

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2019 –6:30 P.M.

6:00 PM - Hennepin County Assessor David Thomsen – Present Preliminary Local Board of Appeals and Equalization Information in Preparation for April 2, 2019 Meeting

Thomsen outlined the valuations for Independence stating the following increases: residential 1.9%, lakeshore 2.4%, industrial 7.7%, agricultural 15.7% and commercial declined at -7.1%. The average for all properties in Independence was 1.45%. Productive land increased at 13%. Johnson asked if there were any AG sales. Thomsen said there were a couple, but they were not good comps. Thomsen said the meeting will take place April 2nd at 6:00 for appeals.

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 6:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mayor Johnson, Councilors Spencer, Grotting, McCoy and Betts

ABSENT: City Attorney Vose

STAFF: City Administrator Kaltsas, City Administrative Assistant Horner

VISITORS: Dave Thomsen, Melissa Potter, Lynda Franklin, John and Lisa Damian, Dudley Bartholow, Bob Volkenant, Brian Murdock, Rob Langer, Jill Langer, Karla Lopez, Romana Alacon, Francisco Lopez, Kelsey Brenton-Fitzgerald, Laurie Fitz, Bonnie Jacobs, Ben Jacobs, Denny Perrault, Mary Jacobs, Tim Jacobs, Richard Jacobs, Anita Volkenant, Tami Diehm, Saul Baumann, Cathy Schmidt, Khara Baumann

4. ****Consent Agenda****

All items listed under the 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 March 5, 2019 Regular City Council Meeting.
- b. Approval of Accounts Payable; Checks Numbered 18692-18746.
- c. Agriculture Preserve Renewal Application - PID is 07-118-24-24-0001.

Motion by Betts, second by Spencer to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes: Johnson, Grotting, Betts, McCoy and Spencer. 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:

- Highway 12 Safety Coalition meeting
- Northwest League of Municipalities meeting
- Met with Mayor Julie Maas-Kusske

Grotting attended the following meetings:

- Highway 12 Safety Coalition meeting

McCoy attended the following meetings:

- Jessie Heitz mother's funeral
- Parade of Homes in Independence

Betts attended the following meetings:

- Highway 12 Safety Coalition

Johnson attended the following meetings:

- Orono Healthy Youth Committee Meeting
- Conference Call with National League of Cities
- Highway 12 Safety Coalition Meeting
- National League of Cities Conference March 9-13th
- Met with Senators and staff except Hagedorn
- Assisted with interviews for Water Resource Department with Hennepin County
- Attended Community Theatre Glass Menagerie production

Horner attended the following meetings:

- Met with Orono Westonka Soccer Association about using Pioneer Park

Kaltsas attended the following meetings:

7. Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission Presentation – Jim Lundberg, Operations Manager

Lundberg stated the LMCC was formed in 1984 as a joint power between cities to provide public access to government, educational and public information in a united format. There have been over 3 miles of build-out in 2016 and 3.1 miles are scheduled for 2019. The LMCC handles customer complaints with Mediacom and those complaints may be directed to him. The LMCC is funded through a franchise fee and a percentage of subscriber fees per month. Lundberg outlined some upcoming initiatives such as buying a new location truck and upgrading presentation hardware in member cities to create state-of-the-art systems.

Johnson asked about any federal legislation that may be downplaying the use of cable commissions. Lundberg said the FCC does have legislation in progress that if it would go through then the franchises would be affected. Lundberg said small cities generally feel commissions are the way to get the best bang for their buck. Johnson said if a letter of support was needed to please let the Council know. Grotting said they are looking to maximize all they can with Mediacom.

8. Director Gary Kroells, West Hennepin Public Safety:

Kroells thanked Lundberg for the role LMCC plays in helping WHPS get their message out to the community.

- a. Activity Report for the Month of February 2019.

for a complete detail activity report see the City Council packet materials

- b. Discuss and Consider the Joint Powers Agreement for the Lake Minnetonka SWAT Team - Joint Powers Agreement.
- c. **RESOLUTION 19-0319-03** - Considering Authorization for West Hennepin Public Safety to Enter Into the JPA.

Kroells stated WHPS joined other cities approximately 15 years ago to have a joint SWAT team that would work and train together. They average between 5-8 “high-risk” events per year between the cities. The League of Minnesota Cities did their loss control/ risk study in July and the SWAT team was brought to their attention. It was suggested that a joint powers agreement be entered formally in the best interest of all cities. The LMC will charge an insurance policy for that agreement and the police departments would absorb those costs.

Motion by Spencer, second by McCoy to approve RESOLUTION 19-0319-03 - Considering Authorization for West Hennepin Public Safety to Enter Into the JPA. Ayes: Johnson, Grotting, Betts, McCoy and Spencer. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

9. Open/Misc.

10. Adjourn.

Motion by Betts, second by McCoy to adjourn at 7:24.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trish Gronstal/ Recording Secretary
