

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – January 20, 2009

Pursuant to due call and notice, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Tuesday, January 20, 2009 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, Negard, Meuers. Absent: Downs.

Staff Present: City Manager John Chatten, City Attorney Alan Felix, Finance Director Ron Eischens, City Clerk Kay Murphy, Community Development Director Rita Albrecht

Mayor Lehmann delivered the State of the City Address reflecting on 2008 successes and the challenges facing the City in 2009.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Mayor Lehmann called for any amendments to the agenda. **Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Waldhausen, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

MINUTES

Minutes of the January 6, 2009 regular meeting and January 6, 2009 BEDA meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Negard, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

CONSENT AGENDA

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for approval. Mayor Lehmann requested that the item regarding purchase of a parks vehicle (Item #6) be removed for discussion under new business. **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 \$3,128,714.80
2. Approved miscellaneous business licenses for 2009
3. Awarded Asbestos Removal Quote for Old Mn/DOT Building – Kangas (\$18,720)
4. Authorized Purchase of Parks Department Truck – Dondelinger's (\$22,187.25)
5. **RESOLUTION NO. 5542:** Affirming Activity-Friendly Commitments
6. Approved Council Travel: Bemidji Day at the Capitol – February 18 – Waldhausen, Lehmann, Johnson, Negard

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Stina Stocker, BYA representative, reported that the BYAC continues to plan for June 7 and is in transition because the Healthy Kids and Healthy Community has closed. The Commission now meets at Lueken's north. She reported on current BHS activities.

Bemidji State University Student Senate – No one appeared.

NEW BUSINESS

DEED Application – Southshore Redevelopment

Albrecht stated that the City has the opportunity to apply for grant funding from the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) to assist in the redevelopment of the Southshore area. The Redevelopment Grant Program was established by the 1998 legislature to assist with complex and costly redevelopment projects that might not occur without public financial assistance. Eligible sites include redevelopment projects where there was previous development and the need to recycle the land for a more productive use exists. The Grant can pay up to 50 percent of the redevelopment costs for a qualifying site. Redevelopment costs include the cost of land acquisition, stabilizing unstable soils when infill is required, demolition, infrastructure improvement, and ponding or

- Monday, February 9 5:30 p.m. Work Session – Council Goals/Objectives
- Wed., February 11 6:00 p.m. GBJPB
- Tuesday, February 17 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Meuers stated that she will be attending her first Race Relations meeting on Wednesday, January 21 at City Hall.
- Johnson reported that the Airport Commission meets on Friday, January 24.
- Hellquist attended the DDA meeting of new officers, transit meeting and Joint Planning Board.
- Negard noted that Paul Bunyan Transit is overloaded and rides should be scheduled 24 hours in advance.
- Waldhausen attended the LMC Conference for newly elected officials. Attended the Heritage Preservation Commission working on setting goals, Parks & Trails Commission prioritizing needs at the Bemidji City Park. He also attended the Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission meeting. He stated that the BYAC is looking at a new sponsor for the program and a location to store their stages that are currently in the old MnDOT building. He met with the Director of the Boys & Girls Club and was given a tour.
- Lehmann reported that he attended the first Hardwater Classic fishing tournament for Polar Daze. There will be a senior hockey tournament in Bemidji the end of January – donations will be taken for the local food shelf.
- Chattin reported that he attended the Coalition events and found it interesting and the four legislators at the meeting agreed that if they do an unallotment in 2010 and 2011 they would consider lifting levy limits imposed by the Governor. Chattin stated that he has been meeting with the union representatives regarding overtime and it is looking favorable. He met with County representatives regarding administrative fines and the process is moving forward. Chattin and the County Administrator would like to have a County-City work session to discuss administrative fines, criminal prosecution and use of the lobbyist. A tentative meeting with the County was discussed for Wednesday, February 4 at 5:30 p.m.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Johnson, seconded by Hellquist, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk