

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – October 5, 2015

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, October 5, 2015 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, Olson, Erickson, Larson. Absent: Hellquist

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, City Attorney Alan Felix, Public Works Director/City Engineer Craig Gray, Finance Director Ron Eischens, Deputy City Clerk Michelle Miller

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Albrecht declared October 4-11, 2015 as Habitat for Humanity Week in Honor of World Habitat Day.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

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

MINUTES

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Council Meeting	September 21, 2015
Special Meeting	September 28, 2015

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

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Claims Submitted by Finance Officer in the amount of \$1,276,224.10
2. Claims Submitted by Venuworks for the Sanford Center in the amount of \$15,963.06
3. Purchase of Motorola 800 mhz Radios for the Police Department from Rogers Two-Way Radio in the amount of \$70,116
4. **RESOLUTION NO. 5967:** Adopting Assessment Roll for Delinquent Utility Accounts Reflecting Costs for Services Provided During the Year 2015 with the exception of the Skyline Village Utility Account, which will be continued until the October 19 Council Meeting.
5. Travel Authorization – CGMC Fall Conference in Alexandria on 11/12-11/13 – Meehlhause, Johnson, Albrecht

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

Kristjan Thorlacius, 319 Minnesota Avenue, spoke about updating the current code regarding the use of skateboards, roller skates and roller blades in the downtown and BSU areas. He provided several proposed updates to Council; however, specifically he is asking for the code to be amended to allow skateboards, longboards, and rollerblades to be used as a form of transportation in a responsible and respectful manner. He feels longboards should be identified in the ordinance and are comparable to bicycles and would follow the same laws as bicycles. In the downtown area he is requesting the use of longboards on the streets and not on the sidewalks. He presented a petition to the Council of individuals who support the ordinance update. Mayor Albrecht stated that this issue will be discussed at the Public Affairs Committee on Monday, October 12.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Deandre Gordon, BYAC representative, reported that the Commission has several subcommittees working on upcoming events, including Winter Fest, J7, Valentine's Day, and Color Run and will be seeking sponsorships to help fund various events. He also stated that they will be participating in a Wilder Homeless Study. The BYAC will have more information on that study at upcoming meetings.

Bemidji State University Student Senate – Brittany Hall, President, John Roy, Vice President and Kaitlyn Collin, Chair of the Inclusivity Committee, reported on work being done by the Student Senate. They stated that they changed their name to help differentiate the work that they do between campus issues and academic issues. Issues they are talking about are; lighting issues, conducting a live shooting practice drill, and looking at changing the grading system from whole grades to plus or minus grading.

NEW BUSINESS

Pursuant to published notice a public hearing was held regarding input on Costs Associated with Lot Maintenance and Other Miscellaneous Work Done by the City on Private Property. Mayor Albrecht opened the Public Hearing at 6:29 p.m. and with no comments closed with the Hearing at 6:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 5968: Adopting Assessment Roll for Costs Associated with Lot Maintenance, and Other Miscellaneous Work done by the City on Private Property in 2015 was offered by Councilmember Erickson, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Meehlhause was passed by unanimous vote.

Consideration of Small Cities Development Program (SCDP) Procedural Guide for the Housing Rehabilitation Program (Nymore Area Project)

Jackie Meixner, Financial Analyst with Headwaters Regional Development Commission reported that the City has received Environmental Clearance for the Small Cities Development Program; therefore, the Procedural Guide will need to be adopted. She stated that the City received \$300,000 which will fund approximately 15 projects. Most of the document is standard with a couple of unique features and a couple of new terms. Specifically under ownership, if the property is under a contract for deed, the seller must also meet the income requirements as well as the purchaser. Additionally, single wide mobile homes are not eligible. The maximum amount of funds a home can receive is \$25,000. Also, in order to spread the grant dollars further, they will be able to first utilize funds from other deferred loans such as USDA programs first and then use SCDP funds.

Meixner stated that they received 63 applications during the pre-application phase. Since receiving the Environmental Clearance on September 1; 21 full applications have been sent to those households in the order that the pre-applications were received; and from those 21 full applications, four have been returned. Meixner said that is a very good start for this program. She will be sending out more applications in batches of 10 until all 15 projects have been filled.

Council and staff addressed several questions to Meixner which were answered by her.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Olson, to adopt the Procedural Guide for the Housing Rehabilitation Program for the Nymore Area Small Cities Development project. Motion carried unanimously.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Monday, October 12 6:00 p.m. Public Affairs Committee
- Monday, October 19 6:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Olson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Michelle R. Miller
Deputy City Clerk