

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, FEBRUARY 8, 2005

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, Mayor Luoma Gentilini - 6
Absent: Councillor Peterson - 1

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held January 25, 2005.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 05003.
3. Approve travel requests:
 - A. Bill Hennis, Bill Cole, Engineering Department, Arrowhead Chapter Meeting, Hermantown, MN, second Friday of every other month beginning February 11, 2005.
4. Approve Secondhand Good Dealers License for Consigning Women, 103 East Chestnut Street.
5. Approve Adult Service Establishment License for Mesabi Therapeutic Massage, 310 2nd Avenue South.
6. Approve Application for Exempt Permit for Laurentian Longbeards Chapter of National Wild Turkey Federation for raffle to be held at the Park Inn.
7. Approve renewal of Taxi License for Ralph Ainsworth, d/b/a C & M Taxi.
8. Recommendations from Planning and Zoning Commission regarding variance for Mark Drobac, 602 16TH Street North:
 - A. Deny 15' variance from required 20' front yard setback in order to construct an accessory building 5' from the front property line (16th Street North).
 - B. Deny 15' variance from required 20' setback from City right-of-way in order to construct an accessory building 5' from the East property line (6th Avenue).
 - C. Approve 10' variance from required 20' front yard setback in order to construct an accessory building 10' from the front property line (16th Street North).

Motions carried unanimously.

An Ordinance Licensing Massage Therapy Establishments was placed on the Councillors' desks. Councillor Raplinger requested the City Attorney to send copies of the proposed ordinance to the massage therapy establishments for input prior to approving the ordinance on February 23, 2005.

Councillor Lindberg reported on the Street/Alley Committee meeting held on January 31, 2005.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to proceed with the upgrading 16th Avenue West, with the City of Virginia paying 55% of the project and the City of Mt. Iron paying 45%, contingent upon approval by the Mt. Iron City Council. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize the City Attorney to draft an agreement with Northern State Bank to occupy City right-of-way for a new drive up window at their Ridgewood Branch, including snow removal. The Street/Alley Committee will review the proposed agreement, along with the traffic agreement between Northern State Bank and Super One, prior to final approval by the City Council. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to request the Public Safety Director to enforce the ticketing and towing of vehicles parked on City right-of-way. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to post the East side of 6th Avenue, from Chestnut Street to 3rd Street North, as “No Parking” from November 1st through April 15th. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize the Engineering Department to hold public hearings in the Spring of 2005 to spread special assessments for completed improvement projects. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to refer the warranty for the two-inch water copper services for the 9th Avenue West project to the Street and Alley Committee. Motion carried.

Mayor Luoma Gentilini reported on the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on February 1, 2005.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to reappoint Jackie Park to the Public Utilities Commission for a three year term ending February 1, 2008. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to resolve the grievance from the Police Union regarding payment for short-term and long-term disability by approving payment to the police officer for the difference in pay. Motion carried.

Moved by Politano and supported to approve increasing the receptionist position salary by \$1.00 per hour, effective February 1, 2005, and to authorize the Human Resource/Safety Director to expand the job description with the additional duties. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to direct the Human Resource/Safety Coordinator, City Operation Director and AFSCME Staff Representative to prepare a job description for a full-time parking meter monitor/skilled labor position and request the City Clerk/Finance Director to compile figures for a full-time and part-time position and an estimate on the funds that are recouped by parking fines. Motion carried.

Moved by Politano and supported to post for three seasonal positions for the Park Department. Motion carried.

Moved by Politano and supported to post “No Parking” signage on the west side of 9th Avenue North from 9th Street North to 30’ north of the southerly entrance into the Hospital off 9th Avenue. Motion carried.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to reduce the Park/Recreation Commission to five members. Motion carried.

Moved by Politano and supported to authorize the AFSCME union to set up a specific time frame in 2005 for Frank Judnick to utilize 79 hours of vacation time from 2004. Motion carried.

Mayor Luoma Gentilini reported that the Public Utilities has determined a savings of \$240,000 by operating the entire system with the #1 turbine for the summer months. The Public Utilities is planning to begin the biomass production on January 1, 2007.

Moved by Politano and supported to adopt Resolution No. 05033, authorizing the approval for an Iron Range Resources \$4,000,000 Loan for the Joint Biomass Project with the Hibbing Public Utilities Commission. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Baranzelli reported that Independent School District No. 706 will be reimbursing the City of Virginia \$25 per student, or a minimum of \$3,000, for the DARE officer.

City Clerk/Finance Director Lackner reviewed the Project Labor Agreement with the Iron Range Building & Construction Trades Council AFL-CIO for the 2004 Medical Facilities Redevelopment Project.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adopt Resolution No. 05034, approving “No Strike-No Lockout Public Sector Project Labor Agreement” with the Iron Range Building & Construction Trades Council AFL-CIO for all construction for the 2004 Medical Facilities Redevelopment Project. Resolution adopted unanimously.

City Clerk/Finance Director Lackner stated the City must set the sale for \$2,455,000 General Obligation Public Improvement and Refunding Bonds. \$1,640,000 will be used to fund the parking, infrastructure and fifty-percent of the subterranean concourse for the 2004 Medical Facilities Redevelopment Project, with the remaining \$815,000 used to refund the 1997A bonds issued for funding the relocation of the golf course and the new Northern Heights housing project.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adopt Resolution No. 05035, providing for the issuance and sale of approximately \$2,455,000 Public Improvement and Refunding Bonds, Series 2005A. Resolution adopted unanimously.

City Operations Director Tourville requested approval to join Medical Alley, a non-profit trade association established to support Minnesota's health care industry.

Moved by Politano and support to authorize payment of the membership dues, in the amount of \$700 per year, to join Medical Alley for the year 2005. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adjourn to 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, February 22, 2005, in the Council Chambers, City Hall. Motion carried.

CAROLYN LUOMA GENTILINI
Mayor

(CORPORATE SEAL)

LOIS ROSKOSKI
Deputy City Clerk