

# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

## BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

### Regular Meeting – April 21, 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, April 21, 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, Erickson, Thompson Absent: Olson

Staff Present: City Manager John Chattin, City Attorney Alan Felix, 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. The following items were requested to be added under Reports:

- Report/Update from Save the Carnegie Committee
- Report from Sustainability Committee

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

#### **MINUTES**

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Council Meeting      April 7, 2014

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

1. Claims Submitted by Finance Officer in the amount of \$243,815.82
2. Claims Submitted by Venuworks for the Sanford Center in the amount of \$88,813.24
3. General Business Licenses Renewals for 2014
4. 1-4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – Bemidji Jaycees – July 2-5, 2014
5. 1 Day Temporary On Sale Beer License – Bemidji Jaycees – July 6, 2014
6. 1-day Consumption & Display Permit – Northwest Technical College Foundation event on May 2, 2014
7. **RESOLUTION NO. 5887:** Approving the Site for the 2014 Lake Bemidji Dragon Boat Festival – July 28-August 5, 2014
8. **RESOLUTION NO. 5888:** Approving the Site for the Bemidji Jaycees Water Carnival – July 2-July 6, 2014
9. Upgrade of SCADA Computer Hardware and New Equipment Control Software for Wastewater Treatment Facility – Automatic Systems Co. in the amount of \$27,697
10. Fence Quote for Nymore Dog Park from Century Fence Company in the amount of \$18,490 (financing for the Project is through 2014 Parks CIP and the Nymore Dog Park Fund)

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

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

- Dennis Kihlstadius, resident, stated that he was surprised to see that “neon lights” at the two city municipal stores on when the business was closed. He stated that these lights use a lot of energy. Eischens will follow up with Honeywell in this regard.
- Jared Davis, employee at Keg ‘n Cork, expressed concerns regarding the new parking rules in downtown. He believes that this will create more DUI’s.
- Mitch Rautio, owner of Keg ‘n Cork, agreed with his employee and is working with the Bemidji Downtown Alliance on developing a “flyer” to be placed in the car window stating that the driver has made a safe choice, leave this car until 10:00 a.m. He stated that

they will be meeting with the City staff and hope to come up with something amenable to everyone.

- Dave Kucera, employee that works downtown, stated that he believes the new parking enforcement rules punish the drivers for making the right decision to not drive intoxicated.
- Gerald Knapp, Toasty Beavers, stated that they have a bus and suggested that the downtown business owners could provide better bus/shuttle service.
- Todd Bartels, owner Hot Toddy's, stated he is opposed to the new parking rules.
- Megan Jewitt, downtown resident, stated she has no overnight parking available for guests and asked what options are available. City Clerk responded that Ms. Jewitt could stop by City Hall to request a temporary parking permit for her guests on a limited basis.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Annika Roy, BYA Chair, stated that the Commission is now focusing on the June 7 event to be held at the City Park. In addition, they are reviewing application process to recruit 2014-2015 Commission members.

#### Save the Carnegie Library Committee

Lew Crenshaw, Chair, stated that the Committee has raised a total of \$662,250 in donations and pledges which is a little over 40% of the goal. A notable donation was received in 2013 from Andreas and Marilyn Kuhn as a memorial for their grandson Jordon Klope. An important achievement was the approval from the National Park Service to move the building per our plan which will maintain its listing on the National Register of Historical Places. He noted that on April 1, 2014, the Friends of the Carnegie hired Joe Czapiewski as their fundraiser for a "Major Donor" campaign.

Crenshaw highlighted the Committee's objectives for 2014 which include:

- Continue to seek state, regional and local grants;
- Participate in local events and expand publicity;
- Work with our experienced fundraiser to obtain substantial contributions from major donors;
- Finalize the reuse plan for the Carnegie; and
- Obtain Council approval to initiate the RFPs for architectural services for planning and design in fall 2014.

Councilor Hellquist questioned the timeline. Crenshaw responded the goal is to move and renovate the building the summer of 2015. It was noted that the current tenants of the Carnegie are not ready to move to their new location.

#### Sustainability Committee

Sara Denison, GreenCorps Living Green Member, highlighted the Committee's accomplishments and upcoming events which include the following:

- 80-100 individuals attending the GreenStep Cities Celebration on January 18;
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Sustainable Places Tour – Saturday, July 26;
- Grease Waste Education Presentation will be on April 23 at the American Indian Resource Center; and
- Several Earth Month events are planned in the community.

Marcus Grubbs, HRDC, reported that they have been working on a project with Clean Energy Resources along with BSU in accessing the interest of local businesses in renewable energy and energy efficiency programs. The hope is to get directions to develop strategies to help local businesses implement energy efficiency. They may be coming to the City Council for some initiatives in the future. Grubbs noted that the County recently updated its Solid Waste Management Plan.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### Off Premises Liquor Permit Request

Mayor Albrecht reviewed the request from Toasty Beavers Sports Bar & Grill for an off-premises liquor permit for a kickboxing and street dance to be held on May 17.

Thompson stated that as a retired physician he would like to see this type of event outlawed as there is a high percentage of brain damage.

Erickson stated she spoke with Chief Mastin and asked what he thought about kickboxing. He told her that it will be hard to control the public as an outdoor event and would rather see it indoors. She stated she will not support the event.

Johnson stated that the Sanford Center is the place for an event of this nature.

Albrecht stated that she has worked at the BSU homecoming street dances and the age restriction is 21. The proposal by Toasty Beavers to have two wristbands concerns her. She stated that in general the City Code provides that the Council can allow an off-premises license for alcohol on the street. In the past, the Council has allowed street dances that are for bigger community events.

Felix stated that it breaks down into two requests. Existing on-sale license holder to dispense alcohol on the street and the Council has to decide what a community festival is.

Motion by Thompson to approve the event as requested. Motion died for lack of a second.

Sean Nelson, Full Nelson Promotions, stated that he is licensed in Minnesota and other locations. He stated there have been several kickboxing events throughout Minnesota on the street and he never had any problem with security.

Mayor Albrecht referenced a memo from Police Captain Marcotte which cited concerns with the request and recommended the Council deny it.

Hellquist stated he is not against the event, however, the issue for Council is do they want to change their precedent. The Council's practice has been to allow street dances for non-profits and similar community events.

**Motion by Johnson, seconded by Thompson, to deny request by Toasty Beavers for a Temporary Off-Premises Liquor Permit for kickboxing and street dance on 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Motion carried unanimously.**

**ORDINANCE**

**ORDINANCE NO. 99, 3<sup>RD</sup> SERIES**, Amending the City of Bemidji Council-Manager Charter Amending Sections 2.05 (Vacancies) and 4.03 (Special Elections) was given a final reading and passed by unanimous vote.

**Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Thompson, approving publication of a summary of Ordinance No. 99, 3<sup>rd</sup> Series. Motion carried unanimously.**

**UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- Monday, April 28                      5:30 p.m.                      Special Work Session - Day Dock/Marina & City Arena
- **Monday, May 5                      6:00 p.m.                      **Special Work Session – Cross Street****
- Monday, May 5                      7:00 p.m.                      Council Meeting
- Tuesday, May 6                      5:00 p.m.                      Board of Review

**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 8:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay M. Murphy  
City Clerk