

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – April 6, 2015

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 6, 2015 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, Larson Absent: Erickson

Staff Present: 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. **Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Johnson, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

MINUTES

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Council Meeting	March 16, 2015
Sp. Work Session	March 16, 2015
Sp. Work Session	March 23, 2015
Sp. Work Session	March 30, 2015

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

1. Claims Submitted by Finance Officer in the amount of \$766,689.10
2. Claims Submitted by Venuworks for the Sanford Center in the amount of \$51,149.34
3. General Business Licenses for 2015
4. 1 Day Temporary Consumption & Display Permit – Chamber Event (April 14)
5. 1-4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – Night At the Races (May 1)
6. 1-4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – Dragon Boat Festival (July 29-Aug. 1)
7. **RESOLUTION NO. 5939:** Repair or Remove Structure(s) Located at 825 2nd Street SE
8. Awarded Bid to Demolish Structure at 702 19th Street NW – Gary Skime (\$5,235)
9. Appointment to the Sanford Center Advisory Board – Tracy Dill, BSU Athletic Director
10. Travel Authorization – LMC Annual Conference in Duluth – June 24-26 – Hellquist, Johnson, Albrecht, Meehlhause

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

- Jim Thompson, Villa #13, commented that there was a grass fire this past weekend near his home and wanted the public to be aware that it is too dry.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Lilly Fulton, BYA representative, provided an update on their June 7 event and their recent activities.

Chief Bemidji Statue Committee

Committee member Kathryn “Jody” Beaulieu reviewed the program for the statue installation and dedication program to be held on June 6, 2015 at noon. The program will be brief and include the Mayor and three Tribal Chairs as well as the artist. More details will be forthcoming.

Sandy Kaul, Public Arts Commission Chair and committee member, stated that the statue will arrive the first part of June and will remain under cover until installed. She stated that the plaque text is available in the packet for the Council to review and give feedback to the

Committee. Kaul further commented that the committee has put in many hours on this project for five (5) years and are looking forward to its completion.

Mayor Albrecht recommended that the Public Affairs review and make a recommendation to the full Council at their April 20 meeting. The City Clerk will resend out the text for review and Council should submit their recommendations to staff by the end of the week.

NEW BUSINESS

Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District

Eischens stated that at the City Council’s March 23, 2015 work session, Stacie Kvilvang from Ehlers provided an overview of tax increment (TIF) basics, the analysis completed for the University Heights TIF request and a proposed TIF district creation schedule. Based upon the analysis of the developer’s proforma, Ms. Kvilvang recommended that the project be provided TIF assistance, which would be further detailed in a TIF Agreement between the City and the developer. The first step in the process is that the City must set a public hearing date. Based upon the schedule provided, it is recommended that the Council approve a resolution setting the public hearing date for May 18, 2015.

RESOLUTION NO. 5940: Calling for a Public Hearing on the Proposed Establishment of the University Heights Tax Increment Financing District on May 18, 2015, the Proposed Modification of Certain Existing Tax Increment Financing Districts in the City and the Proposed Adoption of a Tax Increment Financing Plan Therefor was offered by Councilmember Meehlhause, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Johnson was passed by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCES

AN ORDINANCE Amending an Uncoded Section of the Bemidji City Code Pertaining to Street Vacation (Hillside Avenue SW) was given a first reading.

Pursuant to published notice, a Public Hearing was held to receive input regarding the Sale of Property (Former MnDOT Site – Gould Development LLC). Mayor Albrecht opened the Public Hearing at 6:25 p.m., hearing no comments the public hearing was closed.

City Attorney Felix stated that the City may possibly postpone the final reading of the ordinance to allow the developer, Gould Development LLC, time to perform a routine “due diligence” investigation before closing on the purchase.

AN ORDINANCE Authorizing the Sale of Property (Former MnDOT Site)(Gould Development LLC) was given a second reading.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Tuesday, April 7 5:00 p.m. Special Meeting at Northern Township (Will be a closed session to discuss threatened or pending litigation – Birchmont Drive Assessment)
- Monday, April 13 5:30 p.m. Work Session – 2014 Financial Review
- Monday, April 20 5:00 p.m. Public Affairs Committee – Upstream
- Monday, April 20 6:00 p.m. Council Meeting

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.
- Larson reported that he attended the tour of the Center City housing in Duluth and was impressed with the facility.
- Olson reported that the Nameless Homeless Commission received a \$100,000 donation from an anonymous source which will provide emergency shelter until the Center City housing is available.
- Hellquist reported that the HRA’s recent audit went well and an annual financial review received their best rating ever by HUD.
- Meehlhause reported that the Sustainability Committee is preparing Green Step No. 3 for submission. He announced that the new librarian is Sheri Brumback who will start May 1.
- Mayor Albrecht stated that the first Powwow at the Sanford Center was a success. She noted several funding sources that made the event possible.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Olson, seconded by Hellquist, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk