

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – January 19, 2016

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 19, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Mayor Albrecht presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Albrecht, Meehlhause, Johnson, Hellquist, Olson, Erickson, Larson

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, Public Works Director/City Engineer Craig Gray, Finance Director Ron Eischens, City Clerk Kay Murphy

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor Albrecht gave the annual State of the City Address stating the state of the City of Bemidji is strong and vibrant. The Mayor highlighted projects and achievements completed in 2015. The full "State of the City Address" is available on the City's website and on file in the Clerk's office.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Mayor Albrecht called for any amendments to the agenda. **Motion by Olson, seconded by Johnson, to approve the agenda as prepared. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

MINUTES

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Council Meeting	January 4, 2016
BEDA Meeting	January 4, 2016
Work Session	January 11, 2016

Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Johnson, to approve the minutes as prepared. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$3,847,830.62
2. Claims submitted by Venuworks for the Sanford Center in the total amount of \$27,060.01
3. Miscellaneous Business License Renewals for 2016
4. Purchase of a 2016 Bobcat Skid steer with attachments – Bobcat of Bemidji (\$69,080.56)
5. **RESOLUTION NO. 5996:** Accepting a Donation from Enbridge Energy in the amount of \$1,600 – Fire Department

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

No one appeared.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Paul Bunyan Transit – Lezlie Grubich, Executive Director, reviewed the history of Paul Bunyan Transit and reported on current operations and ridership numbers.

PUBLIC HEARING

Westwood Acres Mobile Home Park Closure

Mayor Albrecht stated that the purpose of the hearing is to conduct a public hearing pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 327C.095, Subd. 4; review the closure statement of the westerly half of Westwood Acres Mobile Home Park and any impact the partial Park closing may have on the displaced residents and the Park owner. Furthermore, to appoint a neutral third party to facilitate the process for requesting funds to help with the cost of relocation of displaced residents. The City Attorney has asked former County Attorney, Tim Faver, and he has agreed to act as the Neutral Third Party (NTP). Felix recommended that the hourly rate of pay for the NTP be set at \$40 per hour.

Pursuant to published notice, a public hearing was held regarding input on the closure of the westerly half of Westwood Acres Mobile Home Park. Mayor Albrecht opened the Public Hearing at 6:50 p.m.

Charles Gillespie, 329 Westwood Acres, stated that the process has been open and informative. However, due to the age of his mobile home, it may result in him being homeless.

City Clerk Murphy noted the receipt of a letter from Amanda Vojak, 1600 23rd Street NW – Trailer 506, who has financial concerns and was concerned about where she would move with her family.

With no further comments, the Mayor closed the Public Hearing at 6:55 p.m.

Discussion by the Council followed regarding the number of mobile homes that will be moved and availability at other mobile home parks. Jim Cole, Crown Properties, indicated that two have moved and 14 more are scheduled to move to Hillcrest Manor and, a total of 28 mobile homes are to be relocated.

Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Erickson, appointing Tim Faver as Neutral Third Party to facilitate any applications received requesting funds under the Minnesota Manufactured Home Relocation Trust Fund during the park closure process, and setting the NTP rate of compensation at \$40 per hour. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE

City Manager Mathews requested that the hearing be continued until February 16 as there are right-of-way issues to discuss with the property owner.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Meehlhause, to continue the Public Hearing for an Ordinance Amending an Uncoded Section of the Bemidji City Code (Authorizing the Sale of Real Property to Klinefelter Ventures, LLC) to February 16, 2016. Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.
- City Manager Mathews reported that a group of residents are working with the Downtown Business Alliance regarding a summer concert series. It will be a 9-week series on Wednesday evenings, 6-8 p.m., at Paul Bunyan Park.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk