

## Ely City Council Regular Meeting Minutes, March 19, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER:  
The Ely City Council Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Petersen at 5:30 pm on March 19, 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/Omerza moved to approve March 5, 2013 Regular Meeting Minutes. Motion carried unanimously.**
4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:
  - a. Addition: 6.C. – Invitation from Congressman Rick Nolan  
**Debeltz/Omerza moved approval of addition A. Motion carried unanimously.**
5. MAYOR'S REPORT
  - a. Mayor Petersen spoke on the process of the three open public meetings: 1<sup>st</sup> meeting was why we need to take action; the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting is about the different ideas & concepts for taking action; the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting if not needed for additional discussion on what will be done then it will be to discuss why we made the decision we did and the financing process. John Jamnick of JPJ Engineering will then give an overview of the current concepts that are out there. We will then begin to take peoples input. He suggested there should be two sign-up sheets: taxpayers and non-taxpayers. Also, the taxpayers should be able to speak first. Council member Kess clarified that taxpayers includes anyone who pays property taxes within the city.
6. CONSENT AGENDA:
  - A. Motion to waive readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda
  - B. Approve Council and Mayor to attend LMC 2013 Annual Conference and Marketplace June 19-21, 2013 in St Paul.
  - C. Invitation for elected officials to meet with Congressman Nolan & Charlie Zelle, Commissioner of MnDot on Monday, March 25, 2013 at 3:00pm in Virginia, MN.  
**Shedly/Debeltz moved approval of consent agenda items A-C. In discussion, Council member Kess recommended as an addition to the motion for the Clerk to draft a letter to Congressman Nolan for the Mayor to sign showing the council's support for the Hwy 169 Task Force recommendations. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Nikkola/Omerza moved approval to call a Special Council meeting on March 25, 2013 at 3:00pm in Virginia, MN to accommodate the council members who wish to attend the meeting with Congressman Nolan & Commissioner of MnDot. Motion carried unanimously.**
7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR: None
8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
  - A. **Kess/Debeltz moved to approve the recommendation from JPJ Engineering to include 8<sup>th</sup> Ave in the 2013 Infrastructure Projects. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Debeltz/Nikkola moved to approve JPJ Engineering to include the Community Center in their cost estimates for the buildings upgrades for an additional fee of \$1,000. Motion carried 6 to 1 with Mayor Petersen voting "no".**

Council member Omerza stated that the library annual report showed that the library hours were down 25% but the usage and circulation was only down by 10%. She also stated that she will be in St. Paul for the next couple of days if anyone has anything they would like her to bring to our legislators attention. She will already be discussing with them the following items: TIF; LGA Formula; Airport Projects; and the solar issue, setting rates and dual licensing which the Coalition and the League have been working on. She mentioned that people can not submit anonymous letters regarding their ideas and concerns on City issues. The documents must be signed by the owner in order for it to be part of the public record.

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**Debeltz/Polyner moved approval to nominate Council member Omerza for the C.C. Ludwig Leadership Award. Motion carried unanimously.**

Council member Polyner reminded everyone of the Ledgerrock Community Church is sponsoring an Easter Egg Hunt in Whiteside Park on Saturday, March 30, 2013. She also stated that she is involved in a new committee which is not affiliated with the City or the Chamber, called the Ely Beautification Committee. There will be a brainstorming session for the start up of this committee at the Grand Ely Lodge on March 28, 2013 from 6p to 8p.

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

A. Clerk-Treasurer

i. EUC Consent Agenda Items: The following items of business were recommended for approval at the regular EUC meeting of Wednesday, March 13, 2013:

1. Approved the low bid for the Burntside line overhead feeder removal for \$12,500.00 from Murphy Construction.
2. Approved payment of the EUC December, 2012 Bills List for \$303,926.00.
3. Approved payment of the KBM, Inc. Invoice #121239 for the Burntside line for \$312.00.
4. Approved payment of the KBM, Inc. Invoice #121238 for the VVC Project for \$1,326.00.

**Nikkola/Omerza moved to approval EUC consent agenda items 1-4. Motion carried unanimously.**

B. Fire Chief

i. Review of 2012 Fire & First Responder calls. It was reported by Clerk Langowski that in 2012 there were 436 medical calls and 117 fire calls for a total of 553 calls. There have been no Laurention Mutual Aid calls and 5 new fire fighters are still in training.

C. Library Director

D. Police Chief

E. City Attorney

i. **Debeltz/Nikkola moved to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Ordinance 273, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series amending the Ely City Code, chapter 2, adding section 2.64 related to the City Tree Board. Roll called: Debeltz-yes, Kess-yes, Nikkola-yes, Omerza-yes, Polyner-yes, Shedly-yes and Mayor Petersen-yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

ii. **Kess/Debeltz moved to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Ordinance 274, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series amending the Ely City Code, chapter 7, section 7.09 regulation of grass, weeds and trees and adding section 7.14 trees and shrubs. Roll called: Debeltz-yes, Kess-yes, Nikkola-yes, Omerza-yes, Polyner-yes, Shedly-yes and Mayor Petersen-yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

iii. **Nikkola/Shedly moved to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of Ordinance 275, 2<sup>nd</sup> Series revising the Ely City Code, chapter 4, section 4.02 permits and fees. Roll called: Debeltz-yes, Kess-yes, Nikkola-yes, Omerza-yes, Polyner-yes, Shedly-yes and Mayor Petersen-yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

iv. Attorney Klun stated that the closing of the old Pamida property on Chapman St will take place tomorrow, March 20, 2013. Earnest money of \$30,000 from Pamida has been placed in trust with Klun Law Firm for the agreed amount for the deconstruction of the building.

v. Attorney Klun stated she has sent the Annexation Agreement from the Township to the Board of Adjustments for their approval. Once approved, the City will proceed with the Plat of the property and the pending sale. This should be done by early May as scheduled.

F. City Engineer

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10. COMMUNICATIONS:

- A. "The Five Best Days of Summer" – St Louis County Fair request for support
- B. Town of Morse support for Airport Project – Clerk Langowski will send them a letter concerning the Airport Project priorities.

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:

- A. City and EUC claims for March 19, 2013 - \$443,506.35
- B. CGMC dues - 2013 general assessment for the City of Ely - \$5,014

**Debeltz/Nikkola moved to approve claims for payment A & B. Motion carried unanimously.**

12. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. TIF District Legislation requests has gone through House & Senate committee hearings. Council member Sheddy thanked Langowski, Omerza and Mr. Fedo for going down to these hearings and providing support for the City. Langowski stated that this was all due to the Coalition and the League acting as our lobbying group and making sure these issues get addressed.

13. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment Rights – moved to the next Study Session held on March 26, 2013.

**B. Nikkola/Debeltz moved to approve Resolution #2013-008 authorizing application of Listening Point Foundation to apply for a raffle permit for September 6, 2013 at the Grand Ely Lodge. WHEREAS**, the Listening Point Foundation has applied for a Minnesota Lawful Gambling Permit to conduct a raffle on September 6, 2013 at the Grand Ely Lodge located at 400 N Pioneer Dr., Ely MN 55731 and **WHEREAS**, the City of Ely approves of said application and that the Listening Point Foundation be authorized to submit the necessary paperwork to the State of Minnesota Department of Gambling Control. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the City Council of the City of Ely, Minnesota does hereby adopt this resolution. **Roll called: Debeltz-yes, Kess-yes, Nikkola-yes, Omerza-yes, Polyner-yes, Sheddy-yes and Mayor Petersen-yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

- C. OPEN FORUM - None

**D. Nikkola/Omerza moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:00pm. Motion carried unanimously.**

Claire Huisman  
Deputy Clerk