

# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

## BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

### Regular Meeting – November 16, 2009

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, November 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Mayor Pro-tem Downs presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Waldhausen, Johnson, Hellquist, Downs, Negard, Meuers Absent: Lehmann

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 Pro-tem Downs called for any amendments to the agenda. The following item was requested by the City Manager to be added to the agenda:

- QNI Study Proposal

**Motion by Meuers, seconded by Johnson, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

#### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the November 2, 2009 regular meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Meuers, seconded by Waldhausen, to approve the minutes as prepared. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

1. Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$3,406,125.77.
2. Miscellaneous 2010 Business License Renewals
3. **RESOLUTION NO. 5595:** To Repair or Remove Structure(s) Located at 209 7<sup>th</sup> Street NW
4. **RESOLUTION NO. 5596:** Approving an Application to Minnesota Historical Society for a Grant to Renovate and Rehabilitate the Carnegie Library Building

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – No report.

BSU Student Senate – Leo Clark, Senate Co-Chair, thanked Councilor Waldhausen for arranging a tour of the BREC for the Student Senate and BSU hockey players. BSU recently participated in a MSUSA fundraiser and raised \$155 for the Penny Fellowship Scholarship fund. The local veteran's club educated students regarding returning vets. Started "Go Green Fridays" to support BSU athletes. Working with Erica Bailey regarding sustainability on BSU campus.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### Ice Resurfacer – BREC

Chattin stated that the City received two bids for an ice resurfacer for the Bemidji Regional Event Center: Frank J. Zamboni in the amount of \$85,780.18 and Becker Arena Products in the amount of \$98,970. VenuWorks has reviewed the bids and recommends the Council award the bid to the low bidder.

Discussion continued regarding the purchase of a gas versus an electric ice resurfacer. Chattin noted that an electric ice resurfacer would be significantly more expensive.

**Motion by Waldhausen, seconded by Johnson, to award the ice resurfacer bid to Frank J. Zamboni for a Zamboni Model 545 in the amount of \$85,780.18. Motion carried with**

**the following vote: Ayes: Waldhausen, Johnson, Negard, Downs, Hellquist. Nays: Meuers. Absent: Lehmann.**

Northern Township Park

Felix stated that representatives from Northern Township desire to meet with City Council representatives to discuss Northern Township Park (aka Algoma Park). Felix stated that this meeting will need to be noticed which will create an opportunity for residents to weigh in on the discussion.

**Motion by Meuers, seconded by Johnson, to appoint Councilors Waldhausen and Downs to an Ad Hoc Committee to meet with Northern Township representatives regarding Northern Township Park. Motion carried unanimously.**

BREC Advisory Board

Chattin stated that a BREC Advisory Board was incorporated into the City's agreement with VenuWorks. He recommended that the Council create the BREC Advisory Board and appoint members that will assist Bob LeBarron, VenuWorks, and ensure that City and community needs are represented. He suggested the following representatives be appointed: City Manager, City Council, BSU, Chamber of Commerce and DDA.

Negard stated he would like 3 council members on the Board along with a BSU, Visit Bemidji, Finance Director and City Manager for a total of seven members.

Felix stated that having more than one council person on the board would require meeting notification and could frustrate the meeting process.

Downs suggested that a regular scheduled meeting could ensure that the meeting is open/transparent.

**Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Meuers, to create an BREC Advisory Board consisting of the City Manager, Finance Director, 2 Councilmembers, a BSU representative, a Chamber representative and a VisitBemidji representative. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion by Meuers, seconded by Waldhausen, appointing Councilors Johnson and Negard as the Council's representatives on the BREC Advisory Board. Motion carried unanimously.**

Chattin stated that he will bring recommendations for appointment from BSU, Chamber and VisitBemidji to the Council's December 7 meeting.

QNI Study Proposal

Chattin stated that two firms were interviewed for a Quality Neighborhood Initiative (QNI) Study. They are: Boonestroo and HRDC. A committee interviewed both firms and concluded that Boonestroo had the best proposal to engage the university and immediate rental issues while the HRDC had the best proposal for a city-wide, long-term solution for improving our neighborhoods, including housing redevelopment. The committee recommended a dove-tail approach that utilizes the expertise of both firms and provides the most long-term benefit to the community. First, contract with Boonestroo to complete the QNI and Best Practices at a cost of \$48,000. Secondly, work with the HRDC for a scope of services to assist in implementing the Best Practices that will be an outcome of the Initiative. The contract with the HRDC to be completed at a later date. He noted that Boonestroo's proposal assumed that City staff would be available to support their effort. Although the City can provide some support, additional contract time from HRDC will be needed in 2010.

Discussion continued regarding the possibility of applying for a grant to cover a portion of the cost and identifying a funding source. Eischens recommended that the amount be taken from the 2010 contingency line item.

**Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Johnson, approving a contract with Boonestroo to complete a QNI and Best Practices at a cost of \$48,000, as outlined in their proposal, using 2010 contingency funds. Motion carried unanimously.**

ORDINANCE

**ORDINANCE NO. 49, 3<sup>RD</sup> SERIES**, AN ORDINANCE amending the Fee Schedule for 2010 was given a final reading and passed by unanimous vote.

**Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Waldhausen, authorizing publication of a summary of Ordinance No. 49, 3<sup>rd</sup> Series. Motion carried unanimously.**

**CITIZEN NOT ON AGENDA**

No one appeared.

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Monday, Nov. 23                      5:30 p.m.      Work Session – Cancelled
- Monday, Dec. 7                        7:00 p.m.      Council Meeting
- Monday, Dec. 14                      5:30 p.m.      Work Session – Manager’s Review

**COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT**

- Waldhausen reported that the Parks & Trails Commission met regarding parkland dedication by the North Country Regional Hospital. The Sustainability Committee will meet on December 2, 7-9 p.m. in the Chambers. The Veterans Task Force will begin meeting again but no time or location has been set.
- Johnson reported the Bemidji Regional Airport Authority will meet on November 18. Open houses to see the Airport Terminal Plans on November 17 between 5-7 p.m. and November 18 between 9-11 am. He will be attending the CGMC Conference.
- Chatten stated that staff is meeting with MnDOT on November 17 regarding plans for Paul Bunyan Drive. He will be meeting with Law Enforcement Labor Services and attending the LMC Board meeting on Thursday.
- Hellquist provided a copy of the DDA’s 2010 Annual plans and projects.
- Meuers will be attending the Bemidji Race Relations and Library Board meetings this week.
- Chat-A-Bout December 7 – Johnson will appear.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, motion by Hellquist, seconded by Negard, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay M. Murphy  
City Clerk