

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – June 1, 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, June 1, 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, Olson, Erickson, Larson Absent: Hellquist, Johnson

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, 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 Olson, to approve the agenda as prepared. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

MINUTES

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Work Session	May 11, 2015
Council Meeting	May 18, 2015
BEDA Meeting	May 18, 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. Erickson requested that the Resolution regarding the Carnegie request be removed for further discussion. **Motion by Erickson, seconded by Olson, to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:**

1. Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$789,851.14
2. Claims submitted by Venuworks for the Sanford Center in the total amount of \$23,777.57
3. Miscellaneous Business License Renewals for 2015
4. 1-4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – Bemidji Jaycees – July 1-4
5. Temporary On-Sale 3.2 Malt Liquor License – Bemidji Jaycees - July 5
6. Full Liquor and Sunday Liquor License – Four Points Bar & Bistro at 1813 Paul Bunyan Drive NW (former Peppercorn Restaurant)
7. **RESOLUTION NO. 5949:** Approving the Temporary Off-Premises Liquor Permit for a Class Reunion - Corner Bar (July 17, 2015)
8. Appointments to Public Arts Commission – Laura Eaton and Debra Sea
9. Re-Appointments to the Charter Commission – Pamela Jorstad, Michael Meuers

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZEN(S) NOT ON AGENDA

Marco Milosevic, 3365 15th Street NW, expressed concerns regarding the downtown parking and the “sober” parking permits. He stated that it is not working and there appears to be a lot of confusion by everyone. He understands that the downtown businesses to provide the “sober” permits which they pay \$30 for each month. He believed that it created an environment that people who have had only a few drinks will make the choice to drive. He suggested that the passes should be free to the bar owners as well as exploring the option of allowing free parking on weekends. He questioned who had oversight over the Downtown Business Authority.

Mayor Albrecht stated that the Council referred this matter to be handled by the Downtown Business Authority (DBA) but perhaps there is more to be done.

Councilor Olson stated that the passes were part of a “trial period” and parking downtown has been controversial. He commented that there are tenants that live downtown and it was important to make sure they have a place to park. He concluded that Bemidji is lucky to have these issues.

City Manager Mathews stated that he visited with Mitch Rautio regarding this issue today and will be attending the next DBA's meeting on June 10. The Public Works Director will also attend the meeting to provide background about snow removal.

Item Pulled from Consent Agenda

State Capital Appropriation – Carnegie

Councilor Erickson asked Cathy Marchand why the request to the State was for \$700,000, as it appeared that the total of all requests, if successful, would exceed what is needed for the project.

Cathy Marchand, Save the Carnegie Committee, responded that the Legacy Grant only will cover historic renovations and the State Capital request is for those items not covered, i.e., moving the building, new foundation, and the addition. She further stated that if they were successful in getting the full Legacy funds, the State request could be lowered.

RESOLUTION NO. 5950: Supporting the City's Application for a State Capital Appropriation in 2016 Legislative Session for Rehabilitation and Restoration of the Bemidji Carnegie Library was offered by Councilmember Erickson who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Meehlhause was passed by unanimous vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Hannah Sorenson, BYA representative, stated that there has been more publicity for their June 7 event. She reported that next year's president will be Kelsey Cobenais and several commission members will be at the Chief Bemidji sculpture installation on Saturday.

NEW BUSINESS

Center City Housing Request

Rick Klun, Executive Director at Center City Housing, stated that they feel they have a strong application for MHFA for housing tax credits to facilitate construction financing. He stated that it is going to be a very competitive round this year for funding.

Olson asked about the construction schedule assuming that they received funding. Klun responded next spring (April of ground thawed) with a twelve month construction period.

Olson stated that the Homeless Coalition will be ready to open their doors, once a location is secured, this fall and available for at least three years. He suggested a partnership with Center City in the future.

Motion by Larson, seconded by Olson, to approve the draft Purchase Agreement with Center City Housing for Supportive Housing Project (Sale of real property in former Soo Line rail corridor) in substantially the form submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 5951: Support of Proposed 60 Unit Supportive Housing Development and the Project Proponent's Housing Tax Credit Application Efforts was offered by Councilmember Olson who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Erickson was passed by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCE

Pursuant to published notice, a Public Hearing was held to receive input regarding an Ordinance Amending Chapter 14 of the Bemidji City Code Article VII Relating to Erosion and Sedimentation Control. Mayor Albrecht opened the Public Hearing at 6:46 p.m., hearing no comments the public hearing was closed.

AN ORDINANCE Amending Chapter 14 of the Bemidji City Code Article VII Relating to Erosion and Sedimentation Control was given a second reading.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Monday, June 8 5:30 p.m. Work Session – Middle School Road CUP Review & Discussion
- Tuesday, June 9 5:30 p.m. Charter Commission
- Monday, June 15 6:00 p.m. Council Meeting
- Tuesday, June 16 5:30 p.m. Joint City/Northern Meeting re: Birchmont Drive Assessment At Northern Town Hall

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.
- Meehlhause announced that Bemidji will be recognized as a Minnesota GeenStep City and receive Step 3 block award at the League of Mn Cities Annual Conference on Friday, June 26.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Larson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk