

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2009 – 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, Wallace and Wenck.

ABSENT: Council Member Gyllenblad, Attorney Vose.

STAFF: Clerk-Administrator Hirsch.

VISITORS: Mike Zeglin, LuAnn Brenno.

4. CONSENT AGENDA.

Approve:

- Council minutes, July 14, 2009.
- Accounts Payable, August 2009.
- Election judges for the Nov. 3 City Election.

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

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

Brenno, resident, asked to be added to the agenda.

6. REPORTS OF BOARDS & COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF

Wenck: Police Commission meeting, Lake Minnetonka Communication Commission meeting.

Wallace: Police Commission meeting.

Betts: Police Commission meeting, Fire Commission meeting, Circus.

Mayor: WeCan Home Tour, event for disabled children at the Kuka's buffalo ranch, Police Commission meeting, Fire Commission meeting, Greater Lakes Food Bank fundraiser, League of Minnesota Cities Improving Fiscal Futures Committee meeting, Small Cities Conference in Hermiston, Oregon representing the League of Minnesota Cities, Lake Sarah Lake Association annual meeting and picnic, MM Committee meeting, Maple Plain City Council meeting, Senior Community Services annual board tour at the Plymouth Senior Center, Circus, 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Polo Classic dinner, Legacy Senior Care open house in Delano, meeting with a Transportation for America representative regarding

transportation needs in Independence, Red Cross breakfast with the organization's new president, meeting with agencies regarding proposed boardwalk between Independence and Maple Plain.

Hirsch: Met with Delano Assembly of God Pastor regarding concerns with potential Target development and Highway 12 expansion.

7. SELECT DATES FOR BUDGET WORK SESSIONS.

Hirsch suggested 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday Aug. 18 and Tuesday, Aug. 25. The Council agreed to meet those days for budget work sessions.

8. CANCEL THE AUGUST 25, 2009 CITY COUNCIL MEETING DUE TO A LACK OF AGENDA ITEMS.

Johnson stated the Planning Commission did not meet in August, so there wouldn't be any items for the agenda on the Aug. 25 meeting.

Wenck suggested discussing the budget at the Aug. 25 Council meeting.

Wallace stated he would be late to the Aug. 25 Council meeting.

Betts stated she would not be able to attend the Aug. 25 Council meeting.

**Motion by Betts, second by Wallace, to cancel the Aug. 25 regularly scheduled Council meeting. Ayes: Betts, Johnson, Wallace, Wenck. Nays: none. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

Wallace stated he would be late to the Sept. 8 Council meeting.

9. OPEN/MISC.

Brenno

Brenno, resident, read a statement regarding the most recent Police Commission meeting. She stated the residents do not want to contract with Hennepin County for police services. Brenno stated she thought she had assurance from some members of the Council that the issue would not be brought up again and had requested it be noticed if it were to come up. Brenno expressed a concern that the issue was brought up at a Police Commission meeting, which residents do not typically attend. She told Wenck she was annoyed that he brought the issue up again and told the rest of the Council to stop allowing the issue to be brought up.

Wenck stated that before the Council meeting in which police services were discussed, the Council held a Board of Review meeting where all of the residents who spoke stated their property taxes were too high. He noted that 14 people, two who were not residents, spoke at the Council meeting afterward. He stated that based on the e-mails and telephone calls he received in support of contracting with Hennepin County, he does not believe the residents are united in their opinion. Wenck stated that the group Friends of Independence has intimidated people so that they will not speak at meetings about the police department. Wenck stated that at the Police Commission meeting, he reiterated his position regarding the budget and police services. He added the residents currently pay \$40 per house for Sherriff services that are rarely

used, in addition to the \$600 per house for West Hennepin Public Safety. Wenck stated that no discussion took place at the Police Commission meeting regarding this issue.

10. ADJOURN.

**Motion by Betts, second by Wallace, to adjourn the City Council meeting at 7:53 p.m. Ayes: Betts, Johnson, Wallace, Wenck. Nays: none. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

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Respectfully submitted by Christina Scipioni, Recording Secretary