

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – August 2, 2010

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, August 2, 2010 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, Downs, Negard, Meuers

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. The following items were requested to be added:

- Reduction of Approved FF&E Purchase from StageRight requested by VenuWorks
- Downtown Bus Shelters requested by Councilor Negard

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

MINUTES

Minutes of the July 19, 2010 regular meeting and July 26, 2010 work session were presented for approval. **Motion by Negard, seconded by Johnson, to approve the minutes as prepared. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$1,723,093.49
2. Transfer of the 3.2 Off Sale Beer License at 2470 Paul Bunyan Drive NW from Stamart to Petro Serve USA #057
3. Land Surveyor's Certificate of Plat Correction - Paul Bunyan Mall Re-subdivision
4. Request to Close a portion of Pioneer Street adjacent to Eagle Club for Street Dance on August 14, 2010
5. Reduction of Approved FF&E Purchase from StageRight in the amount of \$3,368.70

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Paul Bunyan Transit Request

Negard excused himself from the discussion as he is Director for Paul Bunyan Transit.

Greg Liedl, Paul Bunyan Transit Board Representative, reviewed the request from Paul Bunyan Transit for a reduction or waiver of the SAC/WAC fees for their new building and remodeling of the Paul Bunyan Transit facility. He stated that Paul Bunyan Transit is a 501C(4) which provides services to low income and elderly residents.

Mayor Lehmann stated that although the request is similar to that of the Pine Haven townhomes request, that building will go on the tax rolls whereas the transit building will not.

Downs commented that no one likes SAC and WAC fees but as cuts come from the State they are necessary. However, a benchmark has been set for low/moderate income but the guidelines are not black and white. Downs suggested that the Council set some guidelines in the future.

Hellquist stated that the Council has a moratorium on donations and felt that granting this request would set a bad precedent.

Motion by Downs, seconded by Waldhausen, to give Paul Bunyan Transit a 10% reduction in SAC/WAC fees for their new building. Motion failed with the following vote: Ayes: Downs, Waldhausen. Nays: Lehmann, Meuers, Johnson, Hellquist. Abstain: Negard.

Event Center – Marquee Sign Structure

Gerry Domino, Kraus-Anderson, stated that they have reviewed the bids that were received on July 26, 2010 for the marquee sign structure to be located on 1st Street and Hwy 197. He stated that they are recommending that the bids be rejected on the basis that the information provided in the bidding documents was incomplete.

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Johnson, to reject all bids for the Marquee Sign Structure for the Event Center and authorized staff to rebid. Motion carried with the following vote: Ayes: Hellquist, Lehmann, Downs, Johnson, Negard, Waldhausen. Nays: Meuers.

OLD BUSINESSDowntown Bus Shelters

Negard stated that he has had an opportunity to look at the use of the bus shelters on 4th and Beltrami. He stated that two shelters are not needed and suggested that the shelter located on the northeast corner could be relocated but leave one bench. Negard suggested that that the shelter be relocated by the County Service Center and Northland Apartments. He further recommended that the City Manager contact the County Administrator and get his input.

Dave Larson, VP DDA, stated that the issue of the bus shelters came about after complaints regarding loitering and other inappropriate behavior. He stated that the feeling of the DDA was that if the shelters were removed or relocated it may alleviate some of the problems. Discussion continued regarding the Downtown Developments Authority's (DDA's) request to relocate/remove the bus shelters.

Gray stated that there will be a cost in relocating the shelter but he will work with the City Manager in that regard.

Consensus of the Council was to relocate the bus shelter and two benches to the location by the County Service Center.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Paul Ericsson, Branch Manager, stated that the Library Board's annual book sale was a success. He highlighted upcoming August library events, in particular, the Book Festival which will be the week of August 9-14.

BSU Student Senate Report

Michael Meehlhause, Co-President of the Student Senate, updated the Council on Senate activities. Meehlhause stated that Kyle Moellering is the Co-President. He noted that after the Primary, the Student Senate hopes to hold a governor debate on campus.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

No one appeared.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

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| • Monday, August 9 | 5:30 p.m. | Work Session – Liquor Operations |
| • Tuesday, August 10 | | <i>PRIMARY ELECTION</i> |
| • Friday, August 13 | 12:00 noon | Canvassing Board |
| • Monday, August 16 | 7:00 p.m. | Regular Council Meeting |
| • Tuesday, August 17 | 5:30 p.m. | Special Work Session – Job Study |

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.
- Mayor Lehmann announced that he was named to the Governor's Workforce Development Council.

ADJOURN

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

Respectfully submitted,

Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk