

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – May 1, 2017

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, May 1, 2017 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 (joined the meeting at 6:50 p.m.), Hellquist, Johnson, Erickson, Larson.

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

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Mayor Albrecht called for any amendments to the agenda. **Motion by Erickson, seconded by Johnson, to approve the agenda as prepared. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

MINUTES

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Council Meeting	April 17, 2017
Joint LGU Meeting	April 13, 2017
Board of Review	April 24, 2017
Sp Work Session	April 24, 2017

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Larson, to approve the minutes as prepared. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for approval. Councilor Meehlhause requested to be added to the travel authorization to attend the LMC Annual Conference. **Motion by Johnson, seconded by Hellquist, to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:**

1. Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$397,116.60
2. Claims submitted by Venuworks for the Sanford Center in the total amount of \$116,446.32
3. Miscellaneous Business License Renewals for 2017
4. 1 day temporary Consumption & Display Permit – Chamber event on June 13
5. Transfer of Full and Sunday Liquor licenses for Brigid's Pub to 317 Enterprises, Inc., (317 Beltrami Avenue)
6. **RESOLUTION NO. 6073:** Adopting the City of Bemidji's Performance Measures Results for 2016
7. Awarded Bemidji Public Library Re-roof to Herzog Roofing in the amount of \$58,039
8. Travel Authorization to attend the LMC Annual Conference June 14-16 in Rochester – Albrecht, Johnson, Meehlhause

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

No one appeared.

PRESENTATION

Bemidji Lion Wayne Tieman stated that over 600 Lion club members attended the 98th Annual Convention of Multiple District 5M of the International Association of Lions Clubs which was held at the Sanford Center, April 21-23. He stated that the Sanford Event Center staff did an outstanding job. On behalf of the Lions, he presented a resolution thanking the Mayor and Council for their support and hospitality.

PUBLIC HEARING

NPDES Permit – Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program

Gray reviewed the National Pollutant Discharged Elimination (NPDES) permit which requires an annual meeting to update the Council as well as allow the public to make oral and/or written comments on the adequacy of the City's Storm Water Prevention Program (SWPPP). He highlighted accomplishments in 2016 which included:

- Inspected the condition of 24 of the city's storm sewer outlets and 32 storm waqter ponds in 2016.
- 1,667 miles of street sweeping was completed which collected 833 cubic yards of street sweepings.

Gray stated that the City added a position to dedicate more time to stormwater issues. Staff will continue to expand the required work and provisions that the City needs to do for the MS4 Permit.

Mayor Albrecht opened the hearing at 6:19 p.m. and hearing no comment closed the hearing.

NEW BUSINESS

Manager's Performance Review Summary

Mayor Albrecht stated that at a April 24, 2017 work session the Council reviewed the City Manager's progress on his 2016 goals and provided feedback. Mathews presented proposed goals for 2017, which the Council approved. Mayor Albrecht stated that the Council observed that the Manager has a very complex job, which he has approached with enthusiasm and creativity. He has promoted good communication with the Council and keeps them well-informed. The Council expressed their full support for the City Manager.

Bird City Program

Parks & Recreation Director Larson stated that Bird City is a Minnesota Audubon Society program that recognizes, promotes and celebrates communities that fulfill specific criteria, which improve bird habitat, reduce threats to birds and engage citizens in conservation action.

Peter Buessler, representing the Audubon Society, stated that the City will need to demonstrate that it is engaged in at least 7 of the 18 Best Practices. He stated that the City is actively involved in 15. He stated that he will continue to work with the Sustainability Committee as well as other community groups regarding the Bird City Program.

Hellquist expressed concern about staff involvement and there are a number of these programs, i.e., butterflies, bees, that are great but there is an unseen cost. He further stated that he does not see any great benefit from this other than a "pat on the back".

Albrecht stated that there is a GreenCorp member that assists with the various projects which takes some of the pressure from staff. Albrecht stated that the City is being asked to be the applicant and the Audubon Society would be the champion.

Erickson stated that the cost is minimal and absolutely supported it if there is little or no additional work for staff. Director Larson stated that she does support Bird City and willing to facilitate the one or two meetings a year but preferred that the Sustainability Committee could do the additional reporting requirements.

Gray inquired if there was anything in the Best Practices that would affect infrastructure. Buessler responded that the Best Practices identify items that relate to infrastructure but they are not required. However, the City would be recognized for anything that it does.

RESOLUTION NO. 6074: A Resolution Authorizing the City of Bemidji to Participate in the Minnesota Bird City Program and Recognizing International Migratory Bird Day and application fee of \$200 was offered by Councilor Erickson and upon due second by Councilor Johnson passed with the following vote: Ayes: Albrecht, Johnson, Erickson, Larson. Nays: Hellquist.

Outdoor Classroom - North Country Park

Director Larson stated that in 2016 the City received an Outdoor Recreation Grant from the Department of Natural Resources to construct an outdoor classroom, pavilion and interpretive signage at North Country Park. The purpose of the Grant is to increase and enhance outdoor recreation facilities in local and community parks throughout the state. The Grant is funding 50% or \$31,900 of the project. The approved funding source for the local match is Parkland Dedication Funds. The project is currently within the allocated budget.

The outdoor classroom will include 14 benches, borders, access ramps and the surfacing is pre-engineered wood fibers, which is used in many of the City's playgrounds. The benches will allow seating for approximately 40 people. The following quotes were received from Minnesota State contract pricing:

Flagship Recreation – LSI Log Bench (Qty 12)	\$21,828.00
Flagship Recreation – LSI Contour Bench (Qty 2)	\$ 1,895.00

Flagship Recreation – Tuff Timber Borders & Access Wedges \$ 3,992.00
 Total Cost: \$27,715.00

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Johnson, to authorize purchase of benches, borders and access wedges from Flagship Recreation in the amount of \$27,715. Motion carried unanimously.

Director Larson stated that the following quotes were received for a 20 x 30 steel frame shelter with a metal roof (quotes include delivery not installation):

Northwoods Playground & Park Amenities \$14,898.00
 St. Crois Recreation Fun Playgrounds, Inc. \$17,770.12
 Flagship Recreation \$18,732.00

The following quotes were received for installation (including concrete) of the pavilion:

Frenzel Construction \$ 9,480.00
 Flagship Recreation \$13,104.00

Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Erickson, to authorize the purchase of a shelter from Northwoods Playgrounds & Park Amenities in the amount of \$14,898 and authorize hiring Frenzel Construction for installation of the pavilion in the amount of \$9,480 utilizing Parkland Dedication Funds and Outdoor Recreation Grant. Motion carried unanimously.

Parking Lot Project – City Hall

Gray stated that in 2016 the Fire Chief received a grant to install a sprinkler system in the fire station and due to the timing of the fire line project the majority of the pavement that was torn up in the city hall parking lot was only minimally replaced due to the anticipated reconstruction of the entire lot in 2017. He noted that both the parking lot and alley are in need of reconstruction due to poor pavement condition and drainage issues. The following four quotes were received:

Reierson Construction \$42,966.10
 M&T Excavating \$43,216.70
 Sparky’s Construction \$47,080.50
 Bemidji Bituminous, Inc. \$52,837.25

Gray stated that funding for this project will be a combination of street maintenance funds and storm water utility funds, that are in the 2017 Capital Improvement Plan.

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Larson, to award the quote for the City Hall Parking Lot (City Project #17-08) to Reierson Construction in the amount of \$42,966.10. Motion carried unanimously.

Otter Tail Power Electric Line Easement

Mathews stated that the City Attorney and he met with a representative from Otter Tail Power (OTP) regarding a proposed easement and Easement Payment Agreement regarding an existing power line transmission corridor between Washington Avenue SE and Lakeview Drive SW. OTP is upgrading the existing line to a 115 kv line and desire to have an updated easement giving them a 30-foot wide easement corridor overlaying the existing line. He noted that the negotiated compensation for the upgraded easement is \$15,567.60.

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Erickson, to authorize the Mayor and City Manager to execute the Otter Tail Power Electric Line Easement and Easement Payment Agreement as presented. City staff is further directed to undertake such additional steps as are necessary to effectuate this process. Motion carried unanimously.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Monday, May 8	5:15 p.m.	Canvassing Board – Ward 4 Election Results
Monday, May 8	5:30 p.m.	Work Session – Amendments to Tree Ordinance
Monday, May 15	6:00 p.m.	Council Meeting
Monday, May 22	5:30 p.m.	Special Work Session – Sunday Liquor Sales

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Hellquist, seconded by Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk