

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – March 21, 2016

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 21, 2016 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, Hellquist, Olson, Erickson, Larson

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, Public Works Director/City Engineer Craig Gray, Finance Director Ron Eischens, Parks & Recreation Director Marcia Larson, City Clerk Kay Murphy

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Mayor Albrecht called for any amendments to the agenda. The following item was requested to be added as New Business:

- Consider Approval of Joint Powers Agreement with Bemidji State University (MnSCU) for Pedestrian Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) System.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Johnson, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

MINUTES

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Special Meeting	February 29, 2016
Special BEDA	March 3, 2016
Regular Council	March 7, 2016

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

- 1) Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$275,250.15
- 2) Claims Submitted by VenuWorks for the Sanford Center in the amount of \$86,733.50
- 3) Approval Business License Renewals for 2016
- 4) Approval of Temporary Liquor License for BSU Alumni event 3/31/2016
- 5) Approval of Business License/Circus for the Sanford Center 4/7/2016
- 6) Declared 2005 Chevrolet Impala as surplus equipment and authorize disposal
- 7) Declared 1977 Asplundh Whisper Chipper, 1976 John Deer Tractor and 2005 Chevrolet Silverado as surplus equipment and authorize disposal
- 8) Authorized the purchase of a 2016 GMC Sierra pickup for the Parks Department in the amount of \$28,543.18
- 9) Authorize purchase of a Kubota 4WD Tractor for Parks Department in the amount of \$17,993.00
- 10) **RESOLUTION NO. 6004:** Establishing Municipal State Aid Street (Middle School Drive NW from CSAH 6 to TH197)
- 11) Travel Authorization – LMC 2016 Annual Conference in St. Paul, June 14-17 – Albrecht, Johnson, Meehlhause

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

No one appeared.

PRESENTATION

Ken Johnson, Otter Tail Power Company, stated that the City completed a retrofit of the city-owned street lights and presented the City a rebate check in the amount of \$92,617.20. He stated that it will save 671,000 kwh per year and that results in approximately \$47,000 in savings.

COMMITTEE REPORTS**Sustainability Committee**

Erica Bailey-Johnson stated that the Committee have revised their mission statement to better reflect the work they do. Committee members provided an update on recent projects by the group. Jesse Robertson, City Building Maintenance, stated that the Guaranteed Energy Savings Program is nearing completion and staff estimated a \$33,000+ savings in electric and gas.

NEW BUSINESS**Public Arts Policy**

City Manager Mathews stated that the Public Arts Commission has developed a Public Arts Policy for the City of Bemidji. He stated at this time the Commission is seeking feedback from the City Council regarding the Policy. Discussion followed regarding the removal of art and budget. Erickson noted that there is no money budgeted for public art. Chair Kaul stated that money comes from grants and other sources and the Commission would oversee and make recommendations to the Council.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Meehlhause, approving the Public Arts Policy for the City of Bemidji as proposed by the Public Arts Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

South Shore Park Design

Director Larson stated that both the Parks & Trails Commission and the South Shore Design Review Committee and reviewed the South Shore Park Plan Design and recommended approval of the design by the City Council. The plans for the park include renovating the existing beach house to include restroom facilities and main space for community rental/use. The plans also include access to the park, beach and facilities through bituminous trails, concrete walkways and a footbridge. A small concrete plaza will be constructed around the building and adjacent to the beach and will contain flower beds, picnic tables, Adirondack chairs, signage and an outdoor shower. The total budget for the project including construction and design is \$600,000 and there is very little contingency. The funding for this project will come from a combination of refuse and liquor reserves.

Craig Clark, EAPC, noted minor changes by DNR which will be incorporated to the design.

Councilor Erickson stated that she would like the Council to add funding for a water bottle fill station and a dog watering station. Erickson noted that it is not included and the cost is \$6,000 and wanted to make sure it was not forgotten. Discussion followed on water station location and cost. Consensus of the City Council was that a water station be included as a bid alternate to be located on the southwest side of the building.

Motion by Olson, seconded by Erickson, approving the plans and specifications and authorizing the advertisement for bids for the South Shore Park. Motion carried unanimously.

Paul Bunyan Inclusive Playground

Director Larson stated that in 2011 as a vision and the goal was to build a playground for all children with or without disabilities to play together. In 2014, the Bemidji Rotary Club offered to take the lead on the Paul Bunyan Inclusive Playground Project.

Martin Graefe, Rotary, stated that the Bemidji Rotary Club has committed to raising funds to support the construction of this universally accessible playground for all ages and abilities to enjoy at the Bemidji waterfront. He then reviewed the playground equipment that was selected.

Tanya Hasbargen, Rotary, reviewed the various donations received and noted that they are \$63,500 short from full funding for the project. She stated that they have a number of grants they are writing and they are committed to raise the additional funds.

Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Olson, approving the location for the inclusive playground, authorize staff to proceed with quotes for the play surfacing and site work in accordance with the City's purchasing policy and authorize the funding gap be internally financed with City reserves with no associated interest costs. Motion carried unanimously.

Joint Powers Agreement

Director Gray stated that the City approved a Cooperative Construction Agreement with MnDOT for the construction of a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beach (RRFB) pedestrian system

that would be installed south of 17th Street to accommodate pedestrians going between BSU and the University Heights development. He stated that Karen Snorek, BSU VP Finance & Administration, sent a Joint Powers Agreement between MnSCU and the City that needs Council approval in order for the City to receive the \$25,000 reimbursement.

Motion by Meehlhouse, seconded by Erickson, approving the Joint Powers Agreement and authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to sign the Agreement on behalf of the City. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCES

AN ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 4 of the Bemidji City Code Entitled, “Alcoholic Beverages” by Amending the Provisions Relating to Section 4-95 Sunday Sales was given a first reading.

ORDINANCE NO. 121, 3RD SERIES, Amending an Uncoded Section of the Bemidji City Code Pertaining to Street Vacation (Portion of Link Street SW-5 feet) was given a final reading and passed by unanimous vote.

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Meehlhouse, approving publication of a summary of Ordinance No. 121, 3rd Series. Motion carried unanimously.

ORDINANCE NO. 122, 3RD SERIES, Amending an Uncoded Section of the Bemidji City Code (Authorizing the Sale of Real Property to Klinefelter Ventures, LLC) was given a final reading and passed by unanimous vote.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Hellquist, approving publication of a summary of Ordinance No. 122, 3rd Series. Motion carried unanimously.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Monday, March 28 5:30 p.m. Special Work Session – GIS Mapping & Railroad Corridor
- Monday, April 4 6:00 p.m. Council Meeting
- Monday, April 11 5:30 p.m. Work Session - 2015 Financial Review

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Meehlhouse, seconded by Olson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


 Kay M. Murphy
 City Clerk