

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – January 21, 2020

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 21, 2020 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, Beard, Johnson, Rivera, Erickson. Absent: Thompson

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, Finance Director Ron Eischens, City Attorney Alan Felix, Assistant City Engineer Sam Anderson, Community Development Director Steven Jones, Parks & Recreation Director Marcia Larson, Police Chief Mike Mastin, City Clerk Michelle Miller

STATE OF THE CITY ADDRESS

Mayor Albrecht gave the annual State of the City Address for the City of Bemidji. The Mayor highlighted projects and achievements completed in 2019 as well as identified challenges the City faces. 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 Johnson, seconded by Meehlhause, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

MINUTES

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Council Meeting:	January 6, 2020
BEDA Meeting:	January 6, 2020
Work Session:	January 13, 2020

Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Beard, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Claims Submitted by Finance Officer in the amount of \$9,482,553.23
2. Claims Submitted by VenuWorks for the Sanford Center in the amount of \$79,132.58
3. General Business License Approvals for 2020
4. Approve Temporary One Day Consumption and Display Liquor Permit (NWMF)
5. Approve Temporary 1-4 Day On-Sale Liquor Permit (BSU)
6. Approve Special Event Permit – Shamrock Shuffle (March 14, 2020)
7. Approve Special Event Permit – Bemidji ISD 31 Angel Fund 5k (June 5, 2020)
8. **RESOLUTION NO. 6279:** Accepting Donation from Beltrami Electric (\$890.46) – Recreation
9. Approve Purchase of 2020 GMC 2500 HD Truck with Plow (\$41,542.24) – Parks
10. Approve Purchase of Bobcat Tool Cat 5600 (\$51,240.40) – Parks
11. Approve Purchase of 2018 Chrysler Pacifica Mini-Van (\$34,000) – Recreation
12. Approve Purchase of 2020 Elgin Street Sweeper (\$197,948) – Street Department
13. Approve Purchase of 2020 Larue Snow Blower (\$198,915) – Street Department
14. Approve Airport/US EDA Agreement and Mortgage
15. Travel Authorization – Chamber 2020 Session Priorities, February 11 – Albrecht
16. Travel Authorization – CGMC Legislative Action Day, March 11 – Albrecht, Meehlhause, Beard, Johnson, Rivera

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

The following individuals expressed concerns related to conduct of a council member:

- Ruthie Wilson, 1003 15th Street NW
- Emelie Rivera, 725 17th Street NW

REPORTS

Bruce Anspach, Beltrami County Environmental Services, provided an update on the 2019 Watercraft Inspection Program related to aquatic invasive species.

NEW BUSINESS**Consider Termination of Tourist Information Center Lease and Operational Agreement with the Bemidji Area Chamber of Commerce**

Mathews stated that the Bemidji Area Chamber of Commerce is requesting to terminate their lease with the City at the Tourist Information Center. The lease provides a one year written notice, but the Chamber is requesting a sooner termination date. In order to accomplish that, the City would need to provide mutual consent with the Chamber. It is unclear if the Tourist Information Center will be able to maintain staff. However, the City is still obligated to have the bathrooms open at certain times under the terms of the agreement with the state.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Beard, accepting the Chamber of Commerce Tourist Information Center lease termination request effective February 1, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider Tourist Information Center Lease Assignment with Visit Bemidji

Mathews stated that with the vacation of the Chamber of Commerce from the Tourist Information Center, Visit Bemidji will remain as tenants and are willing to assume the sublease from the Chamber to the City.

Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Beard, approving the Assignment and Assumption of the Sublease with Visit Bemidji at the Tourist Information Center. Motion carried unanimously.

Consider Resolution Initiating Annexation of Certain Northern Township Phase III Properties in the Orderly Annexation Area Pursuant to the Joint Resolution for Orderly Annexation, as Amended

Under the Orderly Annexation Agreement between Northern Township and the City of Bemidji, Phase III Properties are to be annexed in 2020. This resolution would initiate the final phase under that agreement.

RESOLUTION NO. 6280: Initiating Annexation of Certain Northern Township Phase III Properties in the Orderly Annexation Area Pursuant to the Joint Resolution for Orderly Annexation as Amended, was offered by Councilmember Meehlhause, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Erickson was passed by unanimous vote.

Consider Resolution in Support of Request for Legislative Authority to Impose an Additional Half Cent Local Sales Tax to Fund Specific Capital Improvement Providing Regional Benefit, to Establish the Duration of the Tax and the Revenue to be Raised by the Tax and to Authorize the City to Issue Bonds Supported by the Sales Tax Revenue

Mathews stated that staff prepared examples of how a local sales tax could be utilized to fund three capital projects for a water treatment plan upgrade, waste water treatment plant and Sanford Event Center Rehabilitation Improvements. Both examples show a ½% increase. However, option 1 was for 10 years for a total of \$27 million and option 2 was for 12 years for a total of \$32 million. The draft resolution reflects the 10 year sunset period. The City would issue bonds for the water treatment plant and the waste water treatment plant with the bond payments coming from sales tax revenue. The Sanford Event Center Rehabilitation Improvements would be paid as the revenue is available. Council and staff discussed the language in the resolution and will incorporate the changes suggested. Consensus of council was to seek a 10 year duration period.

RESOLUTION NO. 6281: In Support of Request for Legislative Authority to Impose an Additional Half Cent Local Sales Tax to Fund Specific Capital Improvements Providing Regional Benefit, to Establish the Duration of the Tax and the Revenue to be Raised by the Tax and to Authorize the City to Issue Bonds Supported by the Sales Tax Revenue was offered by Councilmember Erickson, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Rivera was passed by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCES

Pursuant to published notice, a Public Hearing was held to receive input regarding an Ordinance Amending Chapter 12 of the Bemidji City Code, Article XXIV, Entitled "Pawnbrokers, Secondhand and Precious Metal Dealers". Mayor Albrecht opened the Public Hearing at 8:00 p.m., hearing no comments the public hearing was closed at 8:01 p.m.

AN ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 12 of the Bemidji City Code, Article XXIV, Entitled "Pawnbrokers, Secondhand and Precious Metal Dealers" was given a second reading.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

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| • Monday, February 3 | 6:00 p.m. | Council Meeting |
| • Monday, February 10 | 5:30 p.m. | Work Session - City EDA Strategy Discussion |
| • Monday, February 17 | HOLIDAY | President's Day - Closed |
| • <u>Tuesday</u> , February 18 | 6:00 p.m. | Council Meeting |
| • Monday, February 24 | 5:30 p.m. | 2021 Financial Management Plan (FMP) |

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members and staff provided updates on current issues and meetings.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Rivera, seconded by Meehlhause, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle R. Miller
City Clerk