

# **CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

## **BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA**

### **Regular Meeting – May 19, 2008**

Pursuant to due call and notice, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Monday, May 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Mayor Lehmann presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Lehmann, Johnson, Erickson, Downs, Meuers, Markeson, Hellquist

Staff Present: City Manager John Chattin, City Attorney Alan Felix, City Engineer Craig Gray, Finance Director Ron Eischens, City Clerk Kay Murphy

#### **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

Mayor Lehmann called for any amendments to the agenda. Motion by Johnson, seconded by Meuers, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the May 5, 2008 regular meeting, May 5 BEDA meeting, and May 6, 2008 board of review were presented for approval. Motion by Erickson, seconded by Downs, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for approval. Motion by Downs, seconded by Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:

1. Approved Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$1,077,837.61
2. Approved miscellaneous business licenses
3. Approved Temporary Beer License – Bemidji Jaycees – July 6, 2008
4. Approved 1-4 day Temporary On-sale Liquor Licenses:
  - Bemidji Jaycees – July 2-5, 2008
  - Dragon Boat Festival – July 31, August 1-2, 2008
5. Approved Full Liquor License for Villella's Bada Bing! At 128 1<sup>st</sup> Street
6. **RESOLUTION NO. 5487:** Approving the Site for the 2008 Dragon Boat Festival – July 31 through August 2
7. **RESOLUTION NO. 5488:** Proclaiming May 18-24, 2008 as National Public Works Week
8. Approved Waiving of the Building Permit Fees for the Habitat for Humanity (1112 Roosevelt Road SE)
9. Approved Travel Authorization to League of Mn Cities Conference – June 11 & 12 – Lehmann

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Jordan Marshall, BYAC Representative, reported that the Commission is focusing on the June 7 event plans. Activities that are being planned are similar to last year and there will be approximately 10 bands playing throughout the day.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING**

##### NPDES Permit

Gray stated that one of the requirements of the City's National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit is that an annual meeting must be held to update the Council and to allow the public to make oral and/or written comments on the adequacy of the City's Storm Water Pollution Prevent Program (SWPPP). The provisions of the Permit require that over the 5-year life of the permit, the City address the following six minimum measures: 1) public education and outreach; 2) public involvement and participation; 3) illicit discharge detection and elimination; 4) construction site stormwater controls; 5) post construction stormwater management for new development and redevelopment; and 6) pollution prevention/good housekeeping for municipal operations.

Pursuant to published notice, a Public Hearing was held to receive input regarding the NPDES Permit – Stormwater Pollution Prevent Program (SWPPP). Mayor Lehmann opened the Public Hearing at 7:10 p.m., hearing no comments the public hearing was closed.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Lake Bemidji West Shore Trail**

Gray stated that the City's 2009 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) includes funding for the construction of a trail along the west shore of Lake Bemidji. The trail would run from Library Park to 29<sup>th</sup> Street and would include a combination of off-road and on-road trails and sidewalks. Gray stated that he has received a proposal from Karvakko Engineering to provide engineering and inspection services for the trail project. Karvakko Engineering has experience in the federal design and review process and is able to meet the City's project schedule. The estimated project development, design and construction service cost is \$64,500. Gray stated that the Parks & Trails Commission has reviewed the project and unanimously recommended approval for this project.

Councilmembers discussed the following:

- Using matching grants to make the sales tax dollars go further;
- Width of the bike trail and marking or signage that will be in place;
- Priorities set by the Parks & Trails Commission and if this was on the list;
- 10' paved surface through Library Park; and
- Carnegie Library potential for expansion.

**Motion by Johnson, seconded by Markeson, authorizing Engineering Services with Karvakko Engineering for the Lake Bemidji West Shore Trail – City Project #08-18. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Chat-A-Bout Topic for June**

Council asked that the City Engineer and Mn/DOT Engineer discuss the road construction projects at the June Chat-A-Bout.

### **EVENT CENTER UPDATE**

Chattin stated that the Council has received the latest design from Leo A Daly and staff continues to put project costs together. Chattin stated that there will be no footings put in prior to spring of 2009.

### **CITIZEN NOT ON AGENDA**

Jerry Hamilton, 15600 Irvine Avenue NW, President of NW Habitat, stated that Habitat has been under some pressure from residents outside the City of Bemidji to expand and after approval Habitat will be serving all of Beltrami and Clearwater County. Currently, Habitat builds four houses per year and will increase how many they build in the future. He stated that Habitat is concerned about the City's Sewer Access Charge and Water Access Charge (SAC/WAC) fees as this could be a deal breaker for potential homebuyers. He stated that Habitat appreciates the waiving of fees that the Council has done for them in the past. However, Mr. Hamilton asked the Council to consider waiving the SAC and WAC fees. He stated that anything that the City Council can do to help them would be appreciated.

Lehmann responded that the Council has had considerable discussion regarding the topic of SAC and WAC fees and appreciated Habitat's concerns. However, other individuals building within the City have to pay the WAC and SAC fees.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- |                   |           |                             |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| • Monday, June 2  | 7:00 p.m. | City Council Meeting        |
| • Monday, June 9  | 5:30 p.m. | Work Session – Event Center |
| • Monday, June 16 | 7:00 p.m. | City Council Meeting        |
| • Monday, June 23 | 5:30 p.m. | Work Session – Event Center |

### **COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT**

- Lehmann commented that the Capital for the Day event was well attended and a good event. He participated in an Arbor Day planting at Otto Schmunk Park with the Lincoln School 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade class.

- Hellquist reported that the DDA met on May 14 and currently have 89 members. They are working on a number of projects.
- Markeson commented that at the Parks & Trails Commission discussed funding for the Skateboard Park by the City. Downs commended Dan Dow and Hugh Welle for the effort on the Bemidji Community Ice arena.
- Downs reported that the Parks & Trails Commission toured the City parks and discussed a potential location of the Skateboard Park. It was noted that there will not be room for the Skateboard Park at the City Park. The Commission is working on prioritizing the needs of the city parks and will be making recommendations to the Council.
- Council directed staff to set a Council retreat to discuss priorities.
- Erickson commented that 150 trees were planted by Bemidji GreenUp on Saturday, May 17.
- Chattin reported that he met with Otter Tail Power and other representatives to discuss alternative ways to green up our event center. He stated that the interviews for the WWTF superintendent were completed last week and an announcement will be forthcoming. Staff continues to meet regarding the fire substation. Staff met last week with the Airport Commission regarding the formation of an Airport Authority with taxes payable in 2009. RDG Marketing is meeting with focus groups this week.
- Gray reported that he received an e-mail from Senator Coleman's office stating that the City's project for extending the sewer system around Lake Bemidji it is in the list of projects.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, motion by Downs, seconded by Hellquist, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kay M. Murphy  
City Clerk