

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – January 3, 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, January 3, 2011 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, Waldhausen, Johnson, Hellquist, Negard. Absent: Meuers, Downs.

Staff Present: City Manager John Chatten, 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 Hellquist, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

MINUTES

Minutes of the December 20, 2010 regular meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Negard, seconded by Waldhausen, to approve the minutes as prepared. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

OATH OF OFFICE

City Clerk Murphy administered the Oath of Office to newly elected officials Dave Larson (Mayor), Rita Albrecht (Councilmember Ward 4), Jim Thompson (Councilmember At Large), and re-elected official Roger Hellquist (Councilmember Ward 2).

RESEATING OF THE COUNCIL

Mayor Larson reseated the Council. Larson, Albrecht and Thompson were counted present, and the meeting continued.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for approval. Waldhausen requested that the item regarding Commission/Committee Appointments/Reappointments for 2011 be moved to new business for discussion. **Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Johnson, to approve the following Consent Agenda items:**

1. Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$606,707.79
2. Claims Submitted by the Sanford Center in the amount of \$78,694.24
3. Miscellaneous 2011 Business License Renewals
4. Designate Mayor Pro-tem – Hellquist
5. Appointment of DeAnn Zavoral as the VisitBemidji Representative on the Sanford Advisory Committee
6. Designate Official Newspaper of Publication for City
7. **RESOLUTION NO. 5664a:** Designating Depositories for City Funds in 2011
8. Purchase of Two Police Squads from Perkins Inc. in the amount of \$41,096
9. Authorize Council Travel: LMC Newly Elected/Reelected Conference – Nisswa 1/7-1/8 – Larson, Hellquist, Albrecht, Thompson and Chamber Event – St. Paul – 1/6 - Larson

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

- Steve Fogelson, 13878 Damon Drive SE and owner of property within city limits, expressed concerns with the recent ordinance passed by the council extending the sale of liquor from 1 a.m. to 2 a.m. He asked what the procedure is to rescind this ordinance. He offered several amendments to the ordinance including a requirement that license holders must be established as a business for 5 years and licensed for 5 years to sell alcohol. He asked if the City had issued any applications for the 2 a.m. closing. City Clerk Murphy stated that no applications can be taken until the ordinance becomes law which is 30 days after publication or on January 24, 2011.
- Matt Dyrdaahl, 201 Jacobs Way and a Joint Planning Commission member, requested that the Council consider the updates to the Greater Bemidji Area Transportation and

Land Use Plans at their January 18 Council meeting which would take advantage of key opportunities to make our community more friendly to people who walk or bicycle. The following plans were distributed to Council members for their review: 1) Transportation Plan and 2) Land Use Plan.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Kaija Roy, BYA representative, stated that plans have been finalized for the February 11 event at the Boys & Girls Club. The Commission is seeking t-shirt sponsors for their June 7 event. Listening Lunches are planned for January 11 and 13.

BSU Student Senate - Waldhausen reported that BSU is still on break and Student Senate representatives will be at the next regular council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Basketball Backstops – Sanford Center

Bob LeBarron, VenuWorks Executive Director, reviewed the quotes for two portable basketball backstops for the Sanford Center and recommend that the Council approve Basketball Products bid in the amount of \$23,531.84.

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Thompson to award the quote for two portable basketball backstops to Basketball Products International in the amount of \$23,531.84 for the Sanford Center. Motion carried unanimously.

Paid On Call Firefighter Positions

Chattin stated that the paid on call positions have been in the department for a number of years with the job duties being loosely defined in a number of locations along with the process to elect people to the positions. The new city job descriptions define the position roles, responsibilities, expectations and establishes a selection criteria based upon qualifications. In addition, it establishes internal pay equity within the department by adjusting the compensation for the positions.

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Negard, approving the Paid On Call job descriptions and compensation modifications as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Shared Fire and Rescue Services Grant

RESOLUTION NO. 5665: Accepting and Authorizing Execution of a Grant Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety (Shared Fire and Rescue Services Grant) was offered by Councilmember Albrecht, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Thompson was passed by unanimous vote.

2011 Street Renewal Project

Gray reviewed the feasibility report for the 2011 Street Renewal Project (#11-01). He stated that the streets were selected due to the poor condition of the bituminous surfacing, lack of bituminous surface (24th Street), poor stormwater surface drainage and the age and deterioration of most of the existing underground utility mains. Gray has estimated the cost of the project to be \$3,115,210 and outlined funding sources. Assessments for the project are estimated at \$401,750. This is 13% of the total project cost that will be paid by the homeowner. The remainder will be paid for with a variety of city/state/federal funding sources. The average assessment is about \$2,900. Final assessment amounts would be determined at the conclusion of the project. A neighborhood meeting to explain the project to all affected residents is scheduled for Thursday, January 20 at 7:00 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 5666: Accepting Feasibility Report and Call Public Hearing on 2011 Street Renewal Project – City Project 11-01 was offered by Councilmember Hellquist, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Johnson was passed by unanimous vote.

Commission/Committee Appointments

Waldhausen stated that he has been on the South Shore Design Review Committee and concurred with the appointment of Albrecht. However, he would like to continue to serve on this committee and recommended three council members be appointed.

Motion by Albrecht, seconded by Johnson, accepting the Commission/Committee Appointments and Reappointments for 2011 and adding Waldhausen to the South Shore Design Review Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

LIBRARIAN’S REPORT

Paul Ericsson, Branch Manager, stated that he will be having an orientation for the newly appointed Council representative. He reviewed the statistics from last year stating that there were approximately 250,000 library users which is a 25% increase over 2007. He provided an overview of upcoming library programs for the month of January.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Monday, January 10 5:30 p.m. Work Session with County Commissioners
- Tuesday, January 18 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.
- Council members commented on the good job of removing snow by the Street Department.
- Negard reported that Paul Bunyan Transit will be moving into their new offices this week.

Mayor Larson stated that he has had several conversations with County Commissioners regarding the 2:00 a.m. closing. He would like the Council and County Commissioners to meet to discuss the 2:00 a.m. closing further. He suggested that the work session on January 10 would work for that discussion.

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Johnson, to invite the County to a joint work session on January 10 to discuss the 2:00 a.m. closing. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Johnson, seconded by Hellquist, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk