

February 06, 2012 6:00 PM
Regular Meeting Ely City Council – Council Chambers, Ely City Hall

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Ely City Council Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Skraba at 6:00 p.m. on February 6, 2012 at the Ely City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Council members Debeltz, Nikkola, Omerza, Sheddy, Zupec, Mayor Skraba (6)

Absent: Council member Salerno (1)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- A. Approve the minutes from January 17, 2012 Regular Council Meeting, January 24, 2012 Reconvened Council Meeting, January 25, 2012 Reconvened Council Meeting, January 26, 2012 Reconvened Council Meeting, January 30, 2012 Reconvened Council Meeting and January 31, 2012 Council Study Session as presented. Debeltz/Zupec moved approval. Motion carried unanimously.

4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:

- A. Addition 5B - Council member Salerno's resignation letter
- B. Addition 5C - National Guard Troops letter

Debeltz/Zupec moved approval of the additions A & B. Motion carried unanimously.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT:

- A. Strike Thoughts: Mayor Skraba stated that the City Employees do a great job with caring for the City and the negotiation issues are with money and not employees performances.

Debeltz/Zupec moved approval of Council member Frank Salerno's resignation letter effective the end of February 2012. Motion carried unanimously.

Debeltz/Zupec moved approval to place ad in paper for Ely Residents interested in filling Frank Salerno's position on the Council. Motion carried unanimously.

Debeltz/Nikkola moved approval for Mayor and Council to attend the "Serving Our Troops - Saint Paul to Kuwait" Event on Saturday, February 25, 2012 at the St Paul RiverCentre. Motion carried unanimously.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Motion to waive readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda
- B. Approve Council and Staff to attend the 2012 Safety & Loss Control Workshop on April 19, 2012 at Giant's Ridge Lodge
- C. Approve Council and Staff to attend the Legislative Conference in St. Paul on March 22, 2012 along with the 2012 Minnesota Mayoral Summit on March 21, 2012

Zupec/Nikkola moved approval of Consent Agenda items A-C. Motion carried unanimously.

7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR:

- A. Representative of the Family Dog Sled Event - Whiteside Park, February 29, 2012 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.: Dave Freeman spoke on behalf of the group giving detailed information regarding the dog sled event in the park which is a kick off for their "Protecting Minnesota's Natural Heritage" event. This event is a dog sled run from Grand Marais to St. Paul sponsored by Conservation Minnesota. He stated it would be a small dog sled team from Wintergreen Lodge that will give rides to families on a

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100yd loop around the park and offer information about their event to St. Paul. Dogs will be in a roped off area at all times unless out on a run.

The Council stated that dogs are not allowed in the park and offered other site suggestions such as, Semers Park, Hidden Valley or the Soft Ball Fields. Motion by Zupec to approve working with city staff in order to make this event happen. Motion died for lack of second. Zupec/Debeltz moved approval to work with city staff to make this event happen at a different location. Motion carried unanimously.

Richard Watson spoke briefly stating that dogs and reindeer were allowed in the park in the past for the Winter Festival without any incidents. It was also noted the Interim Use Permit was created two years ago.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Council member Omerza stated that with the resignation of the Library Clerk, the library hours will change effective February 8, 2012 to 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday-Friday. Rentals of the Community Center may go to a later time. Information from the League Board stated that levy limits might be coming back and LGA cuts has Ely down \$35,000 for 2013.

Council member Nikkola stated the Employee Relations Committee established the point system for the hiring of the interim Clerk/Treasurer position. Minimum Qualifications will have a value of 60 points (of which all must be met) and Preferred Qualifications will have a value of 40 points and there will also be a Veterans Preference which will hold a value of 5 to 10 points depending on the veteran's status. Nikkola/Omerza moved approval of this point system. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Skraba mentioned the Alternative Energy Task Force will be hosting an Energy Symposium on February 9, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. at Vermilion Community College in Room 104. He also stated that he attended the RAMS meeting in Hibbing last Thursday with Council member Zupec where Commissioner Philips and Commissioner Sertich were in attendance. IRRRB is having an open house on February 23, 2012 from 1:00-4:30 p.m. to meet the staff, tour offices and learn about the programs they have to offer.

Sheddy/Omerza moved approval to invite the Business Community to the March Study Session to discuss how they feel Government can help them in their businesses. Motion carried unanimously.

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- A. Clerk-Treasurer
- B. Fire Chief
- C. Library Director
- D. Operations Director
- i. The following items of business were recommended for approval at the regular EUC meeting of Wednesday, January 25, 2012:
1. Approved sending a letter of appreciation and thank-you to the employees who worked on the water line break.
 2. Approved the Pole Rental Agreement, as modified.
 3. Authorized a utility employee to attend the MRWA 28th Annual Water & Wastewater Technical Conference on March 6-8, 2012 in St. Cloud.
 4. Authorized advertising the old bucket truck for sale.
 5. Approved the Commercial Lighting Rebate for Vermilion College for \$7,564.00.

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6. Authorized providing emergency water to the Ely Bloomenson Hospital after review by the city attorney.
7. Approved purchase of 1800 feet of triplex wire from Resco for \$1,170.00.
8. Approved payment of the MN PFA loan for \$18,450.50.

Nikkola/Zupec moved approval of the EUC Consent Agenda items 1-8 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Police Chief

- i. 2011 Police Department Statistics

F. City Attorney

The revised Lake County Franchise Agreement and Pole Agreement will be presented to TAB for approval and then will be on the Council Agenda March 5th for their approval.

G. City Engineer

10. COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. Communication from David Dill to Mayor Skraba
- B. Correspondence from Michael Jershe to the Ely Airport Commission and Ely City Council

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:

- A. City and EUC Claims for February, 2012 - \$252,788.13
- B. IRRRB Loan for SATO Building renovation - payment \$28,144.43
- C. TKDA - Ely 2011 CIP Projects - Invoice#002011003813 - \$3,989.59
- D. Standard & Poors Financial Services - Analytical Services for GO Tax Refunding Bonds, Series 2012A - Invoice#10288936 - \$7,500
- E. League of MN Cities Insurance - Workers Compensation - Invoice#21812 - \$17,147.75
- F. Ely Community Resource - 4th Quarter Payment - \$3,140
- G. Lamb's LLC - Compost Facility SW614 - Invoice #148 and 14494 - \$65,885.50

Zupec/Debeltz moved approval of Claims for Payment A-G. Motion carried unanimously.

12. OLD BUSINESS:

13. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Approve temporary liquor license for the Ely Jaycees at the Community Center Ballroom on Saturday, April 28, 2012 during a live music event and to waive any requirement for an onsite police officer. Debeltz/Zupec moved approval. Motion carried unanimously.
- B. Approve TKDA Airport Roof Repair - Change Order #2 - \$2,232. Zupec/Nikkola moved approval. Motion carried unanimously.
- C. Approve TKDA General Agreement for Continuing Services 2012 Rate Schedule. Shedly/Debeltz moved approval. Motion carried unanimously.

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D. Committee Appointments

Gardner Trust Board: Nikkola/Omerza moved approval to appoint Tara Boerst to the Gardner Trust Board. Motion carried unanimously. Omerza/Sheddy moved approval to appoint Lynn Evenson to the Gardner Trust Board. Motion pulled since Lynn is not an Ely resident.

Airport Commission: Debeltz/Omerza moved approval to appoint Tim Bercher, Gail Sheddy and Rick Sand to the Airport Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Cemetery Committee: Zupec/Debeltz moved approval to appoint Anne Folz and Sandra Nyman to the Cemetery Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Parks and Recreation Board: Sheddy/Nikkola moved approval to appoint JJ Day, John Huisman and Rob Simonich to the Parks and Recreation Board with an invitation to Christa Miller to fill next seat that becomes open in the future. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning and Zoning Commission: Sheddy/Zupec moved approval to appoint Thompson Blodgett and Ryan Callen to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Police Commission: Debeltz/Sheddy moved approval to appoint Scott Johnson and John Lindroos to the Police Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Projects Committee: Nikkola/Debeltz moved approval to appoint Tom Erchull, Larry Polyner and Tony Colarich to the Projects Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Library Board: Debeltz/Omerza moved approval to appoint Aubrey Rasmussen to the Library Board. Motion carried unanimously.

Utilities Commission: Nikkola/Zupec moved approval to appoint John Lindroos to the Utilities Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Debeltz/Sheddy moved approval to re-post for two weeks for the seats still available on the Airport Commission, Planning and Zoning Commission, and Telecommunications Board. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Airport Manager, Jim Preblich contracts FBO/APO renewal 2012-2017.

Nikkola/Omerza moved to send the Airport Manager contracts to Attorney Klun's office for final editing. Motion carried unanimously.

14. OPEN FORUM:

Dwayne Whalen questioned the Press Release Ads in the paper from both the City and the Local Union 1490 and why they could not have been in the same paper at the same time.

15. ADJOURN:

Nikkola/Omerza moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Claire Huisman
Deputy Clerk