

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, APRIL 8 - 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 Marvin 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, Wenck, Wallace, Gyllenblad.

STAFF: Clerk-Administrator Hirsch, Attorney Vose and Dan Koch, Public Works Director.

VISITORS: Tim Korby, Gary Kroells, Kathy and Ed Pluth, Chris Cady, John Sweeney, Lynda Franklin, Leo Poole, Roger Hackbarth, Harry Pool, Carl & Lisa Phillips, Mardel DeCamp, Carol Neyens, Ray McCoy, Robert and Nicole Lehne with their children Madilyn, Dylan and Colin.

4. CONSENT AGENDA.

Approve:

- April 8, 2008, Council Minutes.
- Accounts Payable for April, 2008.

Motion by Betts, second by Wenck to approve the consent agenda. All present voted aye. MOTION CARRIED.

5. SET AGENDA.

ADD: Selection of RFP Committee
Northern Natural Gas - Liaison
Hwy 12 – Liaison
Parks Update

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

Gyllenblad: Lake Sarah TMDL meeting and Joint Council workshop with Maple Plain.

Wenck: Attended Mollie Little's retirement open house and the Joint Council workshop with Maple Plain

Wallace: Attended Mollie Little's retirement open house and the Joint Council workshop with Maple Plain

Betts: Attended Mollie Little's retirement open house and the Joint Council workshop with Maple Plain

Mayor: Attended Mollie Little's retirement open house and the Joint Council workshop with Maple Plain, Senior Community Services Board meeting, Sat in with Staff to listen to the Exit Audit for 2007, Board meeting and Annual meeting for Community Action Partnership for Suburban Hennepin County, spent one day down at the Capitol visiting with several of our Senators and Representatives, attended the Delano Senior Center's annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon, Delano Federated Women's Club where they recognized their Delano Citizen of the Year who was Deacon Bruhn, signed checks for WeCan and went to Congressman Ramstad's town meeting in the City of Plymouth, Building Committee meeting for the League of Minnesota Cities.

Clerk Hirsch: Audit Exit Review with KDV, Election Meeting, Met with Jason Ziemer of Maple Plain to prepare for the joint Council workshop, Work Comp Audit, met with Kay Gabriel regarding the Northern Natural Gas Company and their plans, met with four different agencies regarding the RFP/Q and have seven more to calls to return and have talked with quite a few other agencies over the phone also. I have also received 52 applications for the empty office position.

7. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY - RAY MCCOY: SAVED BY THE BELT AWARD.

Director Ray McCoy had Sergeant Gary Kroells present the Saved by the Belt Award to the Lehne Family. A short presentation illustrated how the accident happened and how it allowed the Lehne Family to be spared from any major harm. In attendance were family members; mom and dad – Robert and Nicole, with children; Madilyn, Dylan and Colin.

They were all able to be here due to the fact that they were all wearing safety belts or were in proper car seats. The Council congratulated them on being good role models for their children and other parents.

Each family member received a Saved by the Belt award.

8. MATT MAYER, KDV – PRESENTATION OF THE 2007 AUDIT.

Matt Mayer was present to give the City Council and residents the year-end figures and update of the City's status ending 2007. The City has gained a very good bottom line figure over the last past three years and is currently holding a 51% fund balance. Because of the Cites healthy fund balance coming into 2008, we have saved interest costs because we didn't have to borrow money and were able to pay off the Tax Anticipation Note one-year early; also gained the City additional interest revenue. Permits were down from the budget, which left the City short in its adopted budget for 2007, but again the City gained revenue in other areas. Mayer also cautioned the City to watch the water resource and sewer funds, these are funds the City can levy debt for if they had to.

Mayer also stated the good report today was due to being "Very conservative, very prudent budgeting which resulted in healthy fund balance" along with closing four debt service accounts this year, left some reserve balances to be transferred to the fund balance.

Motion by Betts, second by Wallace to approve the 2007 Audit as presented. All present voted aye.
MOTION CARRIED.

9. DAN KOCH, DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF THE 2008 GRAVEL AND MATERIAL BIDS.

Dan Koch, the Public Works Director presented the bids for the 2008 gravel and material season. After looking at the prepared list of bids, he suggested the awards go to William F. Mueller & Sons for recycled conbit and to Hassen Sand and Gravel for the Winter Sand.

Motion by Wenck, second by Wallace to award the above recognized bids for the year 2008. All present voted aye. MOTION CARRIED.

10. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF ORDINANCE NO. 2008-02 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 800.07 OF THE INDEPENDENCE CITY CODE TO CLARIFY REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO RELOCATION OF BUILDINGS, AND AMENDING SECTION 2010 OF THE CITY CODE TO ESTABLISH THAT THE CREATION OF NOISE EXCEEDING STATE STANDARDS CONSTITUTES A PUBLIC NUISANCE.

Attorney Bob Vose went over the few changes that were requested of him to make in Sections 800.07 Relocations of Buildings and Section 2010 Establish creation of noise exceeding State Standards that constitute a public notice.

Motion by Betts, second by Wenck to approve the amended changes to Section 800.07 Relocation of Buildings and Section 2010 Nuisances by Ordinance 2008-02. All present voted aye. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

11. DISCUSSION OF REQUEST RECEIVED FROM THE 1000 FRIENDS OF MINNESOTA INVITATION FOR THE CITY TO PARTICIPATE IN A SIX-YEAR PROJECT THAT WOULD BE AWARDED A GRANT TO HELP ESTABLISH LONG-TERM GAME WORK FOR COMMUNITY PLANNING, ZONING AND IMPLEMENTATION

It was the consensus of the Council not to participate in this six-year project.

12. OPEN/MISCELLANEOUS.

Park Commission Update – the Commission has been approached by a company who would like to have a Community garden in Pioneer Creek Park. Neither a representative from the Parks nor from the Company could attend tonight’s meeting. Questions and concerns that came up where, additional cost of insurance if needed, who would run this, how many people would be involved, etc. It was decided to have someone from the Park Commission attend the next Council meeting with more information.

It was decided by the Parks Commission not to hold the Annual Heritage Fest this year, the reason was because there had been no volunteers to chair the Fest. But; in its place, they are planning a second “Music in the Park” sometime this summer – that promises to be bigger and better. Alice Tillman, a resident of the City is the lead person in the project.

Selection Committee for the RFP/Q’s – Motion by Johnson, second by Gyllenblad to approve the Following people for the Selection Committee: Councilmember Betts and Wenck, Planning Commission Chairperson Spencer and City Administrator Hirsch. Public Works Director Dan Koch will also be involved for the selection of the City Engineer position. All present voted aye. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Northern Natural Gas Pipeline – A resident on County Line Road has asked the City to support them on the placement of this pipeline and also would like to see if we could have a Council Liaison attend any future meeting with this company. Because of the timing of the meeting being in conflict with our Comp Plan meetings, Staff was directed to prepare a resolution supporting the residents on County Line Road to keep the pipeline in the right of way and to stay away from using the residents' property elsewhere.

This resolution is to be brought back at a future meeting for approval.

13. ADJOURN.

Motion by Betts, second by Wenck to adjourn the Council meeting at 8:55 p.m., all present voted aye.
MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Respectively submitted by Toni Hirsch,
City Administrator