

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, NOVEMBER 9, 2004

Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Virginia, Minnesota, was called to order by Mayor Luoma Gentilini at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

Roll Call:

Present: Councillors Raplinger, Lind, Lindberg, Politano, Peterson, Mayor Luoma Gentilini - 6
Absent: Councillor Baranzelli – 1

Moved by Lindberg and supported to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows:

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held October 26, 2004, and Special Emergency Meeting held November 3, 2004.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 04021.
3. Approve variances, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission on November 1, 2004:
 - A. Keith Colcleugh, 2101 Southern Drive, 10.9' variance from the required 20' setback from City right-of-way, in order to build a 26' x 30' garage 9.1' from the City right-of-way (20th Street South).
4. Adopt Resolution No. 04187, approving Premises Permit Application for the American Legion Post 239 at Riders on Main, 401 Chestnut Street.

Motions carried and Resolutions adopted unanimously.

Moved by Peterson and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04188, authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk/Finance Director to execute agreements to sell Lot 1, Block 2, Northern Heights Addition, in the amount of \$12,900.00, to Rudy and Donna Semeja. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04189, accepting the bid from Lynde Greenhouse, in the amount of \$5,726.00 plus tax, for the purchase of approximately 22,000 bedding plants for the spring of 2005. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Politano reported on the joint Personnel and Finance Committee meeting held on October 28, 2004.

Moved by Politano and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04190, accepting quote from C. R. Meyer and Sons Company, in an amount not to exceed \$13,000.00, for additional emergency repairs to the digester lid at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Politano and supported to authorize the Lead Engineer to work with the Virginia Regional Medical Center to find a place to stockpile the soil from the golf course for the clinic project. Motion carried.

Moved by Politano and supported to contact Expense Recovery Services to perform an audit of the City of Virginia telephone system, with the fees based on a percentage of the refunds, credits or cost savings obtained. Motion carried.

Moved by Politano and supported to receive and file the request from the Eveleth-Virginia Airport Authority regarding the health insurance benefits for the Airport Manager. Motion carried.

Moved by Politano and supported to authorize the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance regarding the automated pawn service and set up a meeting of the Public Safety Committee and the owners of the local pawn shops to discuss the ordinance. Motion carried.

Councillor Raplinger reported on the Insurance Committee meeting held on November 3, 2004.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to apply the proper portion of the insurance rebate to 2005 contributions for active employees and retirees and to send a rebate check to those employees that no longer work at the City, but contributed to insurance premiums in 2003, contingent upon the four unions approving a letter of understanding. Motion carried.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to send a check, in the amount of \$1,000.00, to the family of Patsy Dimberio, for the paid up life insurance policy, on a non-precedent setting basis.

Motion carried.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to authorize the Human Resource/Safety Director to contact the insurance company and obtain insurance options for City Councillors, once they leave office. Motion carried.

Human Resource/Safety Director Larson will contact agents of record for medical insurance to see what options are available.

Councillor Politano reported on the Finance Committee meeting (as a Committee-of-the-Whole) held on November 8, 2004.

Moved by Politano and supported to approve the purchase of the following equipment for the Fire Department, as recommended by the Public Safety Director: 1) Fire Equipment Specialties, 4 gas tester - \$1,672.05; 2) Metro Fire, 4 rescue packs - \$1,683.33; 3) Municipal Emergency Services, 1 fire rescue saw - \$2,089.14. Motion carried.

Moved by Politano and supported to continue with the recycling program and to include language in the recycling agreement with St. Louis County wherein the City of Virginia also has the right to terminate the agreement. Motion carried.

Moved by Politano and supported to deny the claim from Amy Martinich, LaCocina & Cantina, for suspected damage to a freezer by a City garbage truck. Motion carried.

A Committee-of-the-Whole meeting will be set to meet with McGladrey & Pullen, auditors, to review the 2003 audited financial statement.

Councillor Peterson reported on the Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting held on November 8, 2004.

Moved by Peterson and supported to authorize the City Attorney to meet with Dennis Yourczek and the former owner of the radio station to work out the details to transfer the radio license. Motion carried.

Moved by Peterson and supported to designate an area on the north end of Olcott Park for parking for the student nurses. Motion carried.

Moved by Peterson and supported to authorize the City Clerk/Finance Director and City Assessor to investigate a possible tax rebate on the City portion of the property taxes for the new project by Northstar Door, Inc. Motion carried.

Moved by Peterson and supported to authorize the Memorial Blood Center to park the bloodmobile in the parking lot located in the 300 block of 1st Street South from 8:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. on Tuesday, December 21, 2004, for a blood drive. Motion carried.

Moved by Peterson and supported to send a letter to the owner of the furniture store at the corner of 4th Avenue and Chestnut Street regarding the weeds growing along the building. Motion carried.

City Clerk/Finance Director Lackner stated he will meet with St. Louis County staff to review the parking lease for the parking lot in the 300 block of 1st Street South and bring a proposed policy to the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Motion carried.

Mayor Luoma Gentilini reported on the closed Personnel Committee meeting (as a Committee-of-the-Whole) on November 9, 2004.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to authorize the Public Safety Director and Human Resource/Safety Director to begin the hiring process to maintain six person crews, or a total of eighteen employees, at the Fire Department. Motion carried.

Moved by Politano and supported to authorize Springsted, Inc., to put together a work program and costs for an organizational and operational review for City departments. Motion carried.

Councillor Lindberg stated the Festival of Trees will be held on November 19, 20 and 21, 2004, at the Mt. Iron Community Center, with the proceeds going to the Hospice Program.

Councillor Politano stated she attended the Library Commission and it has been determined it is not feasible for the Library to be open on Saturdays, due to the staffing levels.

City Clerk/Finance Director Lackner stated twenty-one people are in violation of the clear water discharge ordinance and it is City policy to place a yearly fine of \$600.00, plus a \$50.00 administrative fee, as a special assessment.

Moved by Politano and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04191, authorizing special assessments against properties in violation of the clear water discharge ordinance. Resolution adopted unanimously.

The Street and Alley Committee will review the Clear Water Discharge Ordinance at the next meeting.

City Clerk/Finance Director stated the St. Mary's/Duluth Clinic project is moving forward and the former golf course clubhouse has been demolished. Bids will be received for the foundation work for the clinic building in the near future.

Mayor Luoma Gentilini reported on the following items:

- Second Avenue is open to traffic.
- Work is continuing on City Center Park and the lighted archway will be installed soon.
- A flag celebration will be held at 9:30 A.M. on November 11, 2004, at the new veterans' memorial site in honor of Veterans Day.

Moved by Peterson and supported to adjourn to 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, November 23, 2004, in the Council Chambers, City Hall. Motion carried.

CAROLYN LUOMA GENTILINI

Mayor

(CORPORATE SEAL)

LOIS ROSKOSKI

Deputy City Clerk