

# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

## BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

### Regular Meeting – April 1, 2013

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, April 1, 2013 at 7:24 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Mayor Albrecht presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Albrecht, Meehlhause, Hellquist, Johnson, Olson, Erickson, Thompson

Staff Present: City Manager John Chattin, 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 Hellquist, seconded by Thompson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

#### **MINUTES**

Minutes of the March 13, 2013 B.E.D.A. special meeting were presented for approval. **Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Erickson, to approve the minutes as prepared. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for approval. Albrecht requested the Consent Agenda be amended to include travel for Johnson and Meehlhause to attend hearing regarding Hospitality Tax at the State Capitol on Wednesday, April 3. **Motion by Johnson, seconded by Thompson, to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:**

1. Claims Submitted by Finance Officer in the amount of \$387,971.65
2. Miscellaneous 2013 Business License Renewals
3. 1-4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – Rotary Club for the 2013 Lake Bemidji Dragon Boat Festival (July 31 – August 3)
4. 1-4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – NW Technical Foundation Event “Night At the Races” – May 3, 2013
5. **RESOLUTION NO. 5825:** Approving the Site for the 2013 Lake Bemidji Dragon Boat Festival (July 29-August 3)
6. **RESOLUTION NO. 5826:** Reporting the City of Bemidji’s Performance Measures Results for 2012
7. Appointment to the Public Arts Commission – Michelle Ruport
8. Purchase of a Replacement 2013 Ford Interceptor squad car from the State purchasing pool in the amount of \$32,119 – Police Department
9. Travel Authorization – LMC Orientation – Walker – April 3 – Olson
10. Travel Authorization – St. Paul – April 3 – Meehlhause, Johnson

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

#### **CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA**

No one appeared.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORT**

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – No Report.

Bemidji University Student Senate – Senate members Amanda Vincent and Desari Frohn reported on activities happening around campus including, senate elections, Relay for Life, Student Achievement Day and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Undie Run event. She reported that Co-President Kari Cooper is running for MSUSA State Chair.

Librarian Report – Branch Manager Paul Ericsson reviewed some of the services for those with low vision or no vision. The library refers those with no vision to the Minnesota Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Services available at the Bemidji Public Library include recorded books as well as large print books.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Depot Lease**

Chattin stated that the Greater Northern Depot Lease with the Beltrami County Historical Society has expired and staff has met with members of the Society to clarify various lease terms. He noted that the City contributes approximately \$20,000 annually towards insurance and operating costs of the Depot.

**Motion by Erickson, seconded by Meehlhause, to approve the revised lease agreement between the City of Bemidji and the Beltrami Historical Society for the Great Northern Depot. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Supporting Legislation**

Gray stated that a number of cities have been trying for several years to get legislation passed that would allow for the creation of street improvement districts. He stated that it would be similar to the city’s current stormwater charge on all parcels including tax exempt parcels. The 429 assessment process would not be required but instead establish a month fee for street projects. The negative side would be the comment by taxpayers that they would pay a monthly fee to drive on their street. He suggested that the charge would be based on trip generation, i.e., a hotel would be charged a higher monthly fee versus a single family home. Gray further stated that streets are designed for a 30 year life and maybe, with maintenance, 50 years. However, the City is on an 80-90 year rotation and roads don’t last that long. This would create funding to get to the lower rotation.

Mayor Albrecht commented that this is enabling legislation which would provide the opportunity but not the requirement to have a street improvement district. The House language states that prior to establishing a municipal district or authorizing a street improvement fee, the city would have to impose and adopt a street improvement plan.

**RESOLUTION NO. 5827: Supporting Legislation Authorizing the Establishment of Municipal Street Improvements Districts was offered by Councilmember Johnson who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Erickson was passed by unanimous vote.**

**UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- Monday, April 8                    5:00 p.m.                    Work Session – 2012 Financial Review, 2014 Budget
- Monday, April 15                    5:30 p.m.                    Public Affairs Committee
- Monday, April 15                    7:00 p.m.                    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 Thompson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kay M. Murphy  
City Clerk