

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2017 –7:30 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Independence City Council was called to order by Mayor Johnson at 7:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Johnson, Councilors Betts and Grotting

ABSENT: McCoy, Spencer, Kaltsas and Vose

STAFF: City Administrative Assistant Horner

VISITORS: Melissa Potter

4. ****Consent Agenda****

All items listed under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by Council and will be acted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- a. Approval of City Council minutes from the February 28, 2017 Regular City Council Meeting.
- b. Approval of Accounts Payable; Checks Numbered 16990-17014 and 17020-17046. For Information Checks Numbered 17015-17019 are Payroll Checks.
- c. Approval of Low Bids for 2017 Gravel and Chloride Treatment Contracts.

Motion by Betts, second by Grotting to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes: Johnson, Grotting, and Betts. Nays: None. Absent: McCoy and Spencer. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

5. SET AGENDA – ANYONE NOT ON THE AGENDA CAN BE PLACED UNDER OPEN/MISC.

6. REPORTS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF

Spencer attended the following meetings:

Grotting attended the following meetings:

- Highway 12 Coalition Meeting
- Citizens Police Academy
- Delano Vigil
- Planning Commission Meeting
- 2040 Comprehensive Plan Kick-Off Meeting
- Highway Clean-Up

McCoy attended the following meetings:

Betts attended the following meetings:

- Police Commission Meeting
- Elected Officials Conference
- City Council February Work Session
- Fire Commission Meeting

Johnson attended the following meetings:

- Orono Healthy Youth Meeting
- Highway 12 Coalition Meeting
- Hennepin County Comp Plan Meeting at Ridgedale Library
- Hennepin County Community Action Partnership Retreat
- Tom Grundhoefer Funeral
- Senior Community Services Finance Committee Meeting
- National League of Cities Meeting in Washington, D.C.
- Two Meetings with Senator Amy Klobuchar
- Northwest League of Municipalities Meeting
- League of Minnesota Cities Leadership Meeting
- Community Action Partnership Finance Committee Meeting
- Minnehaha Watershed District Comp Plan Meeting
- Planning Commission Meeting
- 2040 Comprehensive Plan Kick-Off Meeting
- League of Minnesota Cities Legislative Conference
- Suburban Hennepin County Community Action Partnership Annual Meeting

Horner attended the following meetings:

- Met with Jim from LMCC about projector
- Planning Commission Meeting
- 2040 Comprehensive Plan Kick-Off Meeting

Kaltsas attended the following meetings:

7. MELISSA POTTER, FROM HENNEPIN COUNTY ASSESSOR'S OFFICE – PRELIMINARY PRESENTATION IN PREPARATION FOR THE BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION MEETING ON APRIL 11, 2017.

Potter spoke about the upcoming meeting on April 11th. She said she accepted a position as a Supervisor in the Assessor's office so Dave Thompson will be the new assessor for Independence. Potter said the City will be receiving the sales book and the revalue efforts have to encompass at least 1/5th of the City. Potter said residential properties in Independence have gone up on average over the last assessment year by 4.7%. She said commercial went up 2.3% and industrial went up 4%. Agriculture went up 1.6% on average.

Grotting asked if the numbers were based solely on Independence. Potter said they look at all structures sold in Hennepin County. Johnson noted commercial increase is probably due to the area expanding beyond 494 and becoming a hotter market than previous years.

Potter said since the valuation notices went out two weeks they have received 21 calls. Some have been adjusted and some are still being researched.

Johnson asked what happens with the valuation in the event of a fire and he noted the recent barn that burned down in Independence. Potter said there is a disaster credit that can be applied to the taxes if over 50% of the structure was damaged.

8. DIRECTOR GARY KROELLS, WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY - ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2017.

for a complete activity report for the month of February 2017 see the City Council packet

Kroells highlighted a few incidents including a call of two pigs running loose! He also talked about the vandalism done to the YMCA camp cabins that had just been remodeled.

Kroells stated the Elected Officials disaster training on March 29th. There will also be a swearing in of new officers on April 11th and Thompson is almost finished with his field training as a new officer. Kroells said by May 1st they will have a full staff.

9. OPEN/MISCELLANEOUS

Johnson stated the condo market is not building like they used to due to legislative actions. He noted that there is new legislation going through now that he would like to have the Council's endorsement to sign as a representative of Independence in support of making condos more prevalent again due to demand. Johnson noted it is called the "Townhome and Condo Bill".

10. ADJOURN

Motion by Betts, second by Grotting to adjourn at 8:35 p.m. Ayes: Johnson, Betts and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: McCoy and Spencer. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trish Bemmels/ Recording Secretary