

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
Work Session – September 27, 2010

Pursuant to due call and notice, a work session of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Monday, September 27, 2010, 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, Johnson, Negard, Downs, Waldhausen, Hellquist Absent: Meuers

Staff Present: City Manager John Chattin, City Attorney Alan Felix, City Clerk Kay Murphy
Others Present: Paul Ericsson, Librarian; Mel Milender, GBJPB

Motion by Downs, seconded by Johnson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

BREC Quotes

Bob LeBarron, Executive Director VenuWorks, reviewed the quotes received for performance spotlights, wireless access equipment, trash & recycling bins and event product equipment for the BREC. He stated that detailed quotes were provided to businesses for consideration for purchase of these items. VenuWorks recommended the low quote on all items with the exception of the event product equipment. LeBarron stated that VenuWorks recommended Atlanta Rigging Systems based on the quality of assembly, familiarity with traveling concert requirements, and an acknowledged reputation as an industry leader in the field.

Motion by Waldhausen, seconded by Johnson, to accept quotes for the following items for the Bemidji Regional Event Center:

NLFX Professionals, Bemidji	Performance Spotlights	\$44,594.67
MARCO, Bemidji	Wireless Access Equipment	\$25,931.49
Cole Paper, Fargo	Trash & Recycling Bins	\$36,283.78
Atlanta Rigging Systems, Atlanta	Event Production Equipment	\$42,334.26

Motion carried unanimously.

Aggressive Solicitation Ordinance

Felix reviewed a proposed ordinance to address aggressive solicitation. He stated that concerns have been expressed that residents and out of town visitors to Bemidji have been the unwilling recipients of panhandling and begging in public places. He briefly reviewed ordinances from the cities of Duluth, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Rochester.

Council discussed the following:

- Law enforcement is busy enough; however, no one should be accosted on the street. This ordinance would give the police one more tool to use in dealing with problems in the community.
- Discussed problems at the public library. Paul Ericsson, Librarian, stated he has ongoing problems with panhandling and loitering both inside and outside the library.
- Discussed directing people to services or help available in the community as simply issuing a ticket may not work.

Motion by Downs, seconded by Negard, to move the Ordinance to a first reading at the next regular Council meeting on October 4, 2010. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Johnson, seconded by Waldhausen, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk