

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2015 – 7:30PM

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, and Councilors Betts, Fisher, and Spencer

ABSENT: Norm Wenck

STAFF: City Administrator Hirsch, City Attorney Vose, and City Planner Kaltsas

VISITORS: Martin Eichers, Pat Eichers, Kris Eichers, Christian Eichers, Chris Rahn, Vicki Rahn

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.

- Approval of City Council minutes from February 10, 2015
- Approval of the Liquor License Renewals for Pioneer Creek Golf, LLC,- Windsong Farm Golf Club, LLC- and the Ox Yoke Inn Inc.
- Approval of the request to enter into a Master Subscriber Agreement for Minnesota Court Data Services for Governmental Agencies

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

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

- Johnson added Resolution item for the League of Minnesota Cities
- Johnson added Loretto Fire Department contract meeting

6. REPORTS OF BOARDS & COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF.

Spencer attended the following meetings:

- Planning Commission
- 911 Call Center Open House
- Vinland Center Winter Walk-About
- Phone call with new Consultant

Wenck attended the following meetings:

- Loretto Fire Department Annual Meeting
- Met with New Consultant

Fisher attended the following meetings:

- Phone call with New Consultant

Betts attended the following meetings:

- Met with new Consultant

Johnson attended the following meetings:

- NW League of Municipalities
- Open House WSB Inc.
- Orono Healthy Youth
- Drug Task Force Dinner
- Loretto Fire Department Annual Meeting
- Met with new Consultant
- Lance Olson funeral- former Congressman Jim Ramstad L.A.
- NLC Webinar
- Advisory Rep for Assisted Living Center in Maple Plain
- 911 Open House
- Energy call- NLC
- Vinland Center Winter Walk-About
- Met Council Water Resource Meeting
- Orono School Board
- Met with Auditor

Hirsch attended the following meetings:

- Intern Meeting
- Auditors here this week
- Hired new full-time person to start March 9th.
- Council Work Session Prep Meeting

7. Chris and Vicki Rahn (Applicants/Owners) request that the City consider the following actions for the property located at 6461 State Highway 12, Independence, MN (PID No. 22-118-24-44-0010): Resolution No. 15-0224-01
 - a. An amendment to the existing Conditional Use Permit to allow the drop-off and pick-up of boats outside of the enclosed storage area and remove the provision allowing boats for sale in the same area.

- Spencer stated that 21 boats was a very high number and he thought it should be changed to 14. He said it was ok to use all 3 zones but felt the number should be cut to 14.
- Discussion around using other areas on the property potentially but area was determined to be fine.
- Discussion around liability of boats left outside of the fence and it was determined it was the boat owners liability and they sign documents noting they are responsible.
- Chris Rahn stated he agreed that the language in the resolution could be changed from 21 to 14.

Motion by Spencer to approve Resolution No. 15-0224-01, second by Fisher. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Fisher, and Spencer. Nays: None. Absent: Wenck. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

8. Martin Eichers, 4005 Windmill Drive, Scout Troop, Unit 273 introduced his Eagle Scout Project, with an update of what he has accomplished since starting last fall.

- Nature walk at Pioneer Park- proposes planting Sugar Maples, Black Spruce and has put in some Willows. Also plans to put in River Birch and some Maple Trees. Martin stated he also plans on putting in houses for birds, ducks and bats. He is also planning a butterfly sanctuary and planting milkweeds to help the Monarch's thrive. He will also be putting a Kiosk by the path that details the project and has a map of the different areas. It will also include a list of donors who have helped with the project. He also asked for a donation from the Council to help with the project.
- Johnson pointed out to include Greenwood Trail on the display.

9. Misc./ Open

- a. Discussion and approval for Supporting City Streets Resolution 15-0224-02.

Motion by Spencer, second by Betts to approve. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Fisher, and Spencer. Nays: None. Absent: Wenck. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

- b. Johnson stated the Loretto Fire Department is looking at a contract for a longer period of time. Johnson would like the Council to review the contract and it will be on the agenda before April 15, 2015.

10. ADJOURN

Motion by Spencer, second by Fisher to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 8:45. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Fisher, and Spencer. Nays: None. Absent: Wenck. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Bemmels, Recording Secretary

