

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, MAY 8, 2007

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, Damm, Peterson, Mayor Luoma
Gentilini – 7

Absent: None

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held April 24, 2007, and Special Meeting held April 30, 2007.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 07009 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve Off-Sale Beer License for Erickson Oil Products, Inc., d/b/a Freedom Valu Center, 202 8th Street South.
4. Authorize Memorial Blood Center to use four parking spaces in the Northland Office Center parking lot from 7:30 A.M. to 12:00 Noon on Tuesday, June 5, 2007, for blood drive.
5. Approve Transient Merchants License for TNT Fireworks.
6. Approve variances, as recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission at a meeting held on Monday, May 7, 2007:
 - A. James Richards – 1202 19th Street South
 1. Approve a 12' variance from required 20' setback in order to build a fence 8' from City right-of-way (12th Avenue West).
 2. Approve a 4' height variance from the maximum allowed 2' fence height on a corner lot in order to construct a 6' high fence.
 - B. St. Louis County – 307 1st Street South
 1. Approve a 0' setback from the required 20' front yard setback in order to construct a ramp and stairway on the front of the Northland Office Center.

Motions carried and Finance Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Peterson and supported to adopt Resolution No. 07078, accepting bid from SEH Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$6,250.00, for plans, specifications and construction management for C.P. 2-07, 2007 Bituminous Overlay Program. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Mayor Gentilini reviewed the letter from the City of Chisholm requesting that the Iron Range Resources Board reestablish the residential and commercial building demolition program. Councillor Peterson requested that Virginia's resolution include the hardships that Virginia has incurred.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to waive the requirement for a written resolution for the following motion. Motion carried.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to adopt Resolution No. 07079, requesting the Iron Range Resources Board to reestablish the residential and commercial demolition program. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Baranzelli reported on the Public Safety Committee meeting held on April 25, 2007.

Moved by Baranzelli and supported to authorize the Public Works Department to add "No Swimming" signage on all the docks on Silver Lake and Bailey's Lake. Motion carried.

Moved by Baranzelli and supported to request the City Attorney to explore the options and policy regarding the Police Department canine drug unit and make a recommendation to the Public Safety Committee. Motion carried.

Moved by Baranzelli and supported to enforce the current ordinance regarding parking in the alleys, which allows commercial vehicles to park for up to twenty minutes. Councillor Peterson stated the City has not considered all the options for residents that live on Chestnut Street and recommended inviting the residents to a Public Safety Committee meeting for input. Councillor Peterson also requested that the parking on Chestnut Street from 2 A.M. to 6 A.M. be readdressed. Councillor Raplinger stated the Police Department should not be enforcing the current ordinance until a decision is made.

Moved by Lind and supported to table the motion regarding parking in alleys and refer the issue back to the Public Safety Committee and to invite the owners of Chestnut Streets properties to the meeting for input. Motion carried.

Councillor Baranzelli stated the Public Safety Committee will be meeting on May 16, 2007, to discuss the snowmobile and all-terrain vehicle concerns and will also review the current ordinance.

Moved by Baranzelli and supported to authorize the following: 1) Councillor Baranzelli, Lead Engineer Hennis and Fairview Addition representative will explore options on blocking undesignated trails along the entire snowmobile trail and additional signage options within the next two weeks; 2) Mayor and City Attorney will work on series of articles for the newspaper and public access station to inform the public on the rules and regulations of snowmobiles and all terrain vehicles; 3) Police Chief will send letter and map to the local snowmobile clubs reminding them of the designated snowmobile trail. Motion carried.

Councillor Lind reported on the Finance Committee meeting held on May 1, 2007.

Moved by Lind and supported to authorize City staff to negotiate with Chesley and Sons, Inc., to prepare a contract for tuckpointing the Washington Manor in phases and bring a recommendation to a future Finance Committee meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Lind and supported to notify the Lamar Company that the lease for three billboards at 604 North 6th Avenue will be discontinued as of July 15, 2007 and request them to remove the billboards. Motion carried.

Moved by Lind and supported to donate \$250.00 to the Iron Range Youth in Action for their Operations Home Delivery Program. Motion carried.

Moved by Lind and supported to adopt Resolution No. 07080, approving Change Order No. 1, increasing the contract of Mesabi Bituminous, Inc., by the amount of \$32,483.00, for C.P. 4-05, Tennis Court Construction Project. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lind and supported to adopt Resolution No. 07081, approving Change Order No. 2, increasing the contract of H. G. Harvey Constructors, Inc., by the amount of \$5,370.00, for C.P. 11-06, Tennis for All Building. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lind and supported to adopt Resolution No. 07082, approving purchase of signboard from LiteSys, Inc., in the amount of \$12,269.75, plus tax. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Councillor Raplinger recommended that the motion to approve Christmas decorations be changed to seasonal decorations.

Moved by Lind and supported authorize the Public Works Department to proceed with the upgrade of Christmas decorations for 2007, at a cost not to exceed \$5,000.00.

Ayes: Councillors Lind, Baranzelli, Lindberg, Damm, Peterson, Mayor Luoma Gentilini - 6

Nays: Councillor Raplinger – 1

Motion carried.

Moved by Lind and supported to authorize City staff to negotiate with Tony Nigro for the purchase of the property at 401 6th Avenue North and bring a recommendation to the Finance Committee. Motion carried.

Moved by Lind and supported to authorize Benchmark Engineering to prepare the plans and specifications to replace the six outdoor tennis courts at Southside Park in 2008. Motion carried.

Moved by Lind and supported to adopt Resolution No. 07083, accepting quote from Bobcat of Duluth, Inc., in the total amount of \$7,881.00, to purchase a trencher, pallet forks and post driver for the Bobcat for the Park/Recreation Department. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lind and supported to adopt Resolution No. 07084, accepting the quote from United Rentals, in the amount of \$23,158.45, less trade-in, for the purchase of a Genie 3246 Scissor Lift for the Park/Recreation Department. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lind and supported to adopt Resolution No. 07085, accepting the quote of Koolmo Construction, in the amount of \$18,300.00, to install the playground equipment at the Midway Park. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lind and supported to accept the quote from Jamar, in the amount of \$4,325.00, to replace the greenhouse entrance roof. Motion carried.

Councillor Lind stated the Finance Committee will review the 2007 budget and capital purchases in the near future.

Councillor Peterson reported on the Buildings/Grounds Committee meeting held on May 1, 2007.

City Attorney Butorac will schedule a meeting with the City's insurance adjuster, Public Utilities representative and the homeowner to discuss the claim for damages from a water main break at 1505 10th Street South.

Moved by Peterson and supported to accept the proposal from Anthony Nigro to purchase Lot 1, Block 2, Northern Heights Addition, for \$1.00, with the resolution adopted at the May 22, 2007, meeting. Motion carried.

Moved by Peterson and supported to accept the proposal from Rocci Lucarelli to purchase Lot 3, Block 2, Northern Heights Addition, for \$1.00, with the resolution adopted at the May 22, 2007, meeting. Motion carried.

City Attorney stated the owner of the burned building located in the 500 block of 13th Street North has notified the City they will not be rebuilding at this time, but will be filling in the basement.

Moved by Peterson and supported to request that the City Attorney set up a meeting with Tom Schlotec to discuss the plans for Lot 16, Block 1, Fairview Second Addition, as the covenant requirements have not been met. Motion carried.

Councillor Raplinger reported on the Personnel Committee meeting held on May 1, 2007.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to authorize City staff to prepare job descriptions and determine salaries for the Information and Technology Specialist Level I and Level III positions for inclusion in the new AFSCME contract. Motion carried.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to have City Operations Director Tourville and City Clerk/Finance Director Lackner review various financial software and reporting features and bring a proposal to the Finance Committee within 90 days. Motion carried.

Councillor Baranzelli thanked the Public Works Department for the excellent job in installing the guardrail in the Northland Office Center parking lot.

City Clerk/Finance Lackner stated the draft audit report should be available by the last week in May and his staff continues to work on grant reporting. City Clerk/Finance Director Lackner reviewed the manual checks that were issued prior to the City Council meeting and stated he will review the outstanding contracts for the St. Mary's/Duluth Clinic project at the next Finance Committee meeting.

City Operations Director Tourville recommended submitting a Community Development Block Grant pre-application for funds to tuckpoint the Washington Manor.

Moved by Raplinger and supported to authorize the City Operations Director to submit a pre-application for a Community Development Block Grant for the tuckpointing project for the Washington Manor. Motion carried.

City Operations Director Tourville stated Lake Country Power has shown interest in relocating to the development north of the golf course and recommended inviting them to a meeting to discuss their plans.

Moved by Lind and supported to set a Committee-of-the-Whole meeting for 10:00 A.M. on May 15, 2007, to discuss the relocation of Lake Country Power. Motion carried.

City Attorney Butorac stated he has been meeting with the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency regarding the proposed housing development project and they are considering the area on First Avenue North if the Southside Park location does not work out.

Mayor Luoma Gentilini reported on the following items:

- Reviewed letter from Wells Fargo thanking Police Chief Waldron and the Virginia Police Department for their response to the burglary incident.
- Attended 29th Annual Meeting of the Virginia Area Historical Society on April 27, 2007.
- Ceremony was held on May 7, 2007, to open the time capsule from the Horace Mann School.
- Invited the City Council and City staff to meet with twenty-five students from the St. Paul Jewish School that will be visiting the B’Nai Synagogue on May 10, 2007, from 12:30 P.M. to 3:00 P.M.
- Congratulated the Virginia Study Club on celebrating their 100th anniversary.

See 2007 Resolution Book for Resolution Nos. 07078 – 07085 and Finance Resolution No. 07009.

Moved by Baranzelli and supported to adjourn until 6:30 P.M. on Tuesday, May 22, 2007, in the Council Chambers, City Hall. Motion carried.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

CAROLYN LUOMA GENTILINI
Mayor

LOIS ROSKOSKI
Deputy City Clerk

