

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – April 15, 2019

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 15, 2019 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, Beard, Johnson, Rivera, Erickson, Thompson.

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, City Attorney Alan Felix, Finance Director Ron Eischens, Public Works Director/City Engineer Craig Gray, Deputy City Clerk Bobbi Karpinski

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

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

MINUTES

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Council Meeting: March 25, 2019
Work Session: April 1, 2019

Motion by Johnson, seconded by Beard, to approve the minutes as prepared. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

Beard requested the Renewed Resolution Calling on the United States Congress to Address Climate Change by Passing the *Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019* be pulled for discussion. Johnson was added to the travel authorization for the 2019 MN Airports Conference. 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 \$816,301.31
- 2) Claims Submitted by VenuWorks for the Sanford Center in the amount of \$80,840.33
- 3) Approve Temporary Consumption & Display Permit
- 4) Approve Special Event Request (Trail Use) – Bemidji Angel Fund 5k
- 5) **RESOLUTION NO. 6219:** Approving Temporary Off-Premises Alcohol Permit and Street Closure for the Bemidji Brewing Block Party
- 6) **RESOLUTION NO. 6220:** Accepting Donation from Daniel Roberts (Parks)
- 7) **RESOLUTION NO. 6221:** Accepting Donation from North Country Snowmobile Club (Library)
- 8) **RESOLUTION NO. 6222:** Bemidji City Council to Not Waive the Monetary Limits on Tort Liability Established by M.S. 466.04 and Appointing Insurance Agent of Record
- 9) Approve Quote for Construction of Nymore Outdoor Hockey Rink to Frenzel Construction (\$98,640)
- 10) Approve Change Orders No. 1 & 2 for the New City Liquor Store
- 11) Approve Change Orders No. 5 & 6 for Carnegie Restoration Project
- 12) Travel Authorization – 2019 MN Airports Conference – April 24-26 – Beard & Johnson

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

Jeff Kossow, Executive Director of the Sanford Center, thanked council for their support throughout his time at the Sanford Center.

Jake Atencio, student at Trek-North High School in Bemidji, is asking for support from council to work collaboratively with Beltrami County to build a community outreach program specializing in mental health and job coaching.

REPORTS

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission & BSU – No appearance

District 5A Representative John Persell-Legislative Update

Persell updated the council on discussions taking place within the State legislative system specifically mentioning the bonding bill and the effort he will be putting forth on getting funding for a new well for the City of Bemidji.

Friends of the Carnegie Library Update

Denise Koenigsberg, Architect, WSN, reported the progress of the renovation at the Carnegie and gave a tentative completion date of July 3, 2019.

Cathy Marchand, Treasurer, Friends of the Carnegie Library, reported they have raised an additional \$42,000 since last June. They plan to start a children's reading program called "Story Time at the Carnegie." Grand reopening is planned for Saturday, August 10, 2019.

NEW BUSINESSConsider Special Event Request (Street Closure) – Bemidji Sculpture Walk

The Bemidji Sculpture Walk group submitted a request to close Beltrami Avenue NW between 3rd and 4th Streets NW for a 20th Anniversary Arts Festival event on Saturday, June 22, 2019 from 1:00-10:00 p.m. with the actual event from 4:00-8:00 p.m. No alcohol will be on the public right of way. Staff has met with the event organizer and was also reviewed by the street, parks, fire and police departments with no specific issues being addressed.

Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Thompson approving Special Event Request (Street Closure) Bemidji Sculpture Walk. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Consider Adoption of City Water Supply Plan

Craig Gray presented the City Water Supply Plan, although not required to be adopted but recommended by the DNR. The plan asks the City to promote water conservation through this State wide initiative. Gray also stated that this is necessary before the City can obtain a permit for the construction of a new city well.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Rivera adopting the City Water Supply Plan as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

South Shore Drop-Off Road Project – City Project 19-05 – Select Design Alternative

Assistant City Engineer, Sam Anderson, discussed three conceptual designs by Freeberg & Grund as well as Alternative No. 4 from City staff. Alternatives 1 through 3 include a bus turnaround with options of handicapped parking while Alternative 4 provides approximately 17 parking spaces with a smaller drop off area. Anderson stated that he presented these designs to the Parks & Recreation Commission as well as the South Shore Design Review Committee. Both groups recommended Alternative 4. Funding for the project would come from the 2019 CIP and construction reserves.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Meehlhause directing staff to proceed with Alternative Design No. 4 for the South Shore Drop-Off Road Project–City Project 19-05. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Renewed Resolution Calling on the United States Congress to Address Climate Change by Passing the *Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019*

Beard stated he pulled this item from the consent agenda as it deserves discussion if it's to go before Congress. He admires the concept but feels this is an ambitious plan and would rather give opportunities to companies to receive rebates on green projects and to be more positive than a fee or a tax. Erickson asked to know the difference between this resolution and the resolution of support that we approved a few months ago. Brad Kingery of Citizens Climate Lobby, spoke to this stating a new bill has been introduced into the House and this renewed resolution supports that act. Erickson agrees with Beard and would rather see an incentive to companies than a punishment. Kingery stated that price is on the carbon pollutions and the funds that are raised are redistributed equally to citizens.

RESOLUTION NO. 6223: Renewed Resolution Calling on the United States Congress to Address Climate Change by Passing the *Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act of 2019* was offered by Councilmember Rivera, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Meehlhause, was passed by the following vote: Ayes: Meehlhause, Johnson, Rivera, Thompson, Albrecht. Nays: Beard, Erickson.

ORDINANCES

Pursuant to published notice, a Public Hearing was held to receive input regarding an Ordinance Amending an Uncoded Section of Bemidji City Code Pertaining to Street Vacation (Industrial Park). Mayor Albrecht opened the Public Hearing at 7:34 p.m.; hearing no comments, closed the Public Hearing at 7:35 p.m.

AN ORDINANCE, Amending an Uncoded Section of Bemidji City Code Pertaining to Street Vacation (Industrial Park) was given a second reading.

Pursuant to published notice, a Public Hearing was held to receive input regarding an Ordinance Vacating/Revoking Ordinance No. 157, 3rd Series, and Amending an Uncoded Section of Bemidji City Code Pertaining to Alley Vacation. Mayor Albrecht opened the Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m.; hearing no comments, closed the Public Hearing at 7:36 p.m.

AN ORDINANCE, Vacating/Revoking Ordinance No. 157, 3rd Series, and Amending an Uncoded Section of Bemidji City Code Pertaining to Alley Vacation was given a second reading.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Monday, April 22 5:00 p.m. Board of Review
- Monday, April 22 6:00 p.m. Work Session – Ice Study
- Monday, April 29 5:30 p.m. Work Session (Closed) – City Mgr Review
- Monday, May 6 6:00 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 7:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Bobbi Karpinski
Deputy City Clerk