

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MAY 10, 2011 – 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, Council Members Betts, Spencer, and Wenck.
ABSENT: Council Member Wallace
STAFF: Clerk-Administrator Hirsch, City Attorney Vose
VISITORS: Gene Purdy, Roger Pitts

4. CONSENT AGENDA.

Approve:

- Council Minutes from April 12, 2011
- Board of Review Minutes from April 12, 2011
- Accounts Payable for May 2011
- Approval of Ordinance No. 2011-02 Granting to Wright-Hennepin Cooperative Electric Association all construction, repair and maintenance rights and all miscellaneous work needed to take place within the City's rights of way
- Approval of Resolution 11-0510-01 to publish Ordinance No. 2011-02 by summary

Betts had a few corrections to the minutes. Johnson wanted a correction on the ordinance to replace the term "gas franchise" with "electric franchise".

Motion by Wenck, second by Betts, to approve the consent agenda with changes. Ayes: Betts, Johnson, Spencer, Wenck. Nays: none. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

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

6. REPORTS OF BOARDS & COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF

Spencer: Volunteered at City Clean Up Day

Wenck: Sensible Land Use Coalition, Lake Minnetonka Communications Commission
Betts: Sensible Land Use Coalition, WeCAN Weekend Prayer Breakfast
Johnson: Dinner for Orono Boys Basketball, Northwest League of Municipalities, WeCAN Weekend Prayer Breakfast, Healthy Communities, Metro Cities Annual Meeting, Highway 55 Coalition, Community Action Partnership Suburban Hennepin Finance Meeting, Orono School Board Meetings, meeting with auditing firm Larson Allen, League of MN Cities Focus Group Telephone Conference, Former Hennepin County Assessor's Retirement, Senior Community Services Finance Meeting, Community Action Partnership Meeting and Training Session, Mayor's Convention in Owatonna, Commissioner Jeff Johnson/Mayors meeting in Medina

Hirsch: Pre-audit meeting with Larson Allen, Sensible Land Use Meeting, interviews for Accounting Clerk, Vinland Center meeting for proposed expansion, MN City Manager's Conference, City Clean Up Day, met with Sarah Chelstrom about park use for soccer, Merriweather & Culpepper Circus staff, Loretto Fire Dept to discuss invoicing

7. GENE PURDY, TWIN CITY POLO CLUB, MARK WILFERT, POLO CLUB ROAD, DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION FOR CHANGES TO THE EXISTING CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

Hirsch reported she has been in contact with Gene Purdy, Twin City Polo Club and Mark Wilfert, nominated to represent Polo Club Rd, to discuss some of the conditions and recommendations they have discussed and agreed upon.

Hirsch stated that there are four courses of actions or conditions they have agreed on:

1. Limit to four special events per season April-October
2. Only conducted between Fri-Sun, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily
3. Less than 750 attendees per day
4. 2 week notice to contiguous area

Johnson clarified that the events are non polo events. Hirsch replied that is correct. She stated that Mr. Purdy conducted noise level tests the year before. Vose stated that it seems the residents in the neighborhood are now comfortable enough to contact Mr. Purdy directly if there is an issue. Hirsch asked Council for direction, if they would like to amend the CUP to include these four items.

Vose stated there may be an issue of classifying other activities as secondary events. He asked if there are any events that the Council does not want to allow.

Johnson would like to try the suggested agreement this summer. If needed, they can amend the Conditional Use Permit prior to the following season. Purdy stated that they have no problem working with legal counsel and neighborhoods. Purdy said they have also been approached by some organizations to use their land for soccer practice. Purdy would be willing to make their space available for fall sports. He stated he would be supportive of Mayor Johnson's suggestion. Johnson would prefer not to amend the Conditional Use Permit and run through the season only to realize they need to amend it again. Vose clarified that there is nothing wrong with the agreement between the neighborhood and the Twin City Polo Club. He added that at some point they may want to add some clarification for the type of land use.

Purdy discussed signage at the Polo Club. He hoped that the signage square be allowed at 32 square feet rather than 24 square feet. At this time, they have no budget to redo the signage. He would like the Council to consider granting them the 32 square feet for the sign. Vose asked for some time to review the parameters for the signage. Betts asked if they would be having a directional sign on Highway 12, Purdy responded that Hennepin County is no longer doing those signs, but it would be ideal for them to have it.

Motion by Spencer, second by Betts, to have the City Attorney check on signage for the Twin City Polo Club. Ayes: Betts, Johnson, Spencer, Wenck. Nays: none. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

8. OPEN/MISC.

Roger Pitts wanted to share his perspective of issues regarding Lake Sarah. He stated that he has lived there a long time and seen many changes over the years such as development, lakeshore watershed, and lake usage. He said his concern was with a new ditch on south side of Hwy 55, near the junction of Highway 55 and Town Line Road. The water flows into Lake Sarah and he was not aware of it until recently. High water causes more erosion by boat wake. He distributed photos to the Council and stated that decisions the Council makes affects many people.

Hirsch stated that there is a no wake zone ordinance. Johnson asked if they were at that level yet. Spencer stated that they are not, but they are one tenth of one foot short. Hirsch said that the City's Water Resources consultant has been out to look at the ditch.

9. ADJOURN

Motion by Wenck, second by Betts, to adjourn the City Council meeting at 8:26 p.m. Ayes: Betts, Johnson, Spencer, Wenck. Nays: none. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Kimberly A. Olson, Recording Secretary