

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
Regular Meeting/Work Session – August 14, 2006

Pursuant to due call and notice, a regular meeting/work session of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Monday, August 14, 2006, at 5:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of City Hall, Mayor Lehmann presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Lehmann, Markeson, Hellquist, Johnson, Erickson, Downs, Meuers

Staff Present: Brian Freeberg, Alan Felix, Kay Murphy-Schuett

Mayor Lehmann stated that the purpose of the meeting consider bids for two projects, hear a report/update from the City Engineer on two projects and review the preliminary list of street projects for 2007.

Consider of Bids & Award Contracts

RESOLUTION NO. 5342: Awarding Bid for 1st Street East and 4th Street SE Reconstruction to Northstar Materials in the amount of \$815,553.35 Contingent on Mn/DOT Approval (City Project #06-19 & #07-04) was offered by Councilmember Downs, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Erickson was passed by unanimous vote.

RESOLUTION NO. 5343: Awarding Bid for 24th Street & Storm Sewer Improvement Project (City Project #06-17) and Authorizing an Agreement with Karvako Engineering was offered by Councilmember Hellquist, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Markeson was passed by unanimous vote.

Report/Update on TH197 Enhancements

Freeberg commented that the City received bids on the TH197 Enhancements. The project includes the addition of concrete pavements at bump outs, add benches and garbage receptacles at bump outs, rehabilitates/reconstructs the stonewall outcroppings and constructs planting beds in the three large islands to be planted with trees, shrubs and perennials. Adequate documentation has not been received to satisfy Mn/DOT's specs. Freeberg stated that the total project cost is just over \$300,000 – Federal grant for \$100,000, \$65,000 from the City and \$141,000 from Mn/DOT. Mn/DOT will be paying for installation of an irrigation system in the three islands. Freeberg stated that this item will be coming up for award at the next Council meeting or the first meeting in September. Discussion continued on signs proposed by the DDA. Lehmann suggested that more information be gathered from the DDA regarding the signage.

Report/Update on "Save Babe"

Freeberg reviewed the progress on the "Save Babe" project. Braun Intertec was hired by the City to review the project and they estimated rehab of "Babe" to be approximately \$113,000. The City received a grant from the Scenic By-ways for \$68,000. The Chamber has raised a significant amount of money to match the grant. The City has submitted the paperwork to Mn/DOT to use the grant. According to the State Historical Society in order to work on a historical statue, the City will need a qualified statue reconditioning expert approved by the State Historical Society. Bids cannot be taken on this type of work but on qualification based which did not fit with Federal Highway money. Freeberg stated that he has received a proposed agreement from Mn/DOT where all parties agreed that the whole project be called "engineering". The Historical Society is putting together a request for proposals to rehab "Babe". Freeberg will bring a resolution for Council's consideration at their next meeting.

Review Preliminary List of Street Projects for 2007

Freeberg reviewed a list of 2007 street projects for the Council's review which total \$1,332,000.

Erickson commented that there are 26 unpaved blocks in Nymore and would like these streets considered for paving next year. Mayor Lehmann commented that this should be

done on a petition basis since there will be special assessments. Freeberg stated that he has been working on a feasibility report on paving the unpaved streets in Nymore.


Johnson commented that liquor store funds are available now for street projects, however, the Council had discussed using franchise fees for street projects. Johnson suggested that the Council consider increasing franchise fees.

Freeberg stated that there could be more projects; however, this would increase the levy. Mayor Lehmann stated that the Council would like to see more street projects but the Council has to keep costs down.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Downs, second by Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Kay Murphy-Schuett
City Clerk