

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – September 15, 2008

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, September 15, 2008 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, Johnson, Erickson, Meuers, Markeson, Hellquist. Absent: Downs

Staff Present: City Manager John Chatten, City Attorney Alan Felix, City Engineer Craig Gray, Finance Director Ron Eischens, Deputy City Clerk Michelle Miller

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Mayor Lehmann called for any amendments to the agenda. The following items were requested by Staff to be added for consideration under the Consent Agenda:

- Approval of a 1-4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – NW Tech College on 10/14/08
- Approval of Reapportionment of Special Assessments (Clemenson property)
- Approval of Downtown Building Rehab Projects (417-506 and 417-511)
- Adopt a Resolution Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Lease Revenue Refunding Bonds (State of Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Project), Series 2008

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

MINUTES

Minutes of the September 2, 2008 regular meeting and August 12, 2008 special work session were presented for approval. Erickson noted the following corrections to the September 2, 2008 minutes:

- Amendments to Agenda – “In addition, Johnson requested that the “short term priority” discussion follow #12.”
- Correction to Ms. Soular’s address – “32nd Street”
- Add a comma to Felix’s statement on page 2 - ...City Council against putting it on the ballot, as the Council...
- Page 3, added the following word to Hellquist’s comment - ...passed in 2006 “which” was largely...
- 2009 Tax Levy – ...“The total shortfall for 2009 is \$181,100.”

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Erickson, to approve the minutes as amended. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Approved Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$1,302,834.70
2. Approved miscellaneous business license for 2008
3. Approved a 1 Day Temporary Consumption & Display Permit – Art Center on 10/17/08
4. **RESOLUTION NO. 5512:** Declaring Costs to be Assessed, Ordering Preparation of Proposed Assessment Rolls, and Establishing a Date for Public Hearing for City Project #08-02 (Bemidji Avenue Reconstruction)
5. Approved Appointment to Parks & Trails Commission – Brian Freeberg
6. Approved Appointment to Joint Planning Commission – Matthew Dyr Dahl
7. Approved Travel to Minneapolis on 9/12/08 - Public TV Almanac – Lehmann
8. Approved a 1-4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – NW Tech College on 10/14/08
9. Approved Reapportionment of Special Assessments (Clemenson property)

10. Approved Downtown Building Rehab Projects (417-506 and 417-511)

11. **RESOLUTION NO. 5513:** Providing for the Issuance and Sale of Lease Revenue Refunding Bonds (State of Minnesota Bureau of Criminal Apprehension Project), Series 2008

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

BCA Bond Sale

Myron Knutson, the PFM Group, discussed the sale of bonds noting that interest rates have gone down and it is a good rate. He stated that the taxpayers in Bemidji would benefit from the sale.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Kali Sandmeyer, BYAC representative, noted that the Commission has had their second meeting. The Commission is planning several events, including an event with Dunn Bros. They are currently working on their website and also working with Independent School District No. 31 involving a contest on recycling paper. They are also sending letters to organizations seeking youth involvement. In addition, BYAC members who were present introduced themselves to the Council.

Bemidji State Student Senate - Becky Boe, co-president BSU Student Senate, noted that they are getting underway with the new school year. They have restructured the Student Senate, making it a team based organization. They are planning several events including a “Get Out to Vote” drive. There is a debate schedule for September 30 and everyone is welcome to attend. They will be working with the BYAC this year and are looking to have a member of the Student Senate sit on their Commission.

PRESENTATION

Vote Yes for Our Kids and Our Community – Referendum Committee – No one appeared.

NEW BUSINESS

Phase I/II Archaeological Investigation Proposal for Lake Bemidji West Shore Trail – City Project 08-18. Adopt a Resolution Entering into Phase I/II Archaeological Investigation Contract with MnDOT for Lake Bemidji West Shore Trail

Gray stated that the Lake Bemidji West Shore Trail is scheduled for construction in 2009. The \$500,000 trail project is slated to receive \$300,000 of Federal Enhancement Funds. As part of the process there is a requirement of an archeological investigation. Gray noted there were not multiple recommendations and that the Duluth Archaeology Center was chosen by MnDot. He stated that an agreement between the City and MnDot calls for MnDot to pay 80% of the investigation cost and the City will pay the remaining 20%.

Council discussed the following:

- Why was 80% of the investigation being funded by MnDot. Gray noted this area was of great interest to MnDot.
- Use of existing right-of-way and would that take away from the 2.2 miles of trails. Gray noted that all new trails would be constructed and that there would be additional cost for striping on Birchmont Drive. He noted that there would be no new work on Lake Boulevard.
- Question about what the E-verify program is. Gray stated he did not know what the E-verify program is, but that he would look into that.
- Question about who the artifacts would belong to that may be recovered? Gray stated that the Duluth Archaeology Center will work with any potential artifacts that may be found and return them to their proper owners.

RESOLUTION NO. 5514: Authorizing a Phase I/II Archaeological Investigation Contract with MnDOT for Lake Bemidji West Shore Trail was offered by Councilmember Hellquist, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Markeson was passed by unanimous vote.

EVENT CENTER UPDATE

Chattin indicated that Leo A Daly was preparing for Hurricane Ike instead of working on the submission of the Event Center update to the Council. Chattin noted that there are currently

four Requests for Proposals out which are: Construction Management/Owner's Representative for the BREC, Hotel Partner, Legal Services for the South Shore Development, and Commissioning services (HVAC). There are various deadlines for the RFP's and Chattin will be reviewing the RFP's with staff and making recommendations to the Council. Chattin noted that Northwest Technical Collage is building a model of the Event Center facility. Chattin also noted that an update on the DNR appraisal and an offer will be forthcoming, hopefully within the week.

Felix discussed the RFP for Legal Services. He noted that the drafting of PUD, CIC or condominium documents is very complex and not usually something that is done by the City Attorney.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Monday, September 22 5:30 p.m. Work Session - TBD
- Monday, October 6 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
- Wednesday, Oct. 8 6:00 p.m. GBJPB

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Hellquist noted that the Joint Planning Board will meet on September 18 and the Joint Planning Commission on September 16 at 6:00 p.m. for a special meeting.
- Markeson stated at a recent Parks and Trails Commission meeting the group discussed use of Bemidji City Park. The City Park is a special use park; however, the trails can be used by anyone. The Skateboard Association applied for grants and is waiting to hear back. Reuse Study for Carnegie building was handed out to the Commission members for their review.
- Erickson noted that the Airport Commission will be meeting on September 17 at 5:00 p.m.
- Johnson noted that the Public Affairs Committee will be meeting on September 22 to discuss cable access. He stated that he walked the South Shore with Joint Planning Commission members with map and plans. He noted that half of the acreage will be trails and green space.
- Lehmann noted that he appeared on the Almanac television program. He stated that it was good to compare different communities. The program represented views of the next 50 years for the state of Minnesota.
- Gray stated that the Midway trail should be paved as early as Wednesday.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Hellquist, seconded by Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle R. Miller
Deputy City Clerk