

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 2016 –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 and Grotting

ABSENT: McCoy

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

VISITORS: Christie Larson, Linda Blakstvedt, Gary Ballhagen

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 November 15, 2016 City Council Meeting.
- b. Approval of Accounts Payable; Checks numbered 16657-16706.
  - a. For Information - Checks numbered 16654-16656 and 16707-16721 are Payroll Checks. Checks numbered 14784 and 16580 are voided checks.
- c. **RESOLUTION NO. 16-1129-01-** Resolution Certifying Delinquent Sewer Service Charges as Special Assessments

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

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

Gary Ballhagen asked to be added to the agenda.

6. REPORTS OF BOARDS & COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF

**Spencer attended the following meetings:**

- Met with Commissioner Jeff Johnson about 2040 Hennepin Comp Plan
- Maple Plain Joint Council Meeting
- Sewer Rate Meeting

**Grotting attended the following meetings:**

- Sewer Rate Meeting
- Maple Plain Joint Council Meeting

**McCoy attended the following meetings:**

**Betts attended the following meetings:**

- Maple Plain Joint Council Meeting
- Sewer Rate Meeting

**Johnson attended the following meetings (last month):**

- Sensible Land Use Committee Meeting
- Webinar for National League of Cities
- Community Action Partnership Suburban Hennepin Board Meeting
- Orono Schools International Festival
- Hennepin County Healthy Living 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event
- Pioneer Creek Watershed Meeting
- Met with Hennepin County Assessor
- Highway 12 Coalition Meeting
- Election Day Judge
- Community Action Partnership Suburban Hennepin County Finance Meeting
- Delano High School Veterans Program
- Regional Council of Mayors
- Police Commission Meeting
- Senior Services Finance Committee
- Orono School Board
- Pittsburgh National League of Cities
- Maple Plain Joint Council Meeting
- Hennepin County Board Healthy Community Recognition
- Hennepin County Board Truth in Taxation Meeting

**Horner attended the following meetings:**

- Sewer Rate Meeting

**Kaltsas attended the following meetings:**

- Sewer Rate Meeting

7. DISCUSSION/PRESENTATION BY CHRISTIE LARSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF WECAN (WESTERN COMMUNITIES ACTION NETWORK, INC.).

Larson noted that poor in the suburbs outnumber those living in Minneapolis and St. Paul. She said there are approximately 385,000 people living in poverty in the suburbs. Larson noted many communities are not equipped to handle the growing number of poor people.

Larson said WECAN is a community based non-profit providing services to the poor of the twelve most western communities in Hennepin County. WECAN serves families that are 200% below the federal poverty

guidelines which equates to approximately \$48,000 for a family of four. There are four core programs including; emergency assistance, family support, meal programs and unemployment program.

Johnson asked about the budget and Larson said it runs around \$479,000. She noted they rely on City Leadership in Hennepin County to help provide financial support for their programs.

8. DIRECTOR GARY KROELLS, WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY - ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 2016.

Kroells stated the “View Santa” event was happening this Saturday and the whole purpose is to bring a non-perishable food item that will then be donated to the Maple Plain food shelf.

Kroells outlined some events from the October report. He noted there was an increase of over 500 incidents from this time last year. Johnson asked if traffic was the major increase. Kroells said it was part of the increase.

\*for a detailed report see the City Council packet available on the website\*

9. **PUBLIC HEARING:** To consider, and possibly adopt, the proposed assessment for the street and utility improvements along Budd Avenue from Independence Street to north of Manchester Drive.

- a. **RESOLUTION NO. 16-1129-02** – Adopting the proposed assessment for the street and utility improvements along Budd Avenue.

Kaltsas noted Maple Plain decided to table the Public Hearing until a future date. Kaltsas noted this meant that the assessment would have to be carried through 2017. He said the City of Independence has agreed to pay for our portion of the road reconstruction. 35% would be assessed to the property owner.

10. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FINAL DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE FIVE (5) LOT SUBDIVISION KNOWN AS HENDLEY ADDITION AND LOCATED ON THE PROPERTY AT 4150 LAKE SARAH DRIVE SOUTH, INDEPENDENCE, MN (PID NO. 02-118-24-43-0003).

Kaltsas said the City approved the Final Plat for the five lot subdivision in September of 2016. The City has prepared a Development Agreement which memorializes all components and requirements of the development. He noted key items of the agreement:

1. Developer will construct a public sewer extension to serve three (3) lots along Lake Sarah Drive South.
2. Developer will reimburse the City for the cost of upgrading the existing lift station on Lake Sarah Drive South from a single pump to a double pump system.
3. All lots in the development will be required to connect to City sewer. The actual connection costs will be paid at the time the building permit is obtained from the City. The cost per lot is \$9,550.00.
4. Lots 4 and 5 will have a driveway easement to allow access to both lots.

*Summary:*

Kaltsas said it is recommended that the City Council consider approval of the development agreement.

**Motion by Spencer, second by Betts to approve the final development for the five lot subdivision known as Hendley Addition and located at 4150 Lake Sarah Drive South. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: McCoy. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

11. December City Council Meeting Schedule

Johnson and Kaltsas discussed cancelling the City Council Meeting scheduled for December 27, 2016. It was determined that all items should be able to be wrapped up with the December 13, 2016 meeting.

**Motion by Grotting, second by Spencer to cancel the December 27, 2016 City Council Meeting. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: McCoy. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

12. Open/Misc.

Gary Ballhagen, 6030 Drake Dr., said he has neighbor issue with Jim Zabel. Ballanger said due to the raising of that property a culvert was plugged and now he has water issues on his property. Ballhagen said Zabel keeps moving dirt on his property causing a lot of standing water on the Ballhagen property.

Vose stated the City would need to hear both sides of the story. He noted the City would have interest in the culvert and may have some recourse although that would need to be determined after gathering all the information from each neighbor. Vose stated it could also be a case of filing private claims. Johnson said it was most likely affecting the neighbor to the east of the property as well.

Johnson asked Kaltsas if there was anything in the City code pertaining to a sexual predator ordinance. He said that has been a hot topic at the NW League of Cities meetings.

Spencer asked if there were any items pending for the Planning Commission. Kaltsas said there was not anything at this time for December. Kaltsas stated Tom Palmquist has expressed interest to be reappointed to the Planning Commission for another term so there will just be one spot open in 2017.

13. Adjourn.

**Motion by Spencer, second by Grotting to adjourn at 8:40 p.m.. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, and Grotting. Nays: None. Absent: McCoy. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

Respectfully Submitted,

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Trish Bemmels/ Recording Secretary