are being outfitted with different ads on the vehicles to make people aware of the warnings against drug use.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Finance Director Sherry Erickson updated on the 2016 audit is in the final stages and the auditor would like to meet in the near future with the Council to review the audit.

## **COMMISSION LIAISON/DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS**

- Brewfest will be held August 19, 2017 at Olcott Park from 4:00 p.m. to 10 p.m. to raise money for the Olcott Park Fountain.
- Silent Movie Festival, July 14, 2017 at the Lyric Center 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- The Farmers Market is held on Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. June through October.
- The Dream Machines Car show on August 19, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. and then they will tour through Olcott Park.
- Opening of the 1967 Time Capsule at Olcott Park on August 16, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
- Name the bridge contest continues until July 15, 2017 if you would like to submit a suggestion.
- The bridge opening event will be taking place in August. Plaques will be placed at the entrances to the bridge and a time capsule will also be buried on one end of the bridge.

Mayor Cuffe, Jr. attended the band concert in the park on Thursday, July 6<sup>th</sup> and also the band stand dedication to Bob Baldrice. A sign was made by City staff and Clancy Graham and Greg Gillness of the Parks and Recreation Commission unveiled the sign in honor of Mr. Baldrice.

Councillor Paulsen congratulated Chris Clark, Virginia Fire Marshall, on his marriage on Saturday July 8<sup>th</sup> and a fire truck was decked out for the event.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 p.m. to Tuesday, August 8, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers.