

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, MARCH 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, Baranzelli, Lindberg, Politano, Peterson, Mayor Luoma Gentilini – 7

Absent: None

Moved by Lindberg and supported to open the public hearing to obtain input on compensating Public Utilities Commissioners and Hospital Commissioners \$75.00 per month, effective January 1, 2005. Motion carried.

City Attorney Butorac stated a change to the City Charter requires a 4/5 vote of the City Council and approval of a referendum by the public. Charlie Baribeau, citizen, voiced his opposition to compensating commissioners and the additional budgetary problems that \$10,800 of costs would create. Bill Sauve, citizen, also agreed that commissioners should not be compensated and that quality people have applied because they want to serve Virginia. Councillor Lindberg stated this is a small stipend for these two commissions, which oversee large business operations totaling \$50 million at the Hospital and \$30 million at the Public Utilities. Councillor Politano stated she received two calls opposing the proposal and she also opposes it. Councillor Raplinger asked what the legal obligation would be to pay commissioners other benefits, if the City agreed to the commissioner compensation. City Attorney Butorac stated there is no legal obligation for other benefits asked. Mayor Luoma

Gentilini stated the Charter Commission voted against compensating commissioners and she also received calls opposing the idea. Councillors Politano, Lind and Peterson also voiced opposition to the idea.

Moved by Peterson and supported to close the public hearing at 6:49 P.M.

Motion carried.

Moved by Politano and supported to deny the proposal to compensate Public Utilities Commissioners and Hospital Commissioners. Motion carried.

Councillor Raplinger removed Items 9, 10, 11 and 12 from the Consent Agenda.

Councillor Politano removed Item 14 from the Consent Agenda.

Moved by Peterson and supported to approve the Consent Agenda, as follows, with the exception of Items 9, 10, 11, 12 and 14.

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held February 24, 2004.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 04005.
3. Approve Application for Exempt Permit for Dave Salsman Memorial Chapter Ruffed Grouse Society for raffle to be held at the Park Inn on April 22, 2004.
4. Approve Application for Exempt Permit for Mesabi Range Student Advocates for Human Services for a raffle to be held on April 21, 2004.
5. Receive and file resignation from James Saranpaa from the Planning and Zoning Commission and authorize advertising for vacancy.
6. Approve request from Land of the Loon Ethnic Arts and Crafts Festival to house ambulance at Olcott Park during festival on June 19 & 20, 2004.
7. Adopt Resolution No. 04050, authorizing execution of agreement with Land of the Loon Ethnic Arts & Crafts Festival, Inc., for June 18-20, 2004.
8. Approve travel requests: for Bill Hennis, Bill Cole, Engineering Department, Mechanical and Plumbing Codes Seminar, April 21, 2004, Duluth, MN.
9. Adopt Resolution approving Premises Permit Application for the Crane Lake Voyager Sno Club, Inc., at Frank's Bar.
10. Adopt Resolution approving Premises Permit Application for the Crane Lake Voyager Sno Club, Inc., at Flaimer's Bar.
11. Adopt Resolution approving Premises Permit Application for the Crane Lake Voyager Sno Club, Inc., at Royal Bar.
12. Adopt Resolution approving Premises Permit Application for the Crane Lake Voyager Sno Club, Inc., at Oaky's Arrowhead Bar.
13. Adopt Resolution No. 04051, instructing District Judge to appoint two Charter Commission members.

14. Approve Temporary Liquor License for Sportspage for “Business After Hours” at Edgewood Vista on March 24, 2004.
15. Approve travel request for Nancy Maxwell, Library, Northeast MN Book Awards, March 12th or 15th, 2004, Duluth, MN

Motions carried and Resolutions adopted.

Regarding Items 9, 10, 11, 12, City Attorney Butorac explained that a charitable gambling organization can have more than one premise permit.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to adopt the following Resolutions regarding Items 9, 10, 11 and 12:

Resolution No. 04052 - Approving Premises Permit Application for the Crane Lake Voyageur Sno Club, Inc., at Frank’s Bar.

Resolution No. 04053 - Approving Premises Permit Application for the Crane Lake Voyageur Sno Club, Inc., at Flaimer’s Bar.

Resolution No. 04054 - Approving Premises Permit Application for the Crane Lake Voyageur Sno Club, Inc., at Royal Bar.

Resolution No. 04055 - Approving Premises Permit Application for the Crane Lake Voyageur Sno Club, Inc., at Oaky’s Arrowhead Bar.

Resolutions adopted unanimously.

Regarding Item 14, Councillor Politano questioned why the Edgewood Vista would need a temporary liquor license. Councillor Peterson stated the Edgewood Vista requested a temporary liquor license to hold the “Business After Hours” on March 24, 2004, and the Sportspage will provide the liquor.

Moved by Politano and supported to approve a Temporary Liquor License for the Edgewood Vista to hold the “Business After Hours” on March 24, 2004. Motion carried, with Councillor Peterson abstaining.

Jerry Pietrini Jr., 520 Bourgin Road, was present to discuss his request for a variance to build a 2,400 sq. ft. garage. The Planning and Zoning Commission approved a 2,000 sq. ft. garage and Mr. Pietrini requested that the City Council override the decision of the

Planning and Zoning Commission. Bruce Kniivala, Planning and Zoning Commissioner, discussed the Planning and Zoning Commission's concerns.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to refer the variance request from Jerry Pietrini Jr., 520 Bourgin Road, for a variance for a 2,400 sq. ft. garage back to the Planning and Zoning Commission for further consideration. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to approve the following variance requests for Pomp's Tire, 115 14th Avenue West, as approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission on March 1, 2004:

1. 8 sq. ft. variance from the maximum allowed 64 sq. ft. of signage, in order to build a 4' x 18' (72 sq. ft.) sign.
2. 5' variance from the maximum signage height of 25' to construct a pedestal sign 30' in height.

Motion carried.

Moved by Peterson and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04056, opposing tax and expenditure limitation proposals. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Peterson and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04057, authorizing the Fire Department to submit an application to the Department of Homeland Security (FEMA) for a 2004 Homeland Security Grant. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Peterson and supported to approve the request from the Urban Edge to hold a "Marty Party" on March 24, 2004, to clean up the streets and to authorize the Public

Works Department to provide garbage bags, brooms, and crews to pick up the filled garbage bags. Motion carried.

Mayor Luoma Gentilini reviewed the Committee of the Whole meeting held on March 1, 2004, to discuss the ambulance issue. A letter will be send to the surrounding areas, which the City of Virginia currently services, to request their financial assistance and to invite them to attend the next meeting on March 23, 2004, at 4:45 P.M.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to send a letter to the surrounding areas that the City of Virginia currently services with the ambulance and invite them to attend a meeting at 4:45 P.M. on March 23, 2004. Motion carried.

Councillor Politano reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on March 2, 2004.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04058, appointing Springsted, Inc., as the City of Virginia's public finance advisor for any bonds in the year 2004 and allow Northland Securities to be the underwriter. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Peterson and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04059, approving the refinancing of certain City G.O. Housing bonds (Washington Manor). Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Politano and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04060, approving the refinancing of certain City G.O. Bonds (Golf Clubhouse/Northern Heights). Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Politano and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04061, approving the refinancing of certain Housing Authority development bonds (Alpine Village). Resolution

adopted unanimously. These bonds being refunded are City of Virginia, Unlimited General Obligation Series 1995 Bonds.

Moved by Politano and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04062, accepting proposal from Crabtree Companies, Inc., for LaserFiche Document Imaging equipment and software for the Police Department and City offices, in the amount of \$46,037.00 plus sales tax. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Politano and supported to approve the donation of two 18-hole golf passes and two \$25.00 gift certificates for Michael's on the Course for the Chicagami Caring Cups Fundraiser on March 11, 2004. Motion carried.

Moved by Politano and supported to adopt Resolution No. 04063, approving Professional Services Agreement with Mike Checco for the operation of the City of Virginia Golf Course clubhouse full service bar/restaurant, for the period April 1, 2004, through March 31, 2005. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Lindberg reported on the Street and Alley Committee meeting held on March 8, 2004.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to allow C.P. 2-03, Second Avenue Turnback Project, to move forward, as outlined in the following phases of construction. Segment One - 3rd Street North to East Waschke Entrance (Completed); Segment Two – VRMC East Entrance to Hoover Road; Segment Three – Sixth Avenue to VRMC East Entrance; Segment Four – Third Street North to Second Avenue Loop. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to refer the request for \$200,000 for the 2004 Overlay Program to the Finance Committee and to approve the 2004 Overlay Project List, as prioritized by the Street and Alley Committee. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to approve changing the signs on Chestnut Street from “No Parking from 2:00 A.M. to 6:00 A.M.” to “No Parking from 3:00 A.M. to 6:00 A.M.” Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to accept the recommendation from the Public Works Department to leave the manhole “as is” at 629 13th Street South. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to send a letter to the Heart of Virginia requesting them to explore the idea of beginning an “Adopt-a-Garbage Can” Program for the garbage cans on Chestnut Street. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to refer the request to the Public Safety Committee to move the handicapped parking space in front of Chestnut Collision. Motion carried.

Mayor Luoma Gentilini reported on the following items:

- Marquette School Fifth Grade class visited City Hall on March 4, 2004, and were very impressed.
- Participated in the mock job interviews with Virginia High School students on March 8, 2004.

See 2004 Resolution Book for Resolution Nos. 04050 – 04063 and Finance Resolution No. 04005.

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

CAROLYN LUOMA GENTILINI

Mayor

(CORPORATE SEAL)

RONALD LACKNER

City Clerk/Finance Director