

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

CITY OF VIRGINIA, MINNESOTA, MAY 13, 2008

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

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

1. Approval/correction of minutes of Regular Meeting held April 22, 2008, and May 6, 2008.
2. Adoption of Finance Resolution No. 08009 – Schedule of Bills.
3. Approve variances, as recommended by the Planning and Zoning Commission at their meeting held on May 5, 2008:
 - A. Richard Trunzo– 1432 10th Street South:
 1. A 64 sq. ft. variance to the maximum allowed 1000 sq. ft of accessory structure in order to construct a 392 sq. ft. addition onto the existing garage.
 2. A 1.8’ variance from the required 5’ side yard setback in order construct an addition to the existing garage 3.2’ from the East property line.
 3. A 14’ variance from the required 20’ setback from City right-of-way in order to construct an addition onto the existing garage 6’ from the West property line.
 4. A 334 sq. ft. variance from the maximum allowed 30% rear yard coverage (730 sq. ft.)
 - B. Nelson Collie Electric – 621 9th Street North:
 1. A 25’ variance from the minimum allowed lot size of 50’ in a B-1 district in order to construct a business on a non-conforming lot.
 2. A 30’ variance from the required 30’ front yard setback from City right of way in order to construct a building on the South property line.
 3. A 9’ variance from the required 15’ side yard setback in order to construct a building 6’ from the East property line.
 4. A 9’ variance from the required 15’ side yard setback in order to construct a building 6’ from the West property line.
4. Approve travel requests:
 - A. Dennis Benz, Police Department, Drug Enforcement Training, May 21-23, 2008, Nisswa, MN.
 - B. Chad Nickila, Police Department, Science Based Drug Education, June 16-20, 2008, St. Paul, MN.
5. Adopt Resolutions to approve the following Premises Permit Applications:
 - A. Resolution No. 08090 - Elks Lodge 1003 at the Elks Lodge, 220 5th Avenue North.
 - B. Resolution No. 08091 - American Legion Post 239 at Flaimer’s Bar, 127 Chestnut Street.

- C. Resolution No. 08092 - American Legion Post 239 at the Arrowhead Bar, 412 Chestnut Street.
- D. Resolution No. 08093 - American Legion Post 239 at the American Legion, 227-229 Chestnut Street.

Motion carried and Resolutions adopted unanimously.

City Attorney Butorac placed a draft of an Ordinance amending Chapter 10, Sec. 10.11, Subds. 2, 6, 12 and 19 of the City Code of the City of Virginia entitled “Animal Licensing and Regulation”. The changes to the animal ordinance will be discussed at a committee meeting and a member of the Dog Park Committee will be invited for input.

Moved by Russo and supported to place an Ordinance amending Chapter 10, Sec. 10.11, Subds. 2, 6, 12 and 19 of the City Code of the City of Virginia entitled “Animal Licensing and Regulation” on the Councillors’ desks. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize the City Council and administrative staff to attend the League of Minnesota Cities 2008 Annual Conference to be held June 11-13, 2008, in Rochester, Minnesota. Motion carried.

Mayor Peterson stated the Virginia City Band will be performing at 7:00 P.M. on June 26th and July 1st, 10th, 17th and 24th in Olcott Park. In case of rain, the concerts would be held at the Mesabi Range College.

Mayor Peterson recommended the appointment of Jennifer Pontinen to the Virginia Economic Development Authority to fill the unexpired term of Bill Larson, who recently resigned.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to appoint Jennifer Pontinen to the Virginia Economic Development Authority for the unexpired term ending December 31, 2011. Motion carried.

Councillor Lindberg reported on the finance issues discussed at the Committee-of-the-Whole Meeting held on May 6, 2008.

Bob Prittinen, Quad Cities Tennis For All Advisory Board, gave an update on the use of the tennis facility and expressed his gratitude to the City for their assistance with the tennis facility. Mr. Prittinen stated the board will be reviewing the fee schedules and making some adjustments and recommended the increased contract amount for Renee Galaski, Tennis Manager, as she is working more hours than anticipated.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adopt Resolution No. 08094, approving amendment to Professional Service Agreement with Renee Galaski for the Tennis Manager position. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to support the recommendations from the Lakes Beautification Committee, including signage, disposal stations and weed harvesting, for the annual clean up for Bailey's Lake and Silver Lake. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to request the City Operations Director to obtain the questions from each department head and Finance Department regarding the Caselle software and to request Britt See-Benes to obtain the answers for the Finance Committee meeting to be held on June 3, 2008. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to approve an additional contribution, in the amount of \$5,000, to the Laurentian Chamber of Commerce for the Mineview in the Sky Visitor's Center and to request the other quad cities to share in the additional contribution, as the Visitor's Center promotes all the quad cities. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adopt Resolution No. 08095, accepting bid from Hibbing Excavation, Inc., in the total amount of \$1,610,487.79, for the base bids for C.P. 1-08, Reconstruction of 6th Avenue South from 3rd Street South to 8th Street, and C.P. 2-08, Southside Tennis Court Reconstruction. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to request the City Clerk/Finance Director to obtain pricing for the Fourth of July fireworks for the Finance Committee meeting to be held on May 20, 2008. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to authorize the Park/Recreation Director to explore the value of the portable basketball floor and to allow the group interested in exploring other options a few months to obtain additional information. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to set up a meeting with the Great Virginia Get-Together Committee on May 20, 2008, to discuss their needs and expectations from the City of Virginia. Motion carried.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to deny the request for residential parking in the 1300 block of 5th Avenue South and to send a letter notifying the residents of the City's plan to install an additional parking area at the Southside Park for the tennis facility. Motion carried.

Councillor Lindberg thanked the Southside Park residents for cleaning up the park area.

Councillor Ralston reported on the Buildings/Grounds items discussed during the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on May 6, 2008.

Moved by Ralston and supported to request RLK Engineering, Inc., to review the current drainage issues for Phases I, II and III, Fairview Addition, and make a recommendation on the redesign of the drainage plan and to review and identify changes or variances to the original design. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported to accept the concept floor plan for the Miners Memorial Building, as submitted by Damberg, Scott, Gerzina, Wagner Architects, contingent upon the elevator location being corrected on the blueprint. Motion carried.

Moved by Ralston and supported to adopt Resolution No. 08096, conveying State tax forfeited land to the Eveleth-Virginia Airport Authority for the runway extension, contingent upon approval by the City of Eveleth. Resolution adopted unanimously.

Moved by Ralston and supported to authorize the City Operations Director to submit a grant application to the Iron Range Resources for an infrastructure grant for the Idea Drilling project. Motion carried.

Councillor Russo reported on the personnel items discussed at the Committee-of-the-Whole meeting held on May 6, 2008:

Moved by Russo and supported to approve the revised job description for the Library Clerk, as submitted by the Human Resources/Safety Director. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported to post and fill the Library Clerk position on a temporary basis and, during the 67 day probationary period, request the Human Resources/Safety Director and Library Director to obtain information from other libraries with similar circulation regarding the number of employees, job descriptions and hours of operation, in order to determine if the position should be permanent. Motion carried.

Moved by Russo and supported to request the Human Resources/Safety Director to review the job descriptions, job duties and employee performance for the Park/Recreation Department and to provide copies of the job evaluation policy to the City Council. Motion carried.

Councillor Baribeau reported on the Fire Labor Management Committee meeting held on April 15, 2008, and stated the call volume has increased 12% for 2008 and 32% since 2006. Councillor Baribeau stated the hospital may be approving the purchase of a fourth ambulance and requested that the Finance Committee review the costs to staff a fourth ambulance.

Councillor Littlewolf stated the Human Rights Commission held their annual regional meeting in Grand Rapids this year.

Moved by Baribeau and supported to request the Street/Alley Committee to discuss the trash receptacles and containers for smokers on Chestnut Street. Motion carried.

See 2008 Resolution Book for Resolution Nos. 08090 – 08096 and Finance Resolution No. 08009.

Moved by Lindberg and supported to adjourn to 6:30 P.M., Tuesday, May 27, 2008, in the Council Chambers, City Hall. Motion carried.

(CORPORATE SEAL)

STEVE PETERSON
Mayor

LOIS ROSKOSKI
Deputy City Clerk