

Ely City Council Regular Meeting July 7, 2009

The Ely City Council regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Skraba at 6:30 p.m. on July 7, 2009 at the Ely City Hall.

PRESENT: Council members Debeltz, Nikkola, Omerza, Salerno, Sheddy, Zupec and Mayor Skraba
(7) ABSENT: None

Moved by Salerno supported by Zupec to approve the minutes of the June 16, 2009 Regular Meeting and June 30, 2009 Study Session as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Addition to the agenda was as follows:

1. Notice that the Planning & Zoning Commission for the month of July will be held the 16th and the 30th
- 2.

Mayor's Agenda

Mayor Skraba reminded the council members and the viewing audience of the School Board meeting being held at 6:30 p.m. tonight at the school regarding property taxes and encouraged interested parties to attend.

Consent Agenda Items:

1. Complete Count Committee town hall meeting, Hibbing July 13, 2009, Mayor and clerk authorized to attend
2. Quarterly Joint Meeting with EUC – July 28th 6:00 p.m.
3. DEED Advancing Economic Prosperity and Partnering to Shape Our Future Session, Grand Rapids Tues Aug 4th, Council/Clerk authorized to attend

Moved by Debeltz supported by Zupec to approve consent agenda items 1-3 as presented above. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUESTS TO APPEAR

Jack Zorman presented a slide show to the council of the city's recycling location and the problems this area presents to neighborhood residents. Public Works Director Langowski informed the council that the Sanitation Committee had reviewed the area and discussed improvements that would be needed to contain the garbage and debris that are creating a nuisance for area residents. Langowski suggested relocating the recycling center to the 12 acres owned by the city located across from Ferrell Gas. The site needs to have power run to it and is already gated. Signs would need to be installed with the hours posted which would be on a limited basis on weekends based on the availability of the Elder Circle personnel. Langowski is seeking quotes to clean up the bituminous asphalt being stored at the site and will bring that information back to the council.

Moved by Salerno supported by Zupec to relocate the recycling center to the area recommended by Langowski within 60 days. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Omerza supported by Debeltz to authorize Mayor Skraba to send a letter to Morse Township notifying them of the city's intent to move the recycling center to the proposed property. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Nikkola supported Salerno to direct the police department to enforce dumping restrictions at the recycling center in its current location and also in the new location after it is moved. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Zupec presented a proposal for a new site to hold the Boundary Waters Blues Festival and other events located adjacent to the Lucky Boy property. The property was previously a farm site and is flat and should be fairly easy to develop. He recommended working with the county to acquire and develop the property. The site has power and phone service already on the property.

Moved by Zupec supported by Salerno that the city work with St. Louis County to acquire this 40 acre parcel. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council member Salerno reported that he had contacted representatives from the state engineering department and met with them along with Zupec, Sheddy and Langowski at the old Trezona Mine site to discuss the potential of mine shafts in the area of the Spaulding Phase III lots. Langowski will contact the DNR to request that the underground mining maps be completed for the entire area.

Moved by Salerno supported Debeltz that the council go on record in support of the DNR digitizing the underground locations of mines and shafts in this area. Motion carried unanimously.

Council member Omerza reported that the EADA will be holding a business mixer on July 15th in cooperation with the Chamber and Energy Smart will be conducting energy audits on July 16th for local businesses.

Mayor Skraba reported that the Alternative Energy Committee will be meeting on Wednesday for all interested parties.

Department Head Reports

Fire Chief Gerzin presented a request to purchase a used 1983 Quint truck from Clintonville, WI. Moved by Nikkola supported by Zupec to authorize Chief Gerzin to advertise for bids on a used Quint truck and if no other bids are received the city would send a notice of intent to purchase. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Nikkola supported by Salerno to approve Chief Gerzin, Assistant Chief Luthens and the city mechanic to do a site visit to inspect the truck. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Zupec supported by Salerno to direct Attorney Klun review the EMS center for state and county highways. Motion carried unanimously.

City Attorney

Moved by Zupec supported by Sheddy to notify Laura McEntyre that the city will not be exercising the right of re-entry on Lot 3, Block 4 E Spaulding at this time. Motion carried unanimously.

Attorney Klun presented an addendum to Patrick Conery's Building Inspector contract. The addendum requires that all contact between Mr. Conery and the city be in writing.

Moved by Nikkola supported by Salerno to approve the addendum to the Building Inspector's contract as presented by Attorney Klun. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Salerno supported by Sheddy to grant Mr. Bierbaum, Lot 1, Block 1, E Spaulding an extension to complete construction of the dwelling on this property and to waive the penalty providing the foundation is in place prior to October 1, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Sheddy supported by Salerno to approve the land swap for George Burger as follows: Current lot 6, block 4 E Spaulding will revert to the city in exchange for lot 14, block 2 E Spaulding and allowing Mr. Burger the difference in price of \$1,700 to be used toward the WAC/SAC fees. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Nikkola supported by Omerza to amend the language in Section 1 of the Health Insurance Memorandum of Understanding and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign if the Union agrees to approve the language as presented in the original MOU. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Zupec supported by Salerno to table the ISD 696 reimbursement agreement as presented until the next meeting. Mayor Skraba will meet with school representatives to get clarification on the agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Nikkola supported by Zupec to add and addendum establishing a 10% penalty based on the value of the lot for the city to exercise their right of re-entry in all new purchase agreements for lots in the E Spaulding First Addition. Motion carried unanimously.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Clerk-Treasurer

Moved by Debeltz supported by Nikkola to approve payment of the EUC and city bills and payroll as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

IRR grant approval was received which will reimburse 50% up to \$3,500 for grant application writing fees.

Moved by Omerza supported by Salerno to offer the library clerk position to Mary Parks as recommended by the hiring committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Salerno supported by Omerza to authorize Clerk Boese to advertise for temporary clerical assistance for the clerk's office. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Boese updated the council on the enrollment process and change to Health Partners insurance plan. Transition has been smooth and employees have received their membership cards.

City Operations Director

Director Langowski reported that with the assistance of RLK 3 grant applications were submitted for the state bonding bill, 17th Ave, Central Ave and Whiteside Park projects.

Reconstruction of Central Ave is planned for 2010 and is still on the County's list to be completed in 2010.

Update on 2nd Ave – utility construction is 60% completed. Bids were received and will be presented to the city after bid tabulation has been completed by the engineer.

EUC Consent Agenda Items

1. Approve a one year contract with Aqua-Pure Inc. to provide polymer for the WTP
2. Approve payment of the bills payable for 6/12/09 \$105,878.34
3. Approve payment of the KBM Inc invoice #050925 for the 2009 Reconductoring project \$142.00

Moved by Debeltz supported by Salerno to approve payment of items 1-3 of the EUC consent agenda as presented above. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS

The EADA business mixer to be held on July 15th at the EADA business office.

Claims for payment

- A. Revised Walker, Giroux & Hahne Audit Billing \$21,100
- B. dsgw Architects, Professional Services \$3,676.37
- C. Northland Trust Services, Inc.
 - GO Equipment Bonds \$22,139.59
 - GO Tax Increment Refunding Bonds 2005A \$6,247.50
- D. Wells Fargo, Street & Infrastructure Bonds \$6,616.62
- E. RLK, Invoices: #2008125L00012 \$50; #3 \$357.50; #8 \$2,974.05; #2007-427-H -0-
- F. Klun Law Firm, Invoices Totaling \$1,354.85
- G. Community Economic Development Joint Powers \$12,250.00
- H. LMC Insurance Trust , 3rd Installment Workers Comp \$20,777.75
- I. LMC Insurance Trust, Sewer backup claim \$2,198.93

Moved by Debeltz supported by Zupec to approve the claims for payment A-I as presented above. Motion carried unanimously

OLD BUSINESS

Moved by Omerza supported by Salerno to waive readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions. Motion unanimously carried.

Moved by Sheddy supported by Salerno to approve the Community Center Rental Agreement as presented to be effective September 1, 2009. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Omerza supported by Sheddy to authorize the sale or disposal of all items currently being stored in rental areas of the community center. Motion carried unanimously.

The council reiterated the city policy of not allowing dogs in city buildings.

Moved by Omerza supported by Salerno to task the building assessment committee to review leases at the Community Center. Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Omerza supported by Debeltz to make the following amendment to the 2009 budget:

211-45501-200 decrease budget by \$3,191

211-45501-202 increase budget by \$3,191

Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Omerza supported by Nikkola to pass resolution to hold public hearing on July 21, 2009 at 6:10 p.m. for CDBG, Whiteside Park grant application. Roll call: Debeltz-yes; Nikkola-yes; Omerza-yes; Salerno-yes; Sheddy-yes; Zupec-yes; Skraba-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Omerza supported by Nikkola to pass resolution to hold public hearing on July 21, 2009 at 6:20 p.m. for CDBG, Central Ave grant application. Roll call: Debeltz-yes; Nikkola-yes; Omerza-yes; Salerno-yes; Sheddy-yes; Zupec-yes; Skraba-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Omerza supported by Salerno to pass resolution approving St. Louis County CDBG FY 2009 agreement as presented. Roll call: Debeltz-yes; Nikkola-yes; Omerza-yes; Salerno-yes; Sheddy-yes; Zupec-yes; Skraba-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Debeltz supported by Omerza to pass resolution for EEDA to hold public hearing on July 21, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. for CDBG, Business Renovation Loan Program grant application. Roll call: Debeltz-yes; Nikkola-yes; Omerza-yes; Salerno-yes; Sheddy-yes; Zupec-yes; Skraba-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Debeltz supported by Salerno to pass resolution adopting Health Reimbursement Agreement as presented. Roll call: Debeltz-yes; Nikkola-yes; Omerza-yes; Salerno-yes; Sheddy-yes; Zupec-yes; Skraba-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Sheddy supported by Nikkola to pass resolution authorizing Charles Hartley to prepare and submit a grant application to the Department of Energy for feasibility study for Biomass plant. Roll call: Debeltz-yes; Nikkola-yes; Omerza-yes; Salerno-yes; Sheddy-yes; Zupec-yes; Skraba-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Salerno supported by Debeltz to approve renewal of kennel license to Wes Snyder as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Salerno supported by Debeltz to pass resolution approving a bingo application for the Knights of Columbus as presented. Roll call: Debeltz-yes; Nikkola-yes; Omerza-yes; Salerno-yes; Sheddy-yes; Zupec-yes; Skraba-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Debeltz supported by Salerno to pass resolution granting consent of Conveyance to Midcontinent Communications as presented. Roll call: Debeltz-yes; Nikkola-yes; Omerza-yes; Salerno-yes; Sheddy-yes; Zupec-yes; Skraba-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Omerza supported by Nikkola to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Terri Boese
Clerk/Treasurer