

Ely City Council Regular Meeting Minutes, January 3, 2013

Clerk Langowski swore in Mayor Petersen and Council members Debeltz, Kess & Polyner.

1. CALL TO ORDER:
The Ely City Council Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Petersen at 6:00 pm on January 3, 2013 at the Ely City Hall.
2. ROLL CALL:
Present: Council members Debeltz, Kess, Nikkola, Omerza, Polyner, Shedly, Mayor Petersen (7)
Absent: None
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Debeltz/Nikkola moved to approve the December 18, 2012 Regular Meeting minutes with correction to the date at the top. Motion carried unanimously.
4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:
 - A. Addition – 12.A. – Fire Chief Mutual aid report.
 - B. Omission – 13.C. – Resolution #2013-001**Omerza/Debeltz moved to approve additions & omissions A & B. Motion carried unanimously.**
5. MAYOR'S REPORT:
 - A. **Kess/Debeltz moved approval to request the City auditors to include in their audit what the total of the City's reserve budget/fund balance will be from 2012 to 2013. In discussion, Clerk Langowski stated that they will discuss at the next Budget meeting what they would like to see in the audit. Motion carried unanimously.**
 - B. **Debeltz/Nikkola moved approval for the Clerk to organize time & date for an open public meeting to address the City's Building Plan and to gather public input. In discussion, Clerk Langowski stated this would most likely be a series of three meetings over the course of several months. Motion carried unanimously.**
 - C. **Omerza/Debeltz moved approval of the council appointments to the various committees with the correction of taking Nikkola off of TAB and adding Debeltz to the Budget Committee. This list will be finalized at a later date pending Committee meetings and member appointments. Motion carried unanimously.**
Airport-Paul; Alternate Energy-Ross; Budget-Warren, Ross, Jerome; Insurance-Heidi, Kara; Cemetery-Jerome; Donald Gardner-Kara; EUC-Gordon, Ross; Employee Relations-Warren, Heidi, Kara; HRA-Gordon; Fire-Paul, Gordon; Library-Heidi (Ad hoc); Liquor and Tobacco-Jerome; Parks and Rec-Heidi; Planning and Zoning-Kara, Gordon; Police-Jerome; Projects-Ross, Warren; Sanitation-Gordon; TAB-Paul, Heidi
6. CONSENT AGENDA:
 - A. Motion to waive readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda
 - B. Approve to call for sealed bids for 2013 legal newspaper.**Debeltz/Nikkola moved approval of consent agenda items A & B. Motion carried unanimously.**
7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR:
Carol Orban spoke on behalf of the Ely Winter Festival requesting in-kind services from the City and to allow the Voyageur Encampment to camp in the park during the event.
Debeltz/Nikkola moved to approve the City performing the requested in-kind services:
 1. Reduce or waive fees
 2. Hang and install lighting in the park
 3. Remove snow from sidewalk and curb on the North side of the park
 4. Set up "No Parking" signs
 5. Set up barricades to prevent vehicles from entering the park
 6. Clear area near pavilion for portable toilets
 7. Clear snow and fill snow forms in the park**Motion carried unanimously.**

Kess/Debeltz moved approval for the Voyageur Encampment to camp in Whiteside Park from Thursday, January 31 through Sunday, February 2, 2013. In discussion, Clerk Langowski stated the

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permission for camping is being given to the Winter Festival and it is a non-precedent setting. Motion carried unanimously.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Council member Nikkola stated Employee Relations will be conducting interviews next week for the Accounting Clerk position.

Council member Omerza stated the League of MN Cities Board of Directors worked on data practice compliance issues, budgets and their policies. The Partners Board of IRRYA will be working on strategic planning. The Park and Rec Board meeting for Monday, January 7, 2013 has been cancelled. She thanked Council member Sheddy for sitting on various meetings on her behalf. She also stated that she will be taking next month off due to health issues.

Council member Polyner stated that the P&Z Commission is still working forward on the City Comprehensive Plan which will be ready by spring. They are also looking for a couple of new members to fill seats that are coming up for renewal. It was clarified by Attorney Klun that the Planning & Zoning Administrator should not be a voting member on the Commission.

Council member Sheddy is also having health issues and might be missing several meetings within the next few months.

Council member Nikkola stated that it is imperative that the public step forward and fill these empty seats

Kess/Debeltz moved approval to appoint Warren Nikkola as Acting Mayor. Motion carried unanimously.

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- A. Clerk-Treasurer
- B. Fire Chief
- C. Library Director
- D. Police Chief
- E. City Attorney
- F. City Engineer

10. COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. **Debeltz/Sheddy moved to send a Thank you note to Eagles Nest Township for their Library Donation of \$1,000. Motion carried unanimously.**
- B. Ely Chamber of Commerce thank you letter to City
- C. Library thank you letter to the Ely Police Department for the donation of Home Defibrillator
- D. Ely Winter Festival to be held on February 1-10, 2013 invites Mayor and Council Members to attend the opening ceremony and asks for City help in preparing the park for this event. They would also like permission to allow the Voyageur Encampment to camp in the park from Thursday, January 31 through Sunday, February 2, 2013.
- E. Notice of Iron Range Youth in Action hosting 18th Annual Young Leaders Convention: Make a Difference 2013 on February 13, 2013 at Fortune Bay Resort

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:

- A. City and EUC claims for January 3, 2013 - \$306,968.75
Nikkola/Debeltz moved approval of claim for payment A. Motion carried unanimously.

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- B. Minnesota Association of Small Cities membership dues for 2013- \$1,229.90. The City does not belong to this Association so there was no motion.**

12. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Nikkola/Debeltz moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the Laurentian North Fire Fighting Organization Mutual Aid Agreement for a period of one year. Motion carried unanimously.**

13. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Debeltz/Nikkola moved to approve the 2013 official city depositories: Wells Fargo Bank, Frandsen Bank & Trust, Boundary Waters Bank and 4M Fund. Motion carried 6 to 1 with Omerza abstaining.**
- B. Debeltz/Sheddy moved to approve designating the City Clerk as responsible authority to oversee non-audit audit services. Motion carried unanimously.**
- C. Approve Resolution #2013-001 authorizing water, sewer and electric rate increase. Omitted from Agenda.
- D. Debeltz/Sheddy moved to approve advertising for open committee seats including the Heritage Preservation Commission and the Housing & Redevelopment Authority. Motion carried unanimously.**
- E. Nikkola/Polyner moved to approve hiring Greg Cramer as the Planning & Zoning Administrator. Motion carried unanimously.**
- F. Kess/Nikkola moved to approve the Mayor and Clerk/Treasurer to sign Public Works Grant Agreement with the State of Minnesota through the IRRRB – Grant Award \$200,000. Motion carried unanimously.**

14. OPEN FORUM: None

15. ADJOURN:

- Nikkola/Omerza moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:55pm. Motion carried unanimously.**

Claire Huisman
Deputy Clerk