

# **CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

## **BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA**

### **June 2, 2003**

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, June 2, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, Mayor Lehmann presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Council members were declared present: Erickson, Hellquist, Zachman, Meuers, Lehmann, Johnson. Absent: Downs.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Minutes of the May 19, 2003 Regular Council meeting, May 19, 2003 Board of Review, and May 27, 2003 Work Session were presented. Motion by Meuers, second by Hellquist, to approve the minutes as amended. All voted aye. Motion carried.

#### **AMEND AGENDA**

Mayor Lehmann requested any amendments or additions to the agenda. There were none.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following consent agenda was presented for approval. Motion by Hellquist, second by Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes: Hellquist, Meuers, Lehmann, Johnson, Erickson, Zachman. Nays: None. Absent: Downs.

- (A) Approved general licenses and permits
- (B) Approved nine (9) pages of claims in the total amount of \$43,022.17.
- (C) Approved two appointments to the Charter Commission. (Travis Guida and Ann Campbell)
- (D) Authorized staff to solicit bids for surplus equipment
- (E) Awarded quotes for aggregate materials

#### **BEMIDJI YOUTH ADVISORY COMMISSION REPORT**

Anne Hegge provided an update on the plans for the Youth Rally on June 7<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Lehmann signed a proclamation proclaiming June 7<sup>th</sup> YOUTH DAY in Bemidji.

#### **2003 KRAUS-ANDERSON WALLEYE CLASSIC**

Bob Fitzgerald, Director of Marketing and Business Development for Kraus-Anderson Construction Company provided an overview of the 2003 Kraus-Anderson Walleye Classic to be held on June 14 on Lake Bemidji. Beneficiaries of the special fund raising event are the Special Olympics, Bemidji Youth Hockey and the DNR.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING: LIQUOR LICENSE FEE INCREASE**

Pursuant to mailed and published notice, a public hearing was held to consider an increase in fees for intoxicating liquor licenses including on-sale liquor, on-sale 3.2 beer, off-sale 3.2 beer, and consumption and display licenses. Mayor Lehmann opened the public hearing and called for comments from anyone present: Richard Meyers of T-Juan's opposed the increase in fees and expressed concerns that the city has increased the number of available liquor licenses, creating more competition for existing restaurants.

There were no other comments. The public hearing was closed.

#### **CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST BY CITY MANAGER FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE RESERVES**

City Manager Minke noted that he submitted paperwork to join the Minnesota Army National Guard. He discussed the commitment involved and noted that he would receive monetary compensation for his service. He further noted that Section 2 of the City Manager's employment agreement requires that the City Manager remain in the exclusive employment of the City unless approved by the Council. Minke requested Council

authorization to proceed with this endeavor. Motion by Zachman, second by Meuers to approve Minke's membership in the Reserve Component of the United States Army in accordance with Section 2 of the employment agreement. Motion carried by the following vote: Ayes: Johnson, Hellquist, Meuers, Lehmann, Zachman, Erickson. Nays: None. Absent: Downs.

**ORDINANCE NO. 342, 2<sup>ND</sup> SERIES:** AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION \_\_\_ THE BEMIDJI CITY CODE, ADOPTING AN AMENDED FEE SCHEDULE was given a final reading and passed by the following vote: Ayes: Lehmann, Meuers, Zachman, Hellquist, Erickson, Johnson. Nays: None. Absent: Downs.

AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING PROPERTY ALONG ROOSEVELT ROAD TO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF BEMIDJI (1603 Roosevelt Road – Sathre) was given a second reading.

AN ORDINANCE ANNEXING PROPERTY ALONG IRVINE AVENUE TO THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF BEMIDJI (Chmielewski Property) was given a second reading.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Lehmann noted that the 2003 Special Legislative Session has adjourned and Bemidji's reduction in Local Government Aid (LGA) for 2003 will be \$504,000 and approximately \$702,000 in 2004. He also noted that our request for trail crossing money was cut from the bonding Bill, and the city's local sales tax bill was not approved.

Minke provided a synopsis of what the cuts mean to cities in the greater Minnesota area vs. those in the metropolitan suburbs and the impact of levying back 60% of the 2004 LGA cuts as suggested by Governor Pawlenty.

Councilmembers discussed the LGA reductions and the impending burden of cutbacks in the 2004 budget, or the possibility of increased property taxes in 2004. There was an overall expression of extreme disappointment in Representative Fuller for his lack of support for the community during this legislative session.

### **MEETING REMINDERS**

June 9, 2003                      Council Work Session                      Review Council Self-evaluation Survey

### **REPORTS – STAFF/COUNCIL**

Lehmann encouraged Council participation in the Youth Rally on June 7<sup>th</sup>. He also acknowledged a number of events taking place in Bemidji during June: The Kraus-Anderson Walleye Tournament on Lake Bemidji, Senior Citizens Pancake Breakfast, the American Legion Convention, Postmasters Convention, Eagles Convention and Fishing Has No Boundaries.

Meuers noted that the Boys and Girls Club is nearing the point of hiring an executive director – they haven't yet decided on a location, but the Old High School is still in the running.

Johnson reiterated the need for a work session to establish fees for police calls to residential units. Council requested that some research be done to determine numbers of repeat calls to residential units. It was also suggested that some consideration be given to establishing fees for repeat police calls. Johnson asked that the issue be scheduled for a work session as soon as the information is available. Johnson also asked about the timeline for broadcasting Council meetings on cable for Paul Bunyan customers. City Clerk Sherman noted that Paul Bunyan would be installing the equipment on Tuesday and Wednesday this week.

Lehmann acknowledged continuing complaints from Charter cable customers about music in the background while Council meetings are being broadcast.

Zachman also suggested that the City of Bemidji continue to pursue a nuisance ordinance, which would encompass repeat police calls for disturbances, appearance of residential yards, and loud music and mufflers from vehicles.

Erickson announced a meeting of Ward 5 residents on June 11, at 7:00 p.m. to address an issue of nuisance deer in the St. Onge area. She also inquired about the City Manager's six-month review. Mayor Lehmann stated he is working on the format, which will be distributed to the council soon.

Hellquist noted that the High School Reuse Committee has received several proposals for consideration. He also asked that the Council revisit the issue of interest charged on Special Assessments during the budget process. He suggested adoption of a policy that would set the rate at prime plus 1.5% to cover administrative costs.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business presented for discussion, motion by Hellquist, second by Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. All voted aye. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Shirley Sherman, City Clerk