

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – November 17, 2014

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 17, 2014 at 7:00 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, Thompson

Staff Present: City Manager John Chattin, City Attorney Alan Felix, Public Works Director/City Engineer Craig Gray, Finance Director Ron Eischens, City Clerk Kay Murphy

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

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

MINUTES

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Council Meeting	November 3, 2014
Canvassing Board	November 8, 2014

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Hellquist, 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 Hellquist, to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:**

1. Claims Submitted by Finance Officer in the amount of \$433,910.78
2. Claims Submitted by VenuWorks for the Sanford Center in the amount of \$52,986.76
3. Miscellaneous Business License Renewals for 2015
4. First Reading of Off/On Sale Beer License Renewals for 2015
5. Liquor, Sunday Liquor, Wine and Club License Renewals for 2015
6. 1 Day Temporary Consumption & Display Permit – Chamber Event on 12/9/2014
7. Appointment to the Parks & Trails Commission – Lucas Felts
8. Declare Surplus Equipment – 2002 Mercury Mountaineer – Police Dept.
9. Purchase of 2015 Unmarked Police SUV from Nelson Auto Center (\$30,295.95)
10. 2014 Budget Amendment No. 2
11. **RESOLUTION NO. 5918:** Establishing Calendar Parking on 18th Street NW from Irvine to Park Avenue

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

- Jim Lucachick, MagSeven Property, stated that this property was annexed “unjustly” by the City of Bemidji as there were never any utilities offered.

Mayor Albrecht stated that the annexation of this property was through an Orderly Annexation Agreement between the City, Northern and Bemidji Townships.

City Attorney Felix stated that the detachment of this parcel as well as other City parcels, formerly Bemidji Township, were submitted to the Municipal Boundary Board and now under their review and approval.

2015 Legislative Needs Discussion

The City Council discussed 2015 legislative needs with Senator Saxhaug and Rep. Persell. The Council discussed the need for making transportation funding a priority, perhaps allowing street improvement districts. It was noted that giving local jurisdictions the ability to charge for street funding would be a good alternative to the Chapter 429 assessment process currently used. Another issue raised was the clean water issue and the concern that the proposed MPCA standards are too high.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Kali Wilson, BYA representative, stated that there is a Healthy Living Initiative Listening Lunch scheduled next week at the high school and Trek North School. There will be a skate drive to collect ice skates for the Valentine Skate. She stated they will be having a listening lunch in the future promoting the Bemidji Day at the Capitol event on February 11.

BSU Student Senate – Michelle Perot, Co-Chair, commented that they are recruiting blood donors for a blood drive on December 3.

NEW BUSINESS**Irvine Ave. & 30th Street Project (#15-02)**

Gray stated that at their November 3, 2014 meeting the Council passed a resolution approving the feasibility report for the reconstruction of Irvine Avenue and 30th Street as part of the 2015 Street Improvement project. A neighborhood meeting for the project was held on November 6 and was attended by eight residents. Those in attendance were happy to hear about the trail planned along 30th Street and did not express any opposition to the project.

Pursuant to published notice a public hearing was held regarding input on the 2015 Reconstruction of Irvine Avenue and 30th Street, City Project #15-02. Mayor Albrecht opened the Public Hearing at 7:43 p.m.

Aryls Adamson, 2915 Irvine Avenue NW, expressed concerns about the parking being removed on 30th Street. Her company parks on 30th Street due to the traffic on Irvine and the calendar parking.

With no further comments, the public hearing closed at 7:56 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 5919: Ordering Project & Authorizing Preparation of Plans and Specifications (City Project #15-02) was offered by Councilmember Olson, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Hellquist was passed by unanimous vote.

2015 Street Renewal Project

Gray stated that the Council passed a resolution on October 6, 2014, authorizing the preparation of a feasibility report on the proposed 2015 Street Renewal Project. Using a combination of street tax levy funds, utility funds and assessments this project will reconstruct approximately 1.7 miles of city streets. The City Council established an assessment rate of \$2,540 per lot at their October 13, 2014 work session. A neighborhood meeting to explain the project to the residents is scheduled for December 9 at 6:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. 5920: Approving Feasibility Report and Setting Public Hearing for December 15, 2014 (City Project #15-01) was offered by Councilmember Erickson, and upon due second by Councilmember Thompson was passed by unanimous vote.

Revolving Loan Fund Request

Tiffany Fettig, HRDC, stated that Specklebelly Properties, LLC owned by Mitch Rautio is requesting City of Bemidji revolving loan funds for a development project in partnership with Bemidji Downtown Meats. They are proposing to purchase a site across from Bemidji Cenex for a stand-alone building for Downtown Meats. The new building will double their space, increase visibility and parking for customers. The RLF balance available is approximately \$215,000; however, of this balance \$160,000 is Federal MIF monies that have some limitations on uses and qualifying borrowers. Greater Bemidji's Investment Committee has reviewed the application and recommended approval of the request with the following terms and contingencies:

- \$55,000 loan with a 3.25% fixed rate and term to match lease term
- Shared 2nd lien with Paul Bunyan Communication on the real estate
- 1% origination fee and out-of-pocket expenses
- Payments: Approx. \$312/mon (interest only during construction then P&I upon occupancy)
- Annual monitoring of tax returns and PFS
- Clean title work and acceptable appraisal
- Written approval from other lenders with terms similar to those presented

- If Downtown Meats is awarded grant monies for this project, the award will go towards reducing all parties' financial commitment proportionately within the parameters of the grant.

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Olson, approving a Revolving Loan Fund up to \$55,000 to Specklebelly Properties, LLC for their development project with Bemidji Downtown Meats according to the terms and contingencies outlined. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCES

Pursuant to published notice, a Public Hearing was held to receive input regarding Amending an Uncoded Section of the Bemidji City Code (Authorizing the Exchange and Conveyance of Real Property). Mayor Albrecht opened the Public Hearing at 8:06 p.m., hearing no comments the public hearing was closed.

AN ORDINANCE Amending an Uncoded Section of the Bemidji City Code (Authorizing the Exchange and Conveyance of Real Property) was given a second reading.

AN ORDINANCE Repealing Ordinance No. 100, 3rd Series, and Amending an Uncoded Section of Bemidji City Code Pertaining to Street Vacation was given a first reading.

AN ORDINANCE Repealing Ordinance No. 101, 3rd Series, and Amending an Uncoded Section of Bemidji City Code (Authorizing the Sale of Real Property) was given a first reading.

AN ORDINANCE Repealing Ordinance No. 102, 3rd Series, and Amending an Uncoded Section of Bemidji City Code (Authorizing the Sale of Real Property) was given a first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 107, 3RD SERIES, AN ORDINANCE Amending the Bemidji City Code, Adopting an Amended Fee Schedule for 2015 was given a final reading and passed by unanimous vote.

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Olson, approving publication of a summary of Ordinance No. 107, 3rd Series. Motion carried unanimously.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Monday, November 24 No meeting scheduled
- Monday, December 1 5:30 p.m. Public Affairs Committee w/ Humane Society
- Monday, December 1 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.
- Hellquist suggested that the Council consider moving the regular meeting to 6 p.m. The City Clerk will prepare a resolution for further discussion and possible adoption in January 2015.
- Governor Deer Hunting Opener Banquet – 350 attendance
- Night We Light Parade - November 28 at 6 p.m.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Hellquist, seconded by Olson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk