

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2014 – 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, Councilor Betts, Wenck, and Spencer  
ABSENT: City Planner Kaltsas, Councilor Fisher, City Attorney Voss  
STAFF: City Administrator Hirsch,  
VISITORS: Rande Kyrola

SWEARING NEWLY ELECTED COUNCILORS

Lynne Betts was sworn in by City Administrator Hirsch.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

a. 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 January 14, 2014
- Approval of the Accounts Payable for the month of February, 2014
- Approval of the Recycling Contract Agreement between Randy's Sanitation and us; for recycling services for the next seven years, beginning January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2020
- Approval of Resolution No. 14-0211-01 CDBG Support of Senior Citizen Programs
- Approval of the Annual Liquor Licenses for the Ox Yoke Inn, Pioneer Creek Golf Course and Windsong Farms Golf Club.

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

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

Wenck suggested that limited agenda items for City Council meetings be postponed until the next meeting. Johnson agreed the City has the authority to cancel City Council Meetings when there are limited agenda items that can be discussed at the next City Council Meeting.

Randee Kyrola requested to be added to the agenda

Spencer requested to add his conversation with the Public Works Director to the agenda.

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

**Spencer attended the following meetings:**

- Meeting with the Director of Public Works, Larry Ende. They discussed road conditions, salting and sanding, equipment and maintenance/repair work, sewer maintenance, sewer issues, maintenance of bituminous roads and budgeting. Spencer felt he had a good plan for the future, and he is doing a good job. He stated they would continue to meet on a regular basis, and he would report to the Council on this.
- Experienced Officials Meeting at the Earl Brown Center

**Wenck attended the following meetings:**

- None

**Fisher attended the following meetings:**

Absent

**Betts attended the following meetings:**

- Interviewing the Police Sergeant Gary Kroells for the Chief Police Officer with WHPS

**Johnson attended the following meetings:**

- Met Council Land Use Advisory Committee Meeting
- Gillespie Center Dinner
- Medina Public Works Building Tour and Ribbon Cutting
- Community Action Partnership Suburban Hennepin County Board Meeting
- Love Inc Heartland Annual Meeting
- Memorial Gathering for Larry Hafften, Brother-in-law of Harry Pool
- Two Orono School Board Meetings
- Two Police Commission Meetings
- Hennepin County Board Meeting
- Delano School District Martin Luther King Jr. Presentation
- Sensible Land Use Coalition Meeting
- Ben Withhart, Executive Director for Senior Community Services, Open House Retirement Party
- Hennepin County SHIP Committee Meeting
- Three River's Park District Proposed Trail Plan Meeting
- Experienced Officials Meeting at the Earl Brown Center
- Mayor's Reception in St. Paul for the St. Paul Winter Carnival
- Caucus Training Session
- Caucus Convener
- Served on the Board to Interview Police Candidates for Police Officer Position at WHPS
- Conference of Mayor's Meeting in Minneapolis
- Interviewing the Police Sergeant Gary Kroells for the Chief Police Officer with WHPS
- Chamber of Commerce Meeting

**Hirsch attended the following meetings:**

- Delano Herald Meeting, now one of the City's Legal Newspapers
- Two meetings with Larry Ende and Abdo regarding road plans
- Meeting with City Engineer & Planner regarding Vinland's Sewer Connection
- Police Commission Meeting
- Three River's Park District Proposed Trail Plan Meeting
- Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting

7. **DISCUSSION – REGARDING A RE-PLACEMENT FOR OUR CURRENT RESIDENT-AT-LARGE (JIM SMITH) TO FINISH OUT HIS TERM ON THE LLMC BOARD (LAKE MINNETONKA COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION)**

Johnson explained that Jim Smith is looking to step down from this position, so the City is looking for his replacement for the LMCC Board. He suggested adding it in the newspaper, the City Newsletters, and City Website. Wenck stated it helps when board members have a working knowledge of the Communications business. Jim Smith served on the LMCC Board for 17 years. Johnson commended Smith for all his hard work. The City would be sending Jim Smith a letter recognizing his service.

8. **MISC. /OPEN.**

Randee Kyrola, Lake Sarah Heights Cir, had questions regarding snowmobile access and their use on City Roadways. He has been having issues with neighbors using the road as a trail to get to the Lake. Johnson stated the City has no ordinance that prohibits this, but the State has a law that prohibits snowmobile driving on State and County Roads. Kyrola requested that the City put something in place to help eliminate this noise, nuisance, and speeding issue. He stated in the summertime it becomes an issue with ATVs as well. Johnson stated there is no City ordinance against this. Kyrola was upset because he feels he has lost what was formerly a peaceful neighborhood.

Johnson stated the alternative is to have snowmobiles drive on the right-of-way; which would actually be on Kyrola's yard. Kyrola then asked if anything could be done about the noise and safety concerns. Spencer questioned if the issue was the snowmobilers riding or the neighbors themselves. He suggested making the police aware of the issue, and stated there is no guarantee of peace and quiet.

Kyrola was also upset about how the snow was being plowed on his cul-de-sac and blocking his second driveway. Spencer stated he discussed this issue with the public works director, and the director stated there really is no other alternative to the way they can plow the snow in the cul-de-sac. Wenck requested staff review the info and create a memo with a recommendation for this issue.

9. **ADJOURN**

**Motion by Wenck, second by Spencer to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 8:10 p.m.  
Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, and Wenck. Nays: None. Absent: Fisher. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Jolene Nelson, Recording Secretary