

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, MAY 26, 2009

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

Roll Call:

Present: Councillors Baribeau, Littlewolf, Ralston, Lindberg, Damm, Russo, Mayor Peterson - 7

Absent: None

Mayor Peterson led the City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Moved by Ralston and supported to open the public hearing on C.P. 1-09, Reconstruction of 6th Avenue West from 8th Street South to 13th Street South. Motion carried.

Greg Baughman, 11th Street South/6th Avenue, asked the following questions: 1) Does the project include sidewalks? 2) Will he be charged two assessments if 11th Street South is overlaid in the future? 3) Will residents be left with access to their homes during the project? 4) Did the City take into account the possible plans to have Highway 53 exit onto 6th Avenue? Councillor Baribeau replied to Mr. Baughman's questions: 1) All current sidewalks will be replaced. 2) The special assessment policy includes a reduction in the total assessment when two projects are done within a five year period. 3) Contractor will leave access to homes, if possible, and Police Department will be lenient with ticketing during the construction. 4) Funding is not available from the State to install a new exit off Highway 53. Councillor Baribeau stated that a street reconstruction is expected to last 20 to 25 years.

James Hoffman, 8th Street South/6th Avenue, stated the assessment is not fair, as he lives on a corner and is still paying for the 8th Street South reconstruction that included new curbs and gutters in front of his home on 6th Avenue. Mayor Peterson stated Mr. Hoffman's concern will be noted and taken into consideration during the final assessment hearing.

Tom Cyr, 12th Street South, asked if the contractor will repair the alley that is heaved, due to the steam line. Councillor Baribeau stated he will notify the Engineering Department of the problem.

John Wade, 6th Avenue/9th Street, asked if the project will affect his property taxes and if stop signs could be placed on 6th Avenue at 9th, 10th or 11th Street South. Mayor Peterson stated the project will not increase the value of the property. Councillor Baribeau replied that no additional stop signs will be placed on 6th Avenue, as it is a designated truck route. Mr. Wade asked if his gravel alley could be paved. Councillor Baribeau stated alleys are done if the residents petition for the project. The alley policy will be reviewed by the Street/Alley Committee later this year.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to close the public hearing. Motion carried.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt Resolution No. 09077, ordering improvements, C.P. 1-09, Reconstruction of Sixth Avenue West from 13th Street South to 8th Street South. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Mayor Peterson reviewed the communication from Bill Hennis, Lead Engineer, recommending awarding the contract to Ulland Brothers, the low bidder, for C.P. 1-09 and stated the low bid was approximately \$200,000 less than the Engineer's projection.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt Resolution No. 09078, accepting the bid from Ulland Brothers, Inc., in the amount of \$998,000.00, for the reconstruction of 6th Avenue West, from 13th Street South to 8th Street South. Resolution adopted unanimously.

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held May 12, 2009, and Special Meeting held on May 19, 2009.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 09010 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve Transient Merchant's Licenses:
 - A. Ofelia Jonas, d/b/a First Pilipina Food Stand.
 - B. Northland Variety.
4. Approve travel requests:
 - A. William Hennis, Engineering Department, Asbestos Training, July 13 & 14, 2009, Eagan, MN.
 - B. Cheryl Weappa, Assessor's Office, Mass Appraisal Basics, August 16 - 21, 2009, St. Cloud, MN.

Motions carried and resolutions adopted unanimously.

Mayor Peterson stated the City Council previously accepted the quote from All American Poly, but they could not meet the specifications for the 13 gallon garbage bags. Councillor Baribeau recommended purchasing 640 cases of blue bags, due to the current financial condition.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adopt Resolution No. 09079, accepting the quote from Range Paper for the purchase of 13-gallon garbage bags, with drawstrings, and canceling the order with All American Poly, as they did not meet the bid specifications. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Mayor Peterson reviewed the communication from Bill Hennis, Lead Engineer, recommending approval of Change Order No. 1 to increase the contract with Construction Services, Inc., by \$14,973.10, for C.P. 3-08, Seppi Demolition Site, for additional costs incurred to dispose of tires and on-site chemical testing. Councillor Baribeau stated the total cost of the demolition project is \$104,873.10. City Operations Director Tourville stated the demolition must be completed by June 1st, with the site graded and turned over to the City by June 15th.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to adopt Resolution No. 09080, approving Change Order No. 1, increasing the contract with Construction Services, Inc., by \$14,973.01, for C.P. 3-08, Seppi Site Demolition. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to approve the request from the Land of the Loon Committee to hold a parade on Saturday, June 20, 2009, beginning at 9:00 A.M., to ban parking on Chestnut Street from 7:00 A.M. until after the parade and to designate handicapped parking on Fifth Avenue by the High School. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported to adopt Resolution No. 09081, authorizing execution of an agreement with the Land of the Loon Ethnic Arts & Crafts Festival, Inc. for the use of Olcott Park from June 19, 2009, through June 21, 2009. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to approve the request from the Virginia Liquor Association to hold a street dance from 7:00 P.M. until 11:30 P.M. on Saturday, June 20, 2009, and to block off the 100, 200, 300 and 400 blocks of Chestnut Street. Motion carried.

Councillor Lindberg reported on the Finance Committee meeting held as a Committee-of-the-Whole on May 19, 2009.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize Councillors Lindberg and Russo to meet with Housing and Redevelopment Authority staff to discuss options to increase the occupancy at the Washington Manor. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to increase the credit card limit for City Operations Director Tourville to \$5,000 and to furnish Terry Hartikka, Public Access Programmer, with a credit card with a \$1,500 credit limit. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize the Finance Director to reinvest the monies received from the maturity of two certificates of deposits into a short term certificate of deposit. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize overtime for the street dance to be held on June 20, 2009, contingent upon the Police Chief approving the parameters of the street dance. Motion carried.

Councillor Lindberg thanked the cemetery staff for the assistance and support provided to his relative during a recent visit.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to allow Northeast Technical Services to proceed with testing of the mercury removal equipment from Blue Water Technology at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and to authorize additional testing, above the monthly contract, in an amount not to exceed \$3,000. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the blighted condition and safety concerns with the property located at 602 12th Street North.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to request the City Attorney to send a certified letter to the owner of the property at 602 12th Street North requesting them to clean up the blight on the property within ten days, or the City will clean it up and assess them for the work. Motion carried.

Councillor Ralston requested that the Blight Officer expand the list of blighted property for review at the next Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting.

Councillor Russo recommended the appointment of James Johnson to the Eveleth/Virginia Airport Commission.

Moved by Russo and supported to appoint James Johnson to the Eveleth/Virginia Airport Authority to fill the unexpired term ending January 1, 2012. Motion carried.

City Operations Director Tourville thanked Representative Rukavina for his work in obtaining \$500,000 in funding for renovations to the Miners Memorial Building.

Mayor Peterson encouraged residents to attend the Memorial Day services in the future. Mayor Peterson stated the monuments at the cemetery need to be leveled and recommended that the local service organizations help with the project.

See 2009 Resolution Book for Resolution Nos. 09077 – 09081 and Finance Resolution No. 09010.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adjourn to 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, June 9, 2009, in the Council Chambers, City Hall. Motion carried.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

LOIS ROSKOSKI
City Clerk

STEVE PETERSON
Mayor

