

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – February 6, 2012

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, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Mayor Larson presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Larson, Waldhausen, Johnson, Hellquist, Albrecht, Negard, Thompson

Staff Present: City Manager John Chattin, City Attorney Alan Felix, Public Works Director/City Engineer Craig Gray, Finance Director Ron Eischens, Parks & Recreation Director Marcia Larson, Fire Chief Dave Hoefer, City Clerk Kay Murphy

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Mayor Larson called for any amendments to the agenda. **Motion by Negard, seconded by Thompson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

MINUTES

Minutes of the January 17, 2012 regular meeting and January 23, 2012 Special BEDA meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Waldhausen, 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 Thompson, seconded by Johnson, to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:**

1. Claims Submitted by Finance Officer in the amount of \$1,091,917.57
2. Claims Submitted by the Sanford Center in the amount of \$323,572.73
3. Business License Renewals for 2012
4. 1 Day Temporary Consumption & Display Permit – Chamber on 4/10/12
5. Liquor License Transfer – Toasty Beavers LLC to Modern Operations, Inc.
6. Lawful Gambling Permit Application by North Country Snowmobile Club to sell pull tabs at Classic Hardtimes Saloon
7. Change Order for Wastewater Treatment Plant Digester – City Project 10-04
8. Amendment #2 to Tower Site Lease Agreement with Verizon Wireless
9. Correction – Accept the Low Bid for a 2012 ¾ ton Ford Pickup Truck in the amount of \$24,487 - Bob Lowth Ford
10. Upgrades to Production Equipment in Council Chambers (NLFX Professional - \$34,006.27)
11. City Park Amendment #3 – Kimley-Horn Associates (\$3,850)
12. Purchase of Used Sign Truck – Street Dept. (Crysteel Truck Equipment - \$44,734.22)
13. Approved Bid Documents to Sell Municipal Property referred to as the “Old Mn/DOT Headquarters” Property
14. Travel Authorization – CGMC Legislative Action Day – February 8, 2012 - Johnson

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

No one appeared.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Kaia Roy, BYA President, provided an update on the February 17 event at the Boys & Girls Club for high school age students and upcoming listening lunches at Bemidji High School and Trek North School.

BSU Student Senate – No one appeared.

Librarian’s Report - Paul Ericsson, Branch Manager, reviewed the “Bemidji Public Library Behavior Guidelines and Procedures For Resolution”. He stated that it establishes guidelines for a safe environment for library patrons. The goal is to provide a library environment that is conducive to patrons for reading, for research, to select library materials

to borrow, for writing and to attend library programs and events. He has been working with the Police Chief regarding a police officer making a walk-thru the library.

Fire Department Annual Report

Dave Hofer, Fire Chief, reviewed the 2011 Annual Fire Report. He stated that the department saw an increase in the number of technical rescue operations with multiple water/ice rescues in 2011. He stated that there were 2308 calls for service in 2011 with an estimated \$2.28 million in property saved. He invited the Council to the annual meeting scheduled February 23 at 7 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

GreenStep Cities Update

Brett Cease, Mn GreenCorps member, updated the City Council on the progress made by the City towards GreenStep Cities recognition. Since the November meeting, he has met with various city staff to determine the City's completed, planned and desired best practices. Cease stated that the City is on a pathway with existing plans to exceed the minimum requirements to become a Step 3 GreenStep City. In addition, the City's involvement in the GreenStep Cities program will be of minimum consequence to the budget. He noted that he is also working with the Greater Bemidji Joint Planning Board in this regard.

RESOLUTION NO. 5747: Authorizing the City of Bemidji to Participate in the Minnesota GreenStep Cities Program was offered by Councilmember Waldhausen, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Albrecht was passed by unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Sanford Medical Bond

Craig Boyer, Chief Financial Officer for Sanford Medical, spoke to their request to refinance the 2002 bonds. He stated that it is a good environment for interest rates.

RESOLUTION NO. 5748: Calling for a Public Hearing on an Issue of Revenue Bonds on behalf of Sanford Medical was offered by Councilmember Thompson, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Albrecht was passed by unanimous vote.

Waterfront/Library Park

Marcia Larson, Parks & Recreation Director, stated that two bids were received for the master planning of Library Park/Paul Bunyan Park. A Selection/Review Committee consisting of two Parks & Trails Commission members, the Joint Planning Board Administrator, and two City Staff reviewed and rated the consultant proposals. The Committee recommended hiring Brauer and Associates at a cost of \$15,935.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Waldhausen, authorizing staff to enter into a contract with Brauer and Associated at a cost of \$15,935 to provide consultant services for the Paul Bunyan/Library Park Master Planning Park Development Project. Motion carried unanimously.

Township Negotiating Committees

The City Council discussed which two councilors should be on the committees to negotiate with Bemidji Township and Northern Township. After discussion, it was decided that there were unanswered questions regarding the number of meetings and completion timeline. Murphy will contact the Northern Township Clerk to get minutes from the February 1, 2012 meeting if they are available.

Motion by Waldhausen, seconded Hellquist, to table the discussion until the February 13, 2012 work session at which time committees will be appointed. Motion carried unanimously.

Legislative Concerns

Chattin stated that the Council typically has two or three items to advocate for when in St. Paul for Bemidji Day at the Capitol. He recommended that the Council advocate for restoration of LGA and the Lakeland Bonding Request.

Albrecht suggested that there are other items that the Council may want to advocate for, i.e., a bill that is proposed placing a 1.9% levy cap on communities, a constitutional amendment.

Discussion continued with no action taken.

ORDINANCES

Redistricting

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Johnson, to accepting the Revised Plan C redistricting map and Ordinance amendments. Motion carried unanimously.

Pursuant to published notice, a Public Hearing was held to receive input regarding Establishing New Ward Boundaries Pursuant to 2010 Census and 2012 Congressional/Legislative Redistricting Plan. Mayor Larson opened the Public Hearing at 8:39 p.m., hearing no comments the public hearing was closed.

- **AN ORDINANCE** Establishing New Ward Boundaries Pursuant to 2010 Census and 2012 Congressional/Legislative Redistricting Plan was given a second reading.

Pine Ridge Street Vacation

Council discussed their concerns regarding the proposed street vacation with Sanford Medical representatives, Doug Gish and Craig Boyer.

Doug Gish stated that according to the recent traffic study a majority of the traffic on Pine Ridge Avenue is going to one of the medical facilities.

It was noted that there are other requirements as of a result of the traffic study which will be part of the approval process by the Joint Planning Board.

Pursuant to published notice, a Public Hearing was held to receive input regarding Amending an Uncoded Section of the Bemidji City Code Pertaining to a Street Vacation (Portion of Pine Ridge Avenue NW). Mayor Larson opened the Public Hearing at 9:11 p.m., hearing no comments the public hearing was closed.

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Thompson, accepting the revised Ordinance regarding the street vacation. Motion carried unanimously.

- **AN ORDINANCE** Amending an Uncoded Section of the Bemidji City Code Pertaining to a Street Vacation (Portion of Pine Ridge Avenue NW) was given a second reading.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Monday, February 13 5:30 p.m. Work Session – South Shore Visioning & Negotiating Team Committees Discussion
- Tuesday, February 21 7:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on their commission/committee assignments.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Hellquist, seconded by Thompson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk