

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
Regular Meeting – November 2, 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 Monday, November 2, 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, Downs, Negard, Meuers

Staff Present: City Manager John Chattin, City Attorney Alan Felix, Public Works Director/City Engineer Craig Gray, Community Development Director Rita Albrecht, City Clerk Kay Murphy

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

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

- Resolution Authorizing Grant Application to the DNR Trail Legacy Grant Program
- Travel Authorization – 2009 CGMC Fall Conference Nov. 18-20 – Hellquist, Johnson
- One Day Alcohol Permit – Chamber Event on 12-8-09

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

MINUTES

Minutes of the October 19, 2009 regular meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Meuers, seconded by Negard, to approve the minutes as prepared. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$1,194,705.95
2. Miscellaneous 2010 Business License Renewals
3. Authorized Statement of Interest in All-Hazard Mitigation Planning
4. **RESOLUTION NO. 5589:** Adopting Assessment Roll for Water/Sewer Deferred Assessment Fees (Connections Completed in 2009)
5. **RESOLUTION NO. 5590:** to Repair or Remove Structures Located at 622 4th Street NW and 322 Park Avenue NW
6. **RESOLUTION NO. 5591:** Authorizing Grant Application to the DNR Trail Legacy Grant Program
7. Travel Authorization – 2009 CGMC Fall Conference Nov. 18-20 – Hellquist, Johnson
8. One Day Consumption & Display Permit – Chamber Event on 12-8-09

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Kali Sandmeyer, BYA representative, provided an update on recent BYA Commission activities. She stated that there are two Blog Crews; one on the Teen Center and the other on BYAC. The Commission has two listening lunches planned.

Mary Auger, Evergreen Board, announced that Evergreen is adding Bemidji Youth Commission to their services. Joe Czapiewski will be an employee and continue to work part-time with the Commission.

BSU Student Senate – Andrew Spaeth, Senate Co-Chair, stated that on behalf of the Student Senate he wanted to recognize President Quistgard for his work at BSU. He stated

that they are working with Paul Bunyan Transit to increase ridership for BSU students and help alleviate some of the parking problems around campus.

PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to published notice a public hearing was held regarding input on 2009 Street Renewal Assessments Roll for City Project #09-02. Mayor Lehmann opened the Public Hearing at 7:09 p.m. and closed at 7:10 p.m. with no comment.

RESOLUTION NO. 5592: Adopting Assessment Roll for City Project #09-02 was offered by Councilmember Hellquist, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Johnson was passed by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Historical Bridge – Project 08-10

Gray reviewed the request for a resolution authorizing an agreement with MnDOT for Architectural History Study for the Midway Drive Bridge Rehabilitation. On February 17, 2009, the Council authorized Gray to enter into professional services contract with WSN for the design of the Midway Drive bridge rehab and authorized use of parks and trails sales tax funds to pay for the design. He stated that the cost of the historical study is estimated at \$34,000 so the City's share would be \$6,800. The State has selected the firm of Mead & Hunt, Inc., as the historian for the proposed project.

Discussion continued regarding the overall funding for the project and whether to proceed with the historical study. Councilmembers Waldhausen and Downs, who both sit on the Parks & Trails Commission, noted that the next priority for sales tax dollars is the waterfront park.

Gray stated that the Parks & Trails Commission has passed a motion stating that they are not in favor of using sales tax funds for the estimated \$220,000 local construction match. This was the proposed source of funds when the application was made to the state for Transportation Enhancement Funds. Gray noted that it may be possible to obtain grants or funding from other sources for the local match. If grant funds are not obtained the city will either have to come up with the local match or inform MnDOT that it does not intend to use the 2012 Transportation Enhancement Funds.

RESOLUTION NO. 5593: Entering into an Agreement for a Historical Study of the Nymore Bridge Rehabilitation Project (City Project #08-10) was offered by Councilmember Hellquist, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Johnson was passed by unanimous vote.

Artist Selection – Event Center

Albrecht stated that Forecast Public Art was hired by the City to secure artists to create original, integrated public art for the entryway and the terrazzo floor of the Event Center and facilitated a review of the submissions with the Selection Committee. Three finalists for each project were invited to submit preliminary designs. Following an interview with the six finalists, the Selection Committee recommended the following two artists be selected:

- Terrazzo Floor – Barbara Keith, Fine Art Glassworks, Lanesboro, MN
- Entryway Art – Alexander Tylevich, Tylevich Studio, St. Paul, MN

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Waldhausen, accepting the recommendation of the Public Art Committee to select and contract with Barbara Keith and Alexander Tylevich for final design, fabrication, and installation of public art in the Event Center. Motion carried with the following vote: Ayes: Negard, Downs, Waldhausen, Lehmann, Hellquist, Johnson. Nays: Meuers.

Execute Director – Event Center

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Waldhausen, to approve VenuWorks Executive Director Candidate for the Event Center. Motion passed with the following vote: Ayes: Downs, Lehmann, Waldhausen, Hellquist, Johnson, Negard. Nays: Meuers.

Carnegie Library Building

Downs stated that the Parks & Trails Commission should have the opportunity to review this request if funding from sales tax funds are to be considered.

Albrecht responded that the Heritage Preservation Commission has identified Parks sales tax funds as one potential funding source; however, the resolution before the Council is for

one of three grants that the City is requesting from the Neilson Foundation. Albrecht suggested that the Parks & Trails Commission could consider using a portion of the sales tax funds planned for the waterfront and library parks for site work around the Carnegie Building.

RESOLUTION NO. 5594: Approving an Application to G.W. Neilson Foundation for a Grant to Renovate and Rehabilitate the Carnegie Library Building was offered by Councilmember Waldhausen, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Johnson was passed by the following vote: Ayes: Lehmann, Johnson, Negard, Meuers, Waldhausen, Downs. Nays: Hellquist.

ORDINANCES

Pursuant to published notice a public hearing was held regarding input on Amending the City Fee Schedule for 2010. Mayor Lehmann opened the Public Hearing at 7:45 p.m. and closed at 7:45 p.m. with no comment.

- **AN ORDINANCE** Amending the City Fee Schedule for 2010 was given a second reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 48, 3RD SERIES, AN ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 26, Article VII of the Bemidji City Code Relating to Stormwater Drainage Utility was given a final reading and passed by unanimous vote.

EVENT CENTER UPDATE

Gerry Domino provided an update on the progress at the event center site noting that it is 75 percent enclosed, pre-cast panels will be completed by next week and window installation has begun. Mr. Domino stated that the project is approximately three to four weeks behind schedule but they still anticipate an opening date of October 2010.

Motion by Waldhausen, seconded by Hellquist, to approve the Change Orders in the amount of \$55,942.12 for the Event Center project. Motion carried with the following vote: Ayes: Lehmann, Waldhausen, Hellquist, Johnson, Negard, Downs. Nays: Meuers.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

Paul Ericsson, Branch Manager, reviewed events planned at the library for November. Ericsson stated that construction is nearing completion with the installation of counters and information desk. He noted that the Friends of the Library, Neilson foundation and private donors helped with the expense.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

- Vincent Vonhout, 1009 Washington Avenue SE, inquired as to the status of Upstream TV's request to get a public access channel at Paul Bunyan TV.

Felix responded that he has contacted Paul Bunyan TV and has a call into their attorney. He stated that there may be a misunderstanding on the part of Paul Bunyan as to the City's relationship regarding PEG Access channels. He hopes to have an answer within three weeks.

- Linne Lindquist, 812 Beltrami Avenue NW, stated that a group of citizens would like residents in the historic area to consider decorating for Christmas. She handed out a flyer called "Light up the Night". There will be volunteer judging and prizes awarded to the home decorated the best.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Monday, Nov. 9 5:30 p.m. Council/Manager Retreat – Holiday Inn Express
- Monday, Nov. 16 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
- Monday, Nov. 23 5:30 p.m. Work Session - TBD

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Waldhausen reported on the Sustainability Committee's open house and noted that another meeting date will be set in November. He attended the open house for the Boys & Girls Club Teen Center. He reported that he met with the School District and Bemidji Youth Baseball to discuss replacement of the Carrington Baseball Field. Waldhausen suggested that perhaps open ice at the City's arena could be better utilized – suggested a yearly family membership and will bring this to the Parks & Trails Commission for further discussion.
- Negard noted that Irvine Avenue is open and it is fantastic.

- Downs noted that he will be attending the Parks & Trails Commission which will be discussing the proposed park at 30th and Ridgeway Avenue. He attended the Beltrami County Park & Trails Advisory Board and discussed the Share the Bike signing of the Lake Bemidji route. He noted that safety is an issue along this route.
- Chatten reported that staff has been working on completing their Position Analysis Questionnaires for the Springsted classification/compensation study. He noted that staff is working with a couple of developers interested in the South Shore property and have made counter proposals to them. He noted that the Senate Bonding Committee was in Bemidji last week and heard bonding request presentations.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Downs, seconded by Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk