

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
Regular Meeting – March 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, March 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: 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. Mayor Albrecht requested the addition of the following item under old business: Discuss Grant Application. **Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Johnson, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

MINUTES

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Council Meeting	March 3, 2014
Work Session	March 10, 2014

Motion by Thompson, 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 Finance Officer in the amount of \$410,465.13
2. Claims Submitted by Venuworks for the Sanford Center in the amount of \$81,130.33
3. General Business Licenses Renewals for 2014
4. **RESOLUTION NO. 5881:** Accepting Donation of a Heartstart AED from the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community - Police Department
5. Authorize Purchase of Used Vehicle for Building Department and Declare 2005 Chevy Impala as Surplus Property

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

No one appeared.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Councilmember Meehlhause reported on the recent Listening Lunches at Trek North and BHS.

OLD BUSINESS

Grant Application Discussion

Dave Hengel, HRDC, recommended that the City not proceed with any LCCMR application at this time but concentrate on a fully funded Lessard Sams application. He stated that there is a risk in making an LCCMR application without DNR's support. The Lessard Sams application is due in June which gives the City, HRDC time to work with the DNR on a mutual project that will meet the DNR's expectations.

Erickson inquired if there was a match for the Lessard Sams application. Hengel responded that no there is no requirement but it would make the request stronger. Mayor Albrecht stated that the Council can plan strategically about what are some of the funding sources that make sense for a good application.

Johnson asked Hengel if, in his opinion, delaying the cleanup was affecting land sales. Hengel stated that any improvements that the City makes increases traffic and potential sales.

Johnson stated that the City should have a “plan B” in the event it doesn’t receive Lessard Sams money. Mayor Albrecht concurred and suggested that the Council will need to have these discussions at a work session.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Meehlhause, to put the LCCMR grant application on hold and focus on the Lessard Sams application. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

2014 Street Renewal Project (Lake Avenue) (City Project 14-01)

City Engineer Gray stated that on January 6, 2014 the Council approved the feasibility report for reconstruction of Lake Avenue and 23rd Street as part of the 2014 Street Renewal Project. A public hearing was held on January 21, 2014 and the Council passed a resolution ordering the project and authorizing preparation of engineering plans and the receipt of bids. A bid opening was held for Lake Avenue on March 11. Gray noted that due to the use of state aid funds, a separate bid opening will be held later for the 23rd Street portion of the project. The following bids were received:

Reierson Construction	\$646,023.28
Douglas-Kerr Underground	\$675,440.85
Knife River Materials	\$782,857.91
Young Excavating, Inc.	\$790,033.61
Red Lake Builders	\$866,320.94

Gray outlined the funds available for the project stating that assessments for the project have been set at \$38/front foot and anyone receiving a new utility service(s) will be assessed an additional \$1,070 for each service line received. Assessments for Lake Avenue total \$78,800. Gray stated that last year there were problems with Reierson Construction but he has talked to them and was assured that they have them fixed. He recommended that the City Council adopt a resolution awarding the bid to Reierson Construction.

RESOLUTION NO. 5882: A Resolution Awarding the Bid for 2014 Street Renewal Project (#14-01 – Lake Avenue portion) to Reierson Construction of Bemidji in the amount of \$646,023.28 was offered by Councilmember Erickson, and upon due second by Councilmember Thompson, was passed unanimous vote.

2015 Federal Aid Road Reconstruction (City Project 15-02)

Gray stated that the City will be awarded \$738,000 in federal aid highway money which will be used toward full reconstruction of Irvine Avenue from TH197 to 30th Street and for a full depth Mill and pave on 30th Street from Irvine Avenue to Ridgeway Avenue. He noted that the project on Irvine Avenue will include replacement of 2,500 lineal feet of watermain and 2,300 feet of sanitary sewer. Pedestrian improvements will also be considered for each roadway. Requests for Proposals (RFP) have been submitted to four local engineering firms to provide professional services to the city on this project. Because the scope of the project is not fully known at this point, the firms submitted their design fees on a percentage based on the final construction cost. The following fees were received:

Karvacko Engineering	7.3% (\$73,000)
Northern Engineering & Consulting	7.5% (\$75,000)
Freeberg & Grund	8.2% (\$82,000)
Widseth Smith Nolting (WSN)	9.0% (\$90,000)

(Dollar amounts in parenthesis are estimates based on a \$1 million project)

Gray recommended the firm of Karvacko Engineering for the design and development of City Project 15-02.

Discussion continued regarding 30th Street, Gray commented that he will be looking into an off road trail. If the width of the street is narrower, he would recommend a crosswalk to the park.

Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Thompson, authorizing the City Engineer enter into a professional services contract with Karvacko Engineering for the design and development of the 2015 Irvine Avenue and 30th Street Reconstruction Projects (Project #15-02). Motion carried unanimously.

Wastewater Treatment Facility Paving Project (City Project 14-07)

Gray reviewed the paving project stating that the 2014 and 2015 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) includes a total of \$150,000 to finish out the remainder of the pavement restoration and reconstruction at the Wastewater Treatment Facility. He noted that the bituminous areas are in need of replacement. The following bids were received for the project:

	<u>Base Bid</u>	<u>Bid Alternate</u>	<u>Total Bid</u>
Bemidji Bituminous	\$111,337	\$29,289.59	\$140,626.59
Knife River Materials	\$160,804	\$33,348.00	\$194,152.00

Gray commented that although the bids are 10% over the engineer’s estimate, he recommended the City proceed with the project as it will only get more expensive.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Meehlhause, awarding the bid for the Wastewater Treatment Facility Paving Project (#14-07) to Bemidji Bituminous, Inc. in the amount of \$140,626.59. Motion carried unanimously.

2015 Federal Aid Trail Project (City Project 15-04)

Gray stated that in 2015 the City will be awarded approximately \$400,000 of Federal Aid Transportation Enhancement money. The project that was submitted in the grant application was for the paving and construction of the second phase of the East-West Trail. He stated that the project will pave the existing gravel trail from 5th Street to Adams Avenue (County Road 11) a distance of approximately 1.6 miles. The following local firms submitted project development and design fees as follows:

Freeberg & Grund	\$27,100
Northern Engineer & Consulting	\$30,500
Karvako Engineer	\$36,000
Widseth Smith Nolting (WSN)	\$37,309

Motion by Olson, seconded by Thompson, authorizing the city engineer enter into a professional services contract with Freeberg & Grund for the design and development of the 2015 East-West Trail Phase 2 – City Project #15-02. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE

AN ORDINANCE Amending the City of Bemidji Council-Manager Charter Amending Section 2.05 (Vacancies) and 4.03 (Special Elections) was given a first reading.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Monday, March 24 5:30 p.m. Work Session – Year 2013 Financial Review & 2015 Budget
- Monday, April 7 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting
- Monday, April 14 5:30 p.m. Work Session – Energy Audit/Honeywell

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Thompson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


 Kay M. Murphy
 City Clerk