

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2008 – 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, Gyllenblad and Wallace

STAFF: Administrative Assistant Scipioni, Attorney Vose, Planner Lorsung

ABSENT: Council Member Wenck, Administrator Hirsch

VISITORS: Richard and Pat Meyer, John and Cathy Zeglin, Mike Zeglin, Chris Cady, Lynda Franklin

4. CONSENT AGENDA.

Approve:

- Council Minutes – June 24, 2008.
- Accounts Payable – June 2008.
- Resolution No. 08-0708-02 amending a Condition Use Permit for Liza MacMillan for a three-car garage and bunk house located at 1424 Nelson Road.
- Resolution No. 08-0708-03 amending a Conditional Use Permit for YMCA Camp Ihduhapi for an addition to the dining hall located at 3425 Ihduhapi Trail.
- A one-day temporary liquor license for the Twin City Polo Club/Children's Home Society.

Johnson removed from the consent agenda:

- Approval of Resolution No. 08-0708-01 granting final plat approval for Dick Meyer for two rural view lots located on 705 Copeland Road.

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

Resolution No. 08-0708-01 granting final plat approval for Dick Meyer for two rural view lots located on 705 Copeland Road.

Lorsung explained that the final plat was missing a small out lot at the corner of County Road 6 and Nelson Road on the west side of Nelson Road. She said that the out lot should be included in the tax parcel and said the surveyor most likely made a mistake on the final plat. Lorsung said that she needs to talk to the surveyor to get a corrected final plat.

Johnson asked Vose if the Council could approve the final plat with the condition that staff members fix the administrative error.

Vose responded that the Council is able to do that, but suggested that the Council limit staff to only changing the out lot error.

Johnson asked the Council if they all understood where the out lot is.

The Council Members responded that they did understand where it is.

Wallace asked if the applicant could start building on the property.

Vose responded that the Building Official would have to decide if the applicant could build on the property. He noted that site preparation work could begin.

Motion by Johnson, second by Wallace, to approve resolution No. 08-0708-01 granting final plat approval for Dick Meyer for two rural view lots located on 705 Copeland Road, with the following condition:

- Staff works with the surveyor to correct the administrative error and include the out lot in the final plat.

All present voted aye. MOTION DELCARED CARRIED.

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

Nothing was added.

6. REPORTS OF BOARDS & COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF

Gyllenblad: Fielded many phone calls on potential public safety budget cuts, attended joint Maple Plain and Independence City Council work session.

Wallace: Met with Ryan Companies and Delano officials regarding a potential Target development in Independence, attended joint Maple Plain and Independence City Council work session.

Betts: Attended joint Maple Plain and Independence City Council work session.

Mayor: Attended the Big Island Park public dock opening celebration, attended a reception hosted by the Canadian Embassy staff, attended a Highway 55 Corridor Coalition meeting, met with Minnehaha Watershed District staff, and attended joint Maple Plain and Independence City Council work session.

7. Ordinance No. 2008-04, an Ordinance amending Section 415 of the Independence City Code relating to swimming pools.

Lorsung explained that at the June 24, 2008, Council meeting, the Council had directed staff to draft an ordinance that would allow property owners to use a fence or an automatic pool cover to secure their pools. Lorsung explained that everywhere in the ordinance where it mentions protective fencing she added “or an automatic pool cover.” She also added standards for the pool covers that can be changed as the pool cover technology changes. Lorsung said the ordinance is similar to the ones in Medina and Orono.

Johnson said that he was happy with the simplicity of the changes to the ordinance.

Motion by Betts, second by Gyllenblad, to approve Ordinance No. 2008-04, an Ordinance amending Section 415 of the Independence City Code relating to swimming pools. All present voted aye. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

8. ACCEPTANCE OF DAVID LIEBERMAN'S RESIGNATION FROM THE PARKS COMMISSION.

Scipioni explained that Lieberman had verbally notified Administrator Hirsch and Parks Commission Chair Carole Peter that he would be resigning from the Commission. Scipioni explained that the resignation was effective the end of June and Lieberman would not be attending any more Commission meetings.

Johnson said that he was disappointed that another Parks Commissioner had resigned.

Scipioni asked how staff should proceed. She asked if staff should advertise for applicants.

Betts said that she had discussed the Parks Commission with Hirsch and they had thought that merging the Parks and Planning Commissions might be beneficial for the City.

Johnson said that would like to study the issue further before making a decision on merging the Commissions. He directed staff to study the issue and find out if other cities have merged commissions and how those commissions function.

Motion by Johnson, second by Betts, to accept Lieberman's resignation with regrets. All present voted aye. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

9. MISC./OPEN.

Nothing was added.

10. ADJOURN.

Motion by Wallace, second by Gyllenblad, to adjourn the City Council meeting at 7:44 p.m. All present voted aye. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted by Christina Scipioni,
Recording Secretary