

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – Monday, August 18, 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, August 18, 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, Hellquist, Olson, Erickson, Thompson Absent: Johnson

Staff Present: City Manager John Chattin, Public Works Director/City Engineer Craig Gray, City Clerk Kay Murphy

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

Mayor Albrecht called for any amendments to the agenda. The following item was requested by the Public Works Director to be added:

- Discuss Intersection of Wee Gwaus Drive & Irvingside Lane

Motion by Olson, seconded by Hellquist, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

MINUTES

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Council Meeting	August 4, 2014
BEDA Meeting	August 4, 2014

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Thompson, to approve the minutes as prepared. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following Consent Agenda items were presented for approval. **Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Thompson, to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:**

1. Claims Submitted by Finance Officer in the amount of **\$1,207,870.68**
2. Claims Submitted by VenuWorks for the Sanford Center in the amount of **\$12,012.81**
3. 1-4 day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – BSU Foundation – 10/18/2014
4. 1-day Temporary Consumption & Display Permit – NW Minnesota Foundation 9/19/2014
5. Consumption & Display (Set Up) Permit – Bemidji Curling Club
6. **RESOLUTION NO. 5903:** Authorizing an Agreement between the Department of Transportation and the City of Bemidji for Installation of Mississippi Trail Signage (Agreement No. 06543)
7. **RESOLUTION NO. 5904:** Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Tax-Exempt Lease Purchase Agreement, and Related Instruments, and Determining Others Matters in Connection Therewith (Replacing Resolution No. 5899)

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

- Richard Lehmann, 1426 Irvingside Lane, stated that the intersection of Wee Gwaus and Irvingside Lane were reconfigured without discussing or notices given to the neighborhood. He stated due to the limited visibility in that area and the speed of traffic it presents safety concerns. He requested that the Council consider directing staff to add stop signs to make it a 3-way stop.
- Adam Steele, 189 Gemmel Avenue, stated that the police are trapping cats on Gemmel Avenue. He is circulating a petition asking that the city stop trapping the cats as they have a “distinctive environment and demographics” on that street. He further requested that the Council consider repealing the “cat” ordinance.

REPORT

Blue Ox Marathon Update

Philip Knudson, Director of the Blue Ox Marathon, stated that their mission is to promote health and wellness through being active. The first race was in 2013 and nearly 1,000

people took part in the events. A group of very dedicated individuals planned the event as well as over 200 volunteers to make the event a success. He stated that this year they are hoping for a bigger and better event. So far, there are over 600 people registered and 70% are from outside Bemidji. There will be an expo at the Sanford Center for businesses to interact with the participants. The race will be held the second weekend in October (October 10 and 11). The route was discussed as well as making sure residents can access or leave their homes along the route. In addition, the group has been working with the County Sheriff and City Police Department to ensure a safe event.

NEW BUSINESS

Intersection – Wee Gwaus & Irvingside Lane

Mayor Albrecht invited residents in the neighborhood to speak to the issue. The following individuals spoke in favor of the City adding stop signs to the intersection as they believed it would slow down traffic and make it safer for the residents that live there.

- Warren Schaper, 1506 Wee Gwaus Lane SW
- Kathy Johnson, 1424 Wee Gwaus Lane SW
- Jeff Geiger, 1408 Wee Gwaus Lane SW

Gray stated that City staff had received a number of complaints from people traveling through this area about the configuration of the intersection and the way it was signed. After viewing the intersection, Gray stated that he determined that the existing stop signs and conditions did not meet any of the warrants for stop signs on Wee Gwaus. Gray stated that based upon the site visit he decided to correct the situation by creating a T-intersection and remove the two existing stop signs on Wee Gwaus. The work was completed by the City's maintenance staff within the street department existing budget, no formal Council action was needed. Gray referred to the MN Traffic Manual that states that "stop signs should not be used for speed control." However, if the City Council feels there are other conditions that necessitate a stop sign on Wee Gwaus, staff would install the additional stop signs.

Richard Lehmann stated that the Uniform signage code does not fit the requirements of this neighborhood and asked the Council to consider the neighborhood's needs. He stated that no complaints were from those that live in the neighborhood.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Hellquist, to table this discussion until the regular Council meeting on Tuesday, September 2 to allow council members an opportunity look at the intersection. Motion carried unanimously.

Engineering Testing Contract - Sanford Center

Chattin reviewed the proposals received in relation to the Moisture Investigation (Post-Construction Evaluation) Report dated March 31, 2014 prepared by Leo A Daly and Kraus-Anderson Construction Company. He stated that Inspect and Clark Engineering proposals should be considered together. He noted that it would be advantageous to the City for any engineering consultant selected to be a client of our special legal consultant, Jim Strommen. The proposals focus on the building envelope with particular attention to or focus on the brick veneer clad precast wall panels. He stated that Hanson Structural Precast, Inc., the supplier and installer of the precast wall panels, and will be putting together a report of the issues they observed, and it is anticipated the report will address proposed solution(s) to correct the precast issues.

Mayor Albrecht stated that the Finance Director has indicated there is a small amount in the contingency fund for the Sanford Center if the work needs to be performed.

Motion by Thompson, seconded by Olson, to authorize engineering services of the moisture infiltration issue(s) at the Sanford Center with Clark Engineering in the amount of \$12,450 and Inspec in the amount of \$33,000, if needed. Motion carried unanimously.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

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|------------------------|-----------|---|
| • Monday, August 25 | 5:30 p.m. | Sp Work Session – VenuWorks Contract |
| • Tuesday, September 2 | 7:00 p.m. | Council Meeting |
| • Monday, September 8 | 5:30 p.m. | Work Session – Council & Dept. Heads
(Public Works Building) |

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.

- Mayor Albrecht stated that she has invited Chairman Seki from Red Lake to an informal meeting with the Council on either September 2 or September 15 at 5:30 p.m. More details will be made available.

Mayor Albrecht recessed the meeting at 8:14 p.m. and the Council moved into the Conference room for the purpose to discuss Birchmont Drive with the City's counsel.

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Olson, to close the meeting in accordance with Minnesota Statute Section 13D.05, Subd. 3(b) for the purpose of discussing with the City's Attorney regarding threatened or pending litigation with regards to Birchmont Drive Assessments. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting closed at 8:21 p.m.

On the Phone: Attorney Jason Kuboushek of Iverson Reuvers

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Olson, to open the meeting at 9:02 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Olson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Kay M. Murphy
City Clerk