

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JANUARY 10, 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, Spencer, McCoy and Grotting

ABSENT: None

STAFF: City Planner & City Administrator Mark Kaltsas, City Administrative Assistant Horner, City Attorney Vose

VISITORS: Jeff Johnson, Four Boy Scouts

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 the City Council minutes from the December 13, 2016 Truth in Taxation Meeting.
- b. Approval of City Council minutes from the December 13, 2016 Regular City Council Meeting.
- c. Approval of Accounts Payable; Checks Numbered 16792-16828. For Information Checks Numbered 16765-16791 are Payroll Checks.
- d. Approval of Mayors Attendance at the National League of Cities Congressional Cities Conference March 11-15 and the National Community Action Legislative Conference on March 15-17.
- e. Approval to not waive the monetary limits on Tort Liability established by MN Statues, to the extent of the limits of liability coverage obtained from the LMCIT.
- f. Approve date of Local Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting-April 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
- g. Approve Annual Payment to WeCAN and Delano Senior Center for Services Provided to Independence Residents.
- h. **RESOLUTION 17-0110-01** Supporting the WeCAN Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application.
- i. Letter of Support for Senior Community Services Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application.
- j. Approval of Planning Commission Appointment of Thomas Palmquist to a Three (3) Year Term.
- k. **RESOLUTION 17-0110-02** Approving Residential Recycling Grant Agreement with Hennepin County.
- l. Approve Agriculture Preserve Enrollment Application for the Property Located at 7275 Turner Road and Further Identified by PID Nos. 2811824410005, 2811824410005 and 2811824440004.
- m. Approval of Third Quarter Financial Report

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

- City Council Workshop
- Highway 12 Safety Coalition Meeting

Grotting attended the following meetings:

- None to report

McCoy (report for April 12th and April 26th) attended the following meetings:

- Highway 12 Safety Coalition Meeting
- City Council Workshop
- Northwest League of Cities Meeting
- Maple Plain Mayors Recognition Reception
- Retirement Reception for Tom Stinger, Orono School Business Manager

Betts attended the following meetings:

- Police Commission Meeting
- City Council Workshop
- Highway 12 Coalition Meeting
- West Hennepin Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Johnson attended the following meetings:

- Northwest League of Municipalities Meeting
- Retirement Reception for Tom Stinger, Orono School Business Manager
- Suburban Hennepin County Community Action Partnership Finance Committee Meeting
- Highway 55 Quarter Coalition Meeting
- Police Commission Meeting
- City Council Workshop
- Governors Holiday Reception
- Jerome Hanson funeral
- Conference of Mayors
- Orono Choir Concert
- West Hennepin Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Horner attended the following meetings:

- City Council Workshop

Kaltsas attended the following meetings:

- City Council Workshop

7. ANNUAL CITY COUNCIL VISIT BY DISTRICT 7 HENNEPIN COUNTY COMMISSIONER JEFF JOHNSON.

Johnson handed out the 2016 budget numbers. He said mostly the budget will remain the same for 2017 with the exception of property taxes which increased 5%. Johnson said he feels there is spending where there does not need to be and that there could be more effective ways of spending the budget dollars. He said the increases are not sustainable year after year especially looking at the demographics. Johnson noted they are looking at the way they do business with vendors and having more performance-based pay. He said they are also looking at changing over from a step model for paying employees to a performance driven model. Johnson said they are also working on the comprehensive plan and implementing some reform to that model as well.

Mayor Johnson said he would like to see the County take a look at the election ballot counter. He noted it was so slow there were lines of voters waiting to cast their ballot. Mayor Johnson also expressed concern regarding the SCORE funding that comes from the County with the contract reducing funding for regular recycling programs and increasing funding for the organic program.

Betts said she really liked the video Commissioner Johnson put on Facebook about Met Council.

Spencer thanked Commissioner Johnson for his involvement in the Highway 12 Coalition meetings and his attentiveness to that issue.

8. ANNUAL CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Kaltsas said each year the City selects Council Members, consultants and staff to serve the City and fill roles supporting boards and commissions. The Council has the discretion to make appointments as necessary. The various positions are identified on the attached schedule. Staff is seeking Council direction relating to all official City Council appointments.

Spencer stated he spoke with Joe Baker and he is willing to stay on as the City's representative to the watershed district. Johnson and Spencer both said Joe has done a wonderful job and his efforts are much appreciated.

Spencer said he would be the Planning Commission's primary liaison to the City Council and Grotting could serve as his back-up.

McCoy stated he would continue to be the representative for the City with Delano and Loretto fire departments. Betts said her schedule could stay the same as well. Grotting was fine with staying on as the cable representative.

Acting Mayor	Councilor Brad Spencer
Assessor	Hennepin County, Melissa Potter
Weed Inspector	PW Director Larry Ende
Assn. of Metro Municipalities	Mayor Johnson
Attorney, Civil	Kennedy & Graven
Attorney, Criminal	Carson & Clelland
Auditor	Clifton Larson Allen

Civil Defense Director	WHPS Director Gary Kroells
Dog Pound	Crossroads Animal Shelter
Engineer	MSA Professional Services, Brian Miller/Steve Winter
Fire Department Advisory Boards - Maple Plain FD	Mayor Johnson, Councilor Betts, City Admin Kaltsas
- Delano FD	Mayor Johnson, Councilor McCoy, City Admin Kaltsas
- Loretto FD	Mayor Johnson, Councilor McCoy, City Admin Kaltsas
Fire Marshall	Building Official Bruce Satek
Hennepin County Recycling Comm	Admin Asst Beth Horner
Highway 55 Coalition	Mayor Johnson
Highway 12 Coalition	Mayor Johnson, Councilor Betts
HRA	Mayor Johnson, Councilors Betts, Spencer, McCoy and Grotting
Lake Minnetonka Cable Commission	Councilor Grotting
Minnehaha Watershed	Mayor Johnson
Newspaper	Crow River News (Official Newspaper), Pioneer, and Delano Herald
Northwest Hennepin League	Mayor Johnson, Councilors Betts, Spencer, McCoy, Grotting and City Admin Kaltsas
Official Depository	Bank of Maple Plain, Northland Securities, Ehlers & Assoc., League of MN Cities
Pioneer Sarah Watershed	Joe Baker, Alt. Brad Spencer
Planner	Terramark - Mark Kaltsas
Planning Commission Liaison	Councilor Spencer, Grotting as back-up
Public Works Road Liaison	Councilor Spencer
Water Resource Staff	Hakanson/Anderson – Kaci Fisher, Shane Nelson and Craig Jochum
West Hennepin Police Commission	Mayor Johnson, Councilor Betts

Motion by Grotting, second by McCoy to approve the City Council Appointments for 2017. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, McCoy and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

9. OPEN/MISC.

Kaltsas addressed the Council about the financial status of the City recapping the third quarter. Kaltsas said the City is in good financial shape and will be within budget. He noted the solid waste budget is off but that will be trued up in 2017. Kaltsas said the building inspectors hours have been moved from Public Works back to inspector category.

Johnson asked if the tax payment came in. Kaltsas said it did and it is applied to debt service first. Spencer said he appreciated the progress in the budgets and how Kaltsas has really cleaned the budget up. Grotting asked if organics recycling could be added in the future as an offering to residents. Horner noted she is looking into different options to see if it makes sense and what is available. Johnson said staff could be directed to write a letter to the Commissioners about the recycling funding and concerns.

Motion by Johnson, second by Spencer to direct staff to write a letter to the County Commissioners addressing the concerns around recycling funds and programs. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, McCoy and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

10. ADJOURN.

Motion by McCoy, second by Spencer to adjourn at 8:30 p.m. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, McCoy and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trish Bemmels/ Recording Secretary