

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

Regular Meeting – September 3, 2019

Pursuant to due call and notice, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Tuesday, September 3, 2019 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, Beard, Johnson, Rivera, Erickson. Absent: Thompson (arrived at 6:12)

Staff Present: City Manager Nate Mathews, City Attorney Alan Felix, Public Works Director/City Engineer Craig Gray, Community Development Director Steven Jones, City Clerk Michelle Miller

SWEARING IN CEREMONY

Chief Mastin introduced Officers Joshua Wicker and Adam Bergeron and City Clerk Miller conducted the oath of office of each.

AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA

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

MINUTES

The following minutes were presented for approval:

- Work Session: August 12, 2019
- Work Session: August 19, 2019
- Council Meeting: August 19, 2019

Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Rivera, to approve the minutes as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Claims Submitted by Finance Officer in the amount of \$435,922.58
2. Claims Submitted by VenuWorks for the Sanford Center in the amount of \$36,985.78
3. General Business License Approvals for 2019
4. Approve Change Order No. 10 for Carnegie Restoration Project – City Project 18-07
5. **RESOLUTION NO. 6242:** Approving DWI Officer Grant
6. **RESOLUTION NO. 6243:** Accepting Donation from North Country Snowmobile Club

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA

No appearance

OLD BUSINESS

Consider Skyline Village Manufactured Home Park Evacuation and Shelter Plan

Mathews reported that Council had directed staff to meet and review the evacuation and shelter plan that was presented at the August 5, 2019 council meeting. Staff believes that the distance from Skyline Village to Mount Zion Church as an evacuation shelter does not reflect the intent of the legislative language pertaining to a reasonable distance. Staff is recommending that council reject the submitted plan as inadequate. Further, staff suggests that the park owner supply proof of permission to use a shelter within approximately one mile of the mobile home park or that an approved shelter be constructed on site, pursuant to Minnesota rules.

Motion by Erickson, seconded by Johnson to reject the Skyline Village Manufactured Home Park Evacuation Plan as inadequate; that the owner submit proof of permission of a shelter located within approximately one mile of the park, or that an approved shelter be constructed on site pursuant to Minnesota Rules. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Consider Resolution Approving the Terms of up to \$2,000,000 Interfund Loan in Connection with Proposed Tax Increment Financing District (Railroad Corridor)

Mathews reported that setting up this proposed TIF district would allow the city to reimburse itself of any public infrastructure costs incurred if the property is developed. Staff consulted with bond and TIF representatives and they recommend establishing a TIF district for this project. Staff addressed questions and concerns from council.

RESOLUTION NO. 6244: Approving the Terms of up to \$2,000,000 Interfund Loan in Connection with Proposed Tax Increment Financing District (Railroad Corridor) was offered by Councilmember Erickson, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Thompson was passed by unanimous vote.

ORDINANCES

AN ORDINANCE Vacating/Revoking Ordinance No. 115, 3rd Series, and Amending an Uncoded Section of Bemidji City Code Pertaining to Street Vacation (Hillside Avenue) was given a first reading.

UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

- Monday, September 9 5:30 p.m. Work Session (2020 Budget & 2020 Sales Tax Proposal)
- Monday, September 16 6:00 p.m. Council Meeting

COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.
- Erickson reported an ongoing issue regarding a motorhome camper that is parking on a city street. She stated that the resident is following calendar parking requirements. Erickson suggests that the city should adopt an ordinance to restrict and enforce these types of parking uses on city streets.

Mayor Albrecht called for a short recess of the meeting at 6:48 p.m.

Preliminary consideration of allegations against a City of Bemidji employee under Minnesota Statutes, Section 13D.05, Subd. 2(b)

The meeting reconvened in the City Hall Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. with all councilmembers present, as well as City Attorney Alan Felix and City Clerk Michelle Miller. Albrecht stated that special counsel Brandon Fitzsimmons is experiencing travel delays and will not be able to be present either in person or by phone. Albrecht is recommending that this meeting be continued to a date when Mr. Fitzsimmons can be present.

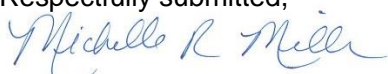
Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Rivera to continue the meeting, in particular to this item until Monday, September 9 at 5:30 or until such time as council can be heard.

Beard questioned the need to continue this meeting; but, rather, to adjourn and repost the meeting. After discussion, Meehlhause withdrew his motion.

Motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Beard to table the agenda item marked as Preliminary Consideration of Allegations Against a City of Bemidji Employee Under Minnesota Statutes, Section 13D.05, Subd. 2(b) until Monday, September 9 or Tuesday, September 10 to be determined based on the availability of Special Council Brandon Fitzsimmons. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Rivera, seconded by Johnson, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

 Michelle R. Miller
 City Clerk