

# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

## BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

### Regular Meeting – March 21, 2011

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, March 21, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Mayor Larson presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Larson, Waldhausen, Johnson, Hellquist, Negard, Thompson. Absent: Albrecht.

Staff Present: City Manager John Chattin, City Attorney Alan Felix, Finance Director Ron Eischens, City Engineer Craig Gray, Building Official Bill Barthelemy, Fire Chief Dave Hoefler, Building Inspector Mike Miller, City Clerk Kay Murphy

#### **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

Mayor Larson called for any amendments to the agenda. Staff requested for the addition of Building Department Update. **Motion by Johnson, seconded by Thompson, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

#### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the March 7, 2011 regular meeting, March 14, 2011 work session and March 14, 2011 BEDA meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Negard, seconded by Hellquist, 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 Waldhausen, to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:**

1. Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$1,016,217.49
2. Claims submitted by the Sanford Center in the total amount of \$132,266.52
3. Miscellaneous 2011 Business License Renewals
4. 1-4 Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – NWTC Foundation – 4/29/11
5. **RESOLUTION NO. 5679:** Amending Taxicab Fares for First City Taxi
6. Tower Site Lease Agreement Northern PCS Services, LLC and City for Sprint/Nextel on the 15th Street Water Tower
7. Purchase of 2010 Massey Ferguson Mowing Tractor from Bobcat of Bemidji in the amount of \$49,149 (includes sales tax)
8. Declared Police Vehicles Surplus – 2005 Chevrolet Impala, 2006 Chevrolet Impala and 2002 Dodge Intrepid

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

#### **CITIZEN NOT ON AGENDA**

No one appeared.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Inga Roen, BYA representative, provided an update on the progress of the June 7 youth event. She stated that they are still looking for t-shirt sponsors and bands. Ms. Roen stated that students are being challenged to volunteer in our community before June 7.

BSU Student Senate – Michael Meehlhause, Co-Chair, reported that freshman registrations for next year are about the same as the current year, April 9 is Beaver Service Day in Bemidji, implementation of a tobacco-free campus begins on April 1, Student Senate members will be lobbying on behalf of higher education at the State next week, graduation commencement has officially been relocated to the Sanford Center, and Student Senate elections are next week. Discussion continued regarding lowering the speed limit along Birchmont Drive, due to safety concerns. Meehlhause stated that Student Senate is willing to commit \$13,000 to the solar panel project if other funding is found.

#### **Building Department Update**

Building Official Bill Barthelemy provided an update on the status of building projects in Bemidji. He stated that currently there are no new single family homes being built; however, there are remodeling projects. Barthelemy stated that he will be retiring on March 31 and Mike Miller, Building Inspector, will be promoted to Building Official. He stated that staff is in the process of hiring a building inspector and should have a recommendation soon.

**NEW BUSINESS****Roosevelt Road Utility Project**

Gray stated that Beltrami County will be reconstructing 6.5 miles of Roosevelt Road in 2011 and have asked the City if there are any utility needs along this route. Gray stated that the City has existing water and sewer mains that run from Paul Bunyan Drive to Lake Avenue. Staff has evaluated this area and determined that some utility work is needed. The work will consist of insulation of some existing water services that have freezing issues, installation of new water and sewer services to vacant lots, adjustment and replacement of various water valves and replacement of one fire hydrant. The City share of the project is approximately \$60,000 which is not included in the City's Capital Improvement Plan. This is the amount that would not be recovered from the property owners for their existing lines. Gray recommended that the funding for the City share be split equally between the sanitary sewer and water utility funds.

**Motion by Johnson, seconded by Hellquist, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Beltrami County and authorize the City Engineer to proceed with the Roosevelt Road utility project. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Fire Protection Agreement**

Fire Chief Hoefer stated that in 2010 the Long Range Planning Committee, which includes members from the Rural Fire Association and City staff, assessed its current 20 year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). He stated that the expanded 20 year CIP allows for more effective long range planning. The Long Range Planning Committee wishes to amend the Fire Protection Agreement to increase the required annual contribution in 2011 to \$180,000 with annual increases of 3.5%. This increase will allow the funding of the expanded 20 year CIP which includes equipment purchases (over \$5,000), land acquisition/construction of Southeast Fire Station/Training grounds, fire station maintenance, and vehicle replacement. He stated that the cost split is currently 57% City and 43% Rural Fire.

**Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Thompson, to approve the proposed Amendment No. 2 to Agreement for Fire Protection between the Bemidji Rural Fire Association, Inc. and the City of Bemidji in substantially the form presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**SANFORD CENTER UPDATE**

Gerry Domino, Kraus-Anderson Senior Project Manager, reviewed the proposed Change Orders. Discussion continued on the status of Commissioning and building warranties. Domino stated that he will be meeting with the Council at their work session on April 11 to finalize the project and at that time the City will be provided a disk with warranty information.

**Motion by Waldhausen, seconded by Johnson, to approve the Change Orders in the amount of \$73,187.25 for the Event Center project. Motion carried unanimously.**

**UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- |                    |           |  |
|--------------------|-----------|--|
| • Monday, April 4  | 7:00 p.m. | Council Meeting  |
| • Monday, April 11 | 5:30 p.m. | Work Session – Year 2010 Financial Review & Sanford Center Project Close-out |
| • Monday, April 18 | 7:00 p.m. | Council Meeting  |

**COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT**

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.
- Gray reported that three Tyler Estate families filled sandbags which Public Works staff delivered.
- Chattin reported that staff have prepared a contract for Upstream TV's consideration. He stated that Upstream TV has secured rental space downtown but still have some insurance issues to deal with.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, motion by Hellquist, seconded by Thompson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kay M. Murphy  
City Clerk