

# CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

## BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA

### Regular Meeting – September 6, 2016

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 6, 2016 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, Erickson, Larson

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

#### **PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Albrecht proclaimed the following events:

- Dementia Awareness Week – September 18-24, 2016
- Suicide Prevention Month – September, 2016
- Paul Bunyan Trail Day – September 10, 2016

#### **AMENDMENTS TO AGENDA**

Mayor Albrecht called for any amendments to the agenda. Staff requested that item #11 regarding the contract amendment for Paul Bunyan Park be removed from the agenda. **Motion by Olson, seconded by Johnson, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

#### **MINUTES**

The following minutes were presented for approval:

Council Meeting	August 15, 2016
Sp. Work Session	August 22, 2016
Joint Sp. Meeting	August 22, 2016

**Motion by Erickson, seconded by Johnson, 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 Olson, to approve the Consent Agenda items as follows:**

1. Claims submitted by the Finance Officer in the total amount of \$1,728,780.13
2. Claims Submitted by VenuWorks for the Sanford Center in the amount of \$21,349.36
3. 3.2 On Sale Beer and Wine Licenses – MUY Pizza Minnesota LLC d/b/a Pizza Hut
4. Declared 2000 Dodge ½ ton 2-wheel drive pickup as Surplus Equipment - WWTF
5. **RESOLUTION NO. 6025:** Approving State of Minnesota Joint Powers Agreements with the City of Bemidji on Behalf of its Police Department Regarding the Minnesota Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC)
6. **RESOLUTION NO. 6026:** to Repair or Remove Structure(s) Located at 303 29th Street NW
7. Acceptance of a DNR – Fire Assistance Grant in the amount of \$5,000 – Fire Dept.
8. Travel Authorization – CGMC Fall Retreat – October 13-14 in Hutchinson - Johnson

**Motion carried by unanimous vote.**

#### **CITIZENS NOT ON AGENDA**

No one appeared.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission – Rachel Munson introduced herself as the new advisor to the Bemidji Youth Advisory Commission

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### 2016 Tax Levy

Eischens reviewed the 2017 preliminary tax levy noting that due to the value of new construction and annexed properties, the effective tax increase will be approximately 3.2%.

He noted that should the State Legislature hold a special session and the City receive the \$106,000 of LGA that was in the tax bill, it would decrease the levy by approximately 2%.

**RESOLUTION NO. 6027: Approving Preliminary 2016 Tax Levy Collectible in 2017 in the amount of \$5,379,747 and Setting the Truth in Taxation Hearing Date on December 5, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. or soon thereafter was offered by Councilmember Hellquist, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Larson was passed by unanimous vote.**

Parking Request

Councilor Meehlhause stated that he was approached at the owner of the Bridgeman Center regarding parking along the corner of 15<sup>th</sup> & Bemidji Avenue. Meehlhause also stated that he visited with the neighbors who had no problem with the change to 1-hour parking. Gray noted that currently some of the parking is designated one hour.

**RESOLUTION NO. 6028: Designating 1-Hour Parking on 15<sup>th</sup> Street NE from Bemidji Avenue North to Bixby Avenue NE was offered by Councilmember Meehlhause, who moved its adoption, and upon due second by Councilmember Erickson was passed by unanimous vote.**

Fire Station No. 1 Water Line Project (#16-08)

Mathews stated that the City received a \$95,160 grant to install a sprinkler system in Fire Station No. 1. In order to do this a new water line must be extended into the building from 4<sup>th</sup> Street. The project was designed by City staff and the following two quotes were received:

Sparky's Construction	\$34,957.00
Reierson Construction	\$37,002.75

Gray noted that the grant requires a 10% local match and this project will qualify as such. The project is not in the current capital improvement plan but is proposed to be funded from the water utility fund.

**Motion by Erickson, seconded by Olson, to award the quote for the Fire Station No. 1 Water Line project (#16-08) to Sparky's Construction in the amount of \$34,957. Motion carried unanimously.**

**ORDINANCES**

Pursuant to published notice, a Public Hearing was held to receive input regarding Amending Ordinance No. 75, 3<sup>rd</sup> Series, Chapter 12, Article XXV, Sec. 12-1442 of the Bemidji City Code Relation to Lodging Tax Extension. Mayor Albrecht opened the Public Hearing at 6:27 p.m., hearing no comments the public hearing was closed.

**AN ORDINANCE** Amending Ordinance No. 75, 3<sup>rd</sup> Series, Chapter 12, Article XXV, Sec. 12-1442 of the Bemidji City Code Relation to Lodging Tax Extension was given a second reading.

Vacation of Wagner Avenue

City Attorney Felix stated that the request to vacate this street came through discussions with the City Engineer and the developer. He explained the process used when vacating public property. City Engineer Gray commented that the County Engineer was in favor of the vacation to eliminate three accesses onto 15<sup>th</sup> Street in such a small area.

Pursuant to published notice, a Public Hearing was held to receive input regarding an Ordinance Amending an Uncoded Section of the Bemidji City Code Pertaining to the Vacation of a Paper Street (Wagner Avenue NW). Mayor Albrecht opened the Public Hearing at 6:33 p.m.

The following residents spoke to the matter:

- Zada Shindelar, 1601 Norton Avenue NW, stated she needs access on the backside of her property. Felix stated that the City cannot grant or reserve private easements and suggested that she negotiate with Mr. Kloha.
- Linda Binkley, 1701 Norton Avenue NW, wondered who will be surveying the land. Staff responded that it is up to owners to survey. Gray stated that the Binkley property will not be affected by the vacation.
- Mark Bessler, 1617 Norton Avenue NW

Hearing no further comments, Mayor Albrecht closed the Public Hearing at 6:42 p.m.

**AN ORDINANCE** Amending an Uncoded Section of the Bemidji City Code Pertaining to the Vacation of a Paper Street (Wagner Avenue NW) was given a second reading.

**UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- Monday, Sept. 12      5:30 p.m.      Work Session – Closed to Review Liquor Store Property Appraisals
- Monday, Sept. 19      6:00 p.m.      Council Meeting


**COUNCIL/STAFF REPORT**

- Council members provided updates on current events and meetings.
- It was noted that the Paul Bunyan Park dedication will be held on September 17 as part of the Worldwide Day of Play.

**ADJOURN**

There being no further business, motion by Meehlhause, seconded by Hellquist, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Kay M. Murphy  
City Clerk