

# COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

## BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

### Regular Meeting – February 6, 2023

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, February 6, 2023 at 6:06 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Mayor Prince presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Prince, Peterson, Johnson, Rivera, Eaton, Thayer.

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, Finance Director Ron Eischens, City Engineer Sam Anderson, Assistant City Engineer Jenna Roberts, Parks and Recreation Director Marcia Larson, Police Chief Mike Mastin, Fire Chief Justin Sherwood, Building Official Todd Beito, City Clerk Michelle Miller. Brandon Fitzsimmons with Flaherty and Hood.

#### **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

Mayor Prince called for any amendments to the agenda. **Motion by Rivera, seconded by Johnson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

#### **MINUTES**

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Council Meeting:	January 3, 2023
BEDA Annual Meeting:	January 3, 2023
Work Session:	January 9, 2023

**Motion by Johnson, seconded by Eaton, approving minutes as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA #1**

Mayor Prince called for any amendments to be made to Consent Agenda. Johnson requested that the November 2022 Financial Statements for the Sanford Center be pulled for further discussion. The following Consent Agenda items were presented for approval. **Motion by Rivera, seconded by Peterson, to approve Consent Agenda items as follows:**

1. Claims Submitted by Finance Officer in the Amount of \$1,365,960.55
2. Claims Submitted by ASM Global for the Sanford Center in the Amount of \$247,250.98
3. 2023 Business License Approvals
4. Approve Transfer of Liquor License to B&B BBQ, Inc. (dba The Northstar Speakeasy)
5. Approve Special Event Request (MMIW218 – February 14, 2023)
6. Approve Special Event Request (Snow Snake – February 21-25, 2023)
7. Approve Reappointment of Debra Rossman to the Library Board
8. **RESOLUTION NO. 6471:** Approving Gambling Permit to Bemidji Youth Hockey Association (The Lodge Downtown)
9. Approve Purchase of Plotter & Scanner from Marco for \$13,885 (GIS)
10. Approve SCADA Computer & Software Upgrades for \$49,124 (WWTF)
11. Approve Purchase of 2024 GMC Pickup and Plow for \$62,485.89 (Streets)
12. Approve Purchase of Wash Bay Pressure Washers (Streets)
13. Approve Purchase of 2024 GMC Pickup for \$52,213.61 (Water & Sewer)
14. Approve Purchase of Capital Improvements for Library Utilizing KRLS Funds
15. Declare Vehicles Surplus and Authorize Disposal (Fire)
16. Approve Council Travel Authorization – LMC City Day on the Hill (St. Paul) March 9, 2023 - Johnson

**Motion carried by the following roll call vote: Yeas: Rivera, Peterson, Johnson, Thayer, Prince, Eaton.**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA #2**

Mayor Prince called for any items to be pulled from consent agenda #2. The following Consent Agenda item was presented for approval. **Motion by Eaton, seconded by Johnson, approving Consent Agenda #2 as follows:**

1. Claims Submitted by Finance Officer for VisitBemidji in the Amount of \$31,483.03

**Motion carried by the following roll call vote: Yeas: Eaton, Rivera, Prince, Johnson, Thayer. Abstain: Peterson.**

**CITIZENS WITH BUSINESS NOT ON AGENDA**

- CT Marhula, 4524 Birchmont Drive NE #10, provided comments on committees.
- John Peterson, 4906 Birchmont Drive NE, provided comments regarding public safety concerns.
- Christian Taylor Johnson, 415 Lakeshore Drive NE, provided comments regarding the Railroad Corridor Development Project.

The following provided comments regarding actions of the council:

- Reed Olson, 711 14<sup>th</sup> Street NW
- Rita Albrecht, 1911 Norton Avenue NW
- Dan Jourdain, 1011 Washington Avenue S, Apt. 15
- Michael Meehlhause, 415 Lakesore Dr NE
- Mary Ann Reitmeir, 4819 Birchmont Drive NE
- Nancy Erickson, 508 Lincoln Avenue SE
- Mark Morrissey, Turtle River

**NEW BUSINESS**

Consider Resolution Declaring the Flying of the POW Flag in Bemidji City Hall

**RESOLUTION NO. 6472: Declaring the Flying of the POW/MIA Flag in Bemidji City Hall was offered by Councilmember Rivera, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Peterson was passed by the following roll call vote: Yeas: Johnson, Prince, Eaton, Peterson, Thayer, Rivera.**

Consider Memorandum of Understanding with Northern Township

Mathews presented a proposed Memorandum of Understanding provided by Northern Township with regards to sanitary sewer conveyance and treatment and municipal water conveyance for residents along the north side of Lake Bemidji in Northern Township. Jess Frenzel, Chairperson of Northern Township was presented for questions or comments. Councilmembers felt a public hearing or open forum will be important.

Mayor Prince recessed the meeting at 7:13 p.m. for a brief POW/MIA flag raising ceremony with Legion and VFW Honor Guards.

Mayor Prince reconvened the meeting at 7:35 p.m. with all councilmembers present.

Approve November 2022 Financial Statements from ASM Global for the Sanford Center

Johnson commented on the subsidy savings in the first months of ASM Global managing the Sanford Center.

**Motion by Peterson, seconded by Johnson to approve the November 2022 Financial Statements from ASM Global for the Sanford Center. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: Yeas: Prince, Rivera, Thayer, Johnson, Eaton, Peterson.**

Discuss Date for Meeting for Evaluation of Performance of City Manager

Prince read a statement regarding the motion made at the January 17, 2023 council meeting stating that the motion “to discuss scheduling a date for the continued employment of the City Manager” and the tabling of that motion was out of order and as such the agenda item put forth for this meeting was identified as “discuss date for meeting for evaluation of performance of City Manager”.

Brandon Fitzsimmons, with Flaherty and Hood, provided the following options for council consideration: (1) take no action (rely on normal annual evaluation), (2) take affirmation action (discuss a non-annual evaluation of the performance of the City Manager). Council discussed potential dates for the performance of the City Manager.

**Motion by Prince, seconded by Thayer, to schedule the evaluation of the performance of the City Manager on Wednesday, March 29 at 5:00 p.m. at City Hall and to receive a proposed process of the evaluation from the City Manager to the Council by February 21, 2023. Motion carried by the following roll call vote: Yeas: Thayer, Johnson, Eaton, Rivera, Peterson, Prince.**

**UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- |                        |           |   |
|------------------------|-----------|---|
| • Monday, February 13  | 5:30 p.m. | Work Session (Rental Ordinance Listening Session) |
| • Monday, February 13  | 7:00 p.m. | Work Session (Closed-Property)                    |
| • Tuesday, February 21 | 6:00 p.m. | Council Meeting/State of City Address             |
| • Monday, February 27  | 5:30 p.m. | Work Session                                      |
| • Monday, March 6      | 6:00 p.m. | Council Meeting                                   |

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, motion by Peterson, seconded by Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle R. Miller". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Michelle R. Miller  
City Clerk