

CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
BEMIDJI, MINNESOTA
Work Session – September 8, 2014

Pursuant to due call and notice, a work session of the City Council of the City of Bemidji, Beltrami County, Minnesota, was held on Monday, September 8, 2014, at 5:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall, Mayor Albrecht presiding.

Upon roll call, the following Councilmembers were declared present: Albrecht, Meehlhause, Hellquist, Johnson, Olson, Erickson, Thompson

Staff Present: City Manager John Chattin, City Attorney Alan Felix, Parks & Recreation Director Marcia Larson, Finance Officer Ron Eischens, Public Works Director Craig Gray, Fire Chief Dave Hoefer, Police Chief Mike Mastin

Paul Bunyan & Babe – Dress Request

Mayor Albrecht stated that a request has been received from the Shriners to place a Shriners' fez on Paul Bunyan.

Hellquist stated that allowing some non-controversial costumes may make it difficult to deny more risqué ideas, should they come along in the future.

Olson noted that allowing the statues to be dressed up may interfere with the tradition of allowing tourists to take photos of the pair.

Johnson stated that the practice of adorning the statues could be viewed as a tool to promote the city of Bemidji along with community groups.

Motion by Hellquist, seconded by Olson, to deny the request to place a Shriner's hat on Paul Bunyan and to deny any and all future requests. Motion carried with the following vote: Ayes: Thompson, Erickson, Olson, Meehlhause, Albrecht, Hellquist. Nays: Johnson.

Visioning Session

City Council and department heads discussed the vision and mission of our community and how they impact our operations.

Vision: "Become an Active, Safe, and Inclusive Community"

Mission: "Provide Essential Services and Fun for Our Regional Community"

ADJOURN

There being no further business, motion by Thompson, seconded by Hellquist, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


John M. Chattin
City Manager