

**CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA**  
**Regular Meeting – February 5, 2007**

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, February 5, 2007 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, Markeson, Hellquist, Johnson, Erickson, Meuers. Absent: Downs.

**AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

Lehmann called for any amendments to the agenda. The following additions/corrections were requested:

- Remove Item No. 7 from the Consent Agenda directing the City Engineer to explore adding other streets in the Nymore area on the Feasibility Study and bring this to the February 21 Council meeting.
- Added Item to Consent Agenda – Accept letter of resignation from John Herath from HRA Board

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

**MINUTES**

Minutes of the January 16 regular meeting and January 8, 2007 work session were presented for approval. Motion by Erickson, second by Markeson, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for approval. Motion by Hellquist, second by Meuers, to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:

1. Approved Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$597,360.33.
2. Approved miscellaneous annual permits/license renewals for 2007
3. Approved one day temporary consumption & display permit – Chamber on 4/10/07.
4. Approved Gambling Permits:
  - Rotary Club – Raffle on August 4, 2007
  - Take A Kid Fishing – Raffle on December 3, 2007
5. Approved **RESOLUTION NO. 5390** Amending Depositories for City Funds in 2007.
6. Approved Memorandum of Understanding between Beltrami County, City and Northern Township regarding Birchmont Drive Municipal Water & Sanitary Sewer Utility System Extension and Associated Roadway Improvement and Reconstruction Project.
7. Accepted a letter of resignation from John Herath for the HRA Board.
8. Approved Agreement for Construction, Maintenance and Financing of Extra-Territorial Municipal Sanitary Sewer and Water Utility Facility Extension(s) and Associated Roadway Improvements for Birchmont Drive Project Area.
9. Authorized the Purchase of Three Police Squads – Police Department.
10. Accepted proposal for Part-time/Seasonal Employment.
11. Authorized Formation of a Sculpture Walk Subcommittee.
12. Approved **RESOLUTION NO. 5391** Requesting Comprehensive Road and Transit Funding in 2007.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Erickson asked that the City Attorney review the handling of funds for the Sculpture Walk Subcommittee.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Michelle Frees commented that the winter event at the Boys & Girls Club was a success with over 200 students from the area in attendance. It was a four hour event and gave the students a chance to see the Club. The Commission continues to work on a partnership with BSU regarding the Pay It Forward Program.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Event Center

Mayor Lehmann stated that the Event Center Finance Committee had met and recommended scenario #6 that indicates \$50 million as the total project cost in the resolution of support as it uses revenue bonds only.

Johnson observed that the City should ask for an amount that will cover the costs, that will be down the road with inflation, to build the event center.

Consensus of the Council was that the City should proceed with caution as there are a lot of unknowns regarding the event center.

**RESOLUTION NO. 5392:** Support of Legislative Authorization for Extension of One-Half of One Percent (half cent) Sales and Use Tax for an Event Center project of no more than \$50 million was offered by Councilmember Johnson, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Markeson was passed by unanimous vote.

### City Engineer

Mayor Lehmann stated that the Council has received a request to advertise for a City Engineer that will replace the current City Engineer upon his retirement in 2008.

Hellquist stated that the Public Works Committee discussed several scenarios regarding the retirement of the City Engineer and possibly the Public Works Director. During the discussion it was felt that the Public Works position is something that could be changed. However, it depends on how soon someone can be trained in as City Engineer. Hellquist commented that it will be difficult to fill the city engineer's position as the civil engineering field is competitive.

Motion by Hellquist, second by Johnson, authorizing the City Manager to advertise for a City Engineer.

## **ORDINANCE**

**AN ORDINANCE** Amending Section 6.05 of the City of Bemidji Council-Manager Charter was given a first reading.

## **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- February 12                      5:00 p.m.                      Greater Bemidji Area Joint Planning Board
  - Final Reading of Ordinance
- February 12                      5:30 p.m.                      Work Session – Stormwater
- **Wed., Feb. 21**                      7:00 p.m.                      City Council Meeting

## **COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT**

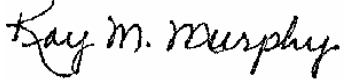
- Chatten stated that Staff continues to negotiate with Brad's Sanitation regarding refuse service. The Labor Management Committee continues to meet and is reviewing personnel manual, exploring a policy for appealing job positions and a policy and forms for performance evaluations. The City continues to work with DNR on south Lake Bemidji on trails and on assessment of the pollution in the Lake. The DNR has a proposal which will be coming before the Council.
- Erickson wished Police Officer Paul Parthun good luck in his new job. She stated that the HRA Board has hired Laura Straw as the HRA Director. Erickson recognized John Herath for his years of service on the HRA Board.
- Johnson stated he is serving on a committee of the Coalition for Greater Mn Cities for selection of a city to host the 2008 conference.

- Markeson commented that February 16 there is an orientation meeting to prepare for Bemidji Day at the Capitol.
- Mayor complimented Clark Chambers who was on Chat-A-Bout today regarding the Growth Management/Ordering Annexation and did an excellent job. Lehmann commented that the first State of the City Address went well.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, motion by Hellquist, second by Markeson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kay M. Murphy".

Kay M. Murphy  
City Clerk