

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, FEBRUARY 10, 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, Mayor Luoma Gentilini – 4

Absent: Councillors Baranzelli, Politano, Peterson - 3

Councillor Raplinger removed Item 2 from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows, with the exception of Item 2.

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held January 27, 2004.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 04003.
3. Approve travel requests:
 - A. Susan Krause, Library, Arrowhead Library System Training, February 26-27, 2004, Mt. Iron, MN.
 - B. Dana Waldron, Police Chief, and Lyle Vandervort, Fire Chief, Emergency Management Association Meeting, February 12, 2004, Grand Rapids, MN.
 - C. Lois Roskoski, Clerk's Office, and Britt See, Engineering Department, State Cooperative Purchasing Venture, February 13, 2004, Duluth, MN.
 - D. Lt. O'Connor, Lt. Parenteau, Lt. M. Olivanti, Lt. J. Olivanti, Det. Krause, Det. Benz, Police Department, MN Bureau of Criminal Apprehension educational meeting, March 17, 2004, Hermantown, MN.
4. Adopt Resolutions approving Premises Permit Applications:
 - A. Resolution No. 04033 - Sexual Assault Program of North St. Louis County at the Magic Bar, 116 Chestnut Street.
 - B. Resolution No. 04034 - Chicagami at Sportspage Bar, 429 Chestnut Street.
 - C. Resolution No. 04035 - Chicagami at Wink's Place, 215 Chestnut Street.
 - D. Resolution No. 04036 - Chicagami at Queen City Sports Palace, 523 Chestnut Street.
 - E. Resolution No. 04037 - Chicagami at Popper's Bar, 120 Chestnut Street.
5. Approve Tobacco Licenses for:
 - A. Columbia Little Store, 600 3rd Avenue North.
 - B. Arrowhead Tobacco & Gourmet Coffee, 427 Chestnut Street.
6. Approve Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for the Mesabi Range College Foundation for March 20, 2004.

7. Approve Applications to Conduct Excluded Bingo for Mesabi Humane Society:
 - A. May 8, 2004.
 - B. November 6, 2004.

Motions carried and Resolutions adopted unanimously.

Regarding Item 2, Mayor Luoma Gentilini explained that a schedule of bills is included in the Council packet, which lists all the bills the City will pay upon approval.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to approve Finance Resolution No. 04003. Motion carried.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04038, accepting bid of Range Paper for the purchase of 1,200 cases of 13 gallon bags, in the amount of \$22,572.00, and 1,200 cases of 30 gallon bags, in the amount of \$19,380.00. Resolution adopted unanimously.

City Attorney Butorac placed an ordinance on the Councillors' desks amending Sections 3.01, 3.03 and 3.04 of Chapter 3 of the City Charter, which would allow Public Utilities Commissioners and Hospital Commissioners to receive a stipend of \$75.00/month. Mayor Luoma Gentilini reported that the Charter Commission unanimously rejected the proposal to compensate the Public Utilities and Hospital Commissioners.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize the Land of the Loon Committee to: 1) Hold a parade on Saturday, June 19, 2004, at 9:00 A.M.; 2) Ban parking along the parade route; and 3) Designate handicapped parking on Fifth Avenue near the High School. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize City Department Director Leoni to attend the Legislative Action Day in St. Paul, Minnesota, on February 11, 2004. Motion carried.

Councillor Lindberg reported on the Street and Alley Committee meeting held on February 3, 2004.

The Street and Alley Committee discussed the calendar parking issue and announced that the Police Department will be strictly enforcing calendar parking, in order to help with snowplowing.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize the Engineering Department to obtain bids for Phase II, City Center Park, which includes two open-aired shelter areas, playground equipment, picnic tables and miscellaneous visual improvements. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04039, accepting feasibility report and calling for a public hearing at 6:30 P.M. on February 24, 2004, for specially assessed project S.A. P. 171-209-05, C.P. 1-04, West Chestnut Street improvements from 9th Avenue to 16th Avenue. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04040, accepting quote from Infratech to repair the sanitary sewer mainline in Block 13, Williams Addition, at a cost of \$56.00 per linear foot for the fiberglass CIPP liner and \$450.00 per existing customer to reinstate services. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize the Engineering Department to send letters to the residents in Block 5, Nelson's Addition, notifying them of the cost to reconstruct the alley and the potential assessment charge. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04041, accepting quote from Braun Intertec Corporation, in an amount not to exceed \$7,300.00, for the subsurface exploration for the proposed commercial frontage road development in the Northern Heights Business Corridor. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to allow City crews to move forward with the demolition of the former Midway School building, as schedules permit. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize the Engineering Department to explore options for a new sound system for the Council Chambers, if the current adjustments do not work. The options would be presented to the Buildings and Grounds Committee. Motion carried.

Mayor Luoma Gentilini reported on the Joint Personnel/Finance Committee meeting on February 4, 2004.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to deny the leave of absence request from Mark Troendle, Reference Librarian. Motion carried.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to continue proceeding with the Public Safety Director position and move forward with developing a compensation package. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize the Finance Committee Chairperson, Personnel Committee Chairperson, City Clerk/Finance Director, City Attorney and Human Resource/Safety Coordinator to meet with the Police Chief and come to a mutually agreeable salary and benefit package for the Public Safety Director position and to set a Committee-of-the-Whole meeting at 12:00 Noon on February 18, 2004, to review the proposed package. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize a matching grant, in the amount of \$1,000.00, for signage for the Neighborhood Watch Program, with the City's portion not to come out of the General Fund. Motion carried.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04042, accepting the quote from Mesabi Sign Company for the lease of two billboard signs along Highway 53 North and South for a two year period to advertise Michael's on the Course, in the amount of \$15,400.00. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04043, accepting bids from Sun Turf, Inc., for one Cushman truckster, in the amount of \$15,297.43, and one Jacobsen HR 5111 mower, in the amount of \$39,843.78. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize City Clerk/Finance Director Lackner to explore bond refunding options and bring a recommendation to the next Finance Committee meeting. Motion carried.

Councillor Lind reported on the Liquor/Gambling Committee meeting held on February 4, 2004.

Moved by Lind and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04044, approving Premises Permit Application for the Climb Theatre, Inc., at the Park Inn, 502 Chestnut Street. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04045, approving Premises Permit Application for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society at the Fourth and Main, 402 Chestnut Street. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lind and supported to authorize the Police Chief and City Attorney to meet with a liquor establishment owner to address recent incidents and send a follow up letter after the meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Lind and supported to authorize City Attorney Butorac to brief the Liquor Committee on the liquor licensing statute at the next meeting. Motion carried.

Councillor Raplinger reported on the Insurance Committee meeting held on February 2, 2004.

The Insurance Committee reviewed the City's current insurance status and the Insurance Trust Fund. A meeting of the Insurance Advisory Committee will be held in the near future to discuss the Insurance Trust fund.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to move forward with the Insurance Advisory Committee meeting and forward with recommendation from the Insurance Committee that the trust

fund portions associated to employees or retirees be distributed appropriately to those who contributed to the fund and, then, dissolve the Insurance Advisory Trust Committee. Motion carried.

Councillor Raplinger stated he attended the Eveleth-Virginia Airport Authority meeting on February 9, 2004, and the airport is moving forward with the timber harvesting, which is important for the navigational system. Discussion was also held on whether the City of Virginia will continue to fund a portion of the health insurance for the airport manager and what the effect would be. This matter will be discussed at the next Finance Committee meeting.

Councillor Lindberg reported on the Hospital Commission meeting and stated they voted to seek an independent chief executive officer with contracted services.

City Department Director Leoni stated the City will put an advertisement in the newspaper alerting citizens that the City ordinance requires citizens to keep the sidewalks clean in front of residences and businesses and that snow cannot be disposed onto the public right-of-way.

Mayor Luoma Gentilini reported on the following items:

- Meeting will be held on February 12, 2004, with quad cities Mayors and Finance Directors to continue discussing partnering and sharing of services.
- Thanks City employees for the wonderful job they do in keeping the City streets and alleys plowed.
- Commended Officer Stromberg for his assistance in capturing a felony robbery suspect and willingness to go the extra mile on his day off.
- Thanked Lynn Rosebush, Public Utilities Finance Director, and Bill Hennis, Lead Engineer, for their extra efforts in obtaining an Department of Employment and Economic Development Grant for the former gas plant site.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adjourn to 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, February 24, 2004, in the Council Chambers, City Hall.

CAROLYN LUOMA GENTILINI

Mayor

(CORPORATE SEAL)

LOIS ROSKOSKI

Deputy City Clerk