

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 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, Spencer and Wenck

ABSENT: None

STAFF: City Administrator Hirsch, Public Works Director Ende, City Attorney Vose

VISITORS: Todd Hagen

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 the City Council minutes from March 24th, 2015.
- Approval of the Accounts Payable for April 15, 2015

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

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

- Spencer added Lindgren Lane property discussion.
- Vose requested approval from Mayor Johnson to add a closed session at the end of the meeting citing a matter to be discussed in accordance with attorney/client privileges

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

Spencer attended the following meetings:

- Roads Workshop
- Water Quality Observation with Joe Baker
- WHPS Citizens Academy Graduation
- Loretto Fire Department Pancake Fundraiser
- Board of Review Meeting

Wenck attended the following meetings:

- Sensible Land Use Coalition
- Shared Services Meeting
- Lake Minnetonka Communications Meeting
- Board of Review Meeting

Fisher attended the following meetings:

- Roads Work Session
- Board of Review Meeting

Betts attended the following meetings:

- Roads Workshop
- Sensible Land Use Coalition
- Highway 12 Coalition
- WHPS Citizen Academy Graduation
- Chamber of Commerce Meeting
- Board of Review Meeting

Johnson attended the following meetings:

- NW League of Municipalities
- Sensible Land Use Coalition Meeting
- Orono Healthy Youth
- City Work Session
- Shared Services Meeting
- Wright Hennepin Electric Annual Meeting
- Community Action Partnership Suburban Hennepin Board Meeting and Annual Meeting
- WHPS Citizens Academy Graduation
- Loretto Fire Department Pancake Fundraiser
- Community Action Partnership/ Suburban Hennepin County Finance Meeting
- Mark Winter Open House
- WeCan Board
- Regional Council of Mayors
- Orono School Board Meeting
- Board of Review Meeting

Hirsch attended the following meetings:

- City Work Session
- Budget Meeting
- LMCC Meeting with Jim Lundberg about extending cable service in the City
- Highway 12 Coalition
- Election Meeting for 2015
- Shared Services
- Board of Review

7. Discussion of financing options for the proposed street reconstruction projects.

City Council to consider potential financing options for the street reconstruction projects.

- a) Johnson introduced Todd Hagen with Ehlers and Associates to begin the discussion. Hagen discussed the findings and handed out materials addressing the comprehensive, long-range road reconstruction plans for the City. He stated there were various ways to finance the reconstruction through a five year Reconstruction Plan Bond Issuance, special elections, tax abatement bonds, assessments, etc. Hagen outlined the different state statutes that would apply and outlined the legal process that would take place for bids and public notification before the project could be started. Hagen stated the City is fortunate to have different options to consider. Hagen said the City had plenty of capacity for the project.
- b) Johnson asked if we had a public forum/ open session before the council meets, would this be something that Ehlers and Associates would host. Hagen stated that they could arrange a meeting to address questions from residents.
- c) Johnson asked the Council if there were any questions. Wenck asked if the projection was for 1.5 million for the project. Wenck reiterated that over five years 202 lots would be affected. He clarified that tonight was about choosing the process the City was going to go with.
- d) Johnson and Spencer discussed that there should be a Public Hearing before the Council Meeting May 12, 2015 with the Engineer and Public Works to answer any questions. Spencer stated it could potentially run from 5:30-7:30 p.m.
- e) Johnson stated the City would publish legal notices in the noted three papers and it would be a good idea to also publish a news release.

Motion by Wenck, second by Betts to approve a conceptual Resolution for Property Tax Abatement/ 10 year for Road Reconstruction and to direct staff/ attorney to publish the notice for a public hearing to consider the issuance of financing for the street reconstruction. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Fisher, Wenck and Spencer. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

8. Misc./Open

- 1) Lindgren Lane property discussion.

Ende asked for suggestions from Council on what to do with Lindgren Lane. He wanted to know if they should level it off. Johnson said he would like to leave it as a City Park. Spencer said it could be leveled out and seeded for now. The entire Council agreed on Johnson and Spencer's recommendations.

Motion by Betts, second by Wenck to move to closed session per Statute 13D.05.Subd3;B. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Fisher, Wenck and Spencer. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

- 2) The council and attorney recessed to the Conference Room at 8:24 p.m.

9. Adjourn

- 1) The Council meeting reconvened in the council chambers at 8:54 p.m.

Motion by Wenck, second by Spencer to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 8:55 p.m. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Fisher, Wenck and Spencer. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Trish Bemmels, Recording Secretary