

Ely City Council Regular Meeting Minutes, May 5, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Ely City Council Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Novak at 5:30pm on May 5, 2015 at the City Hall Council Chambers.

2. ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Council members A.Forsman, Kess, Debeltz, Omerza, D.Forsman and Mayor Novak (6)

ABSENT: Polyner

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve the minutes from April 21, 2015 Regular Meeting, April 28, 2015 Study Session and corrected minutes from April 9, 2015 & April 14, 2015 Board of Appeals Regular and Reconvened Meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:

A. Addition – 5.A. Building Safety Month- May 2015- Proclamation

B. Addition – 13.E. Approve Resolution #2015-018 authorizing the Ely State Theater Application be given the highest priority to be added to the National Register of Historic Places.

Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve additions A-B to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

A. Mayor Novak proclaimed that May 2015 is Building Safety Month. The Proclamation will be posted on the City's website and on the bulletin board at City Hall. He also wanted to remind dog owners that it is their obligation to pick up after their dogs, dogs are not allowed in the park, and the noise ordinance applies to pets also. Ely is nominated for Outside Magazine's 2015 Best Town Ever. The link to vote for Ely as the Best Town is on the City of Ely's website, the Ely Chamber website, and the Chamber's Facebook page.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

A. Motion to waive readings in entirety of all ordinances and resolutions on tonight's agenda.

B. Approve Council and/or staff to attend 2015 TIF Training on July 8, 2015 in Grand Rapids, MN.

C. Approve placing a moratorium on the City's Calendar Parking regulations until October 31, 2015.

Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve consent agenda items A-C. Motion carried unanimously.

7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR:

A. Tim Brennan, Ely Bowling Alley – Noise Ordinance

Tim Brennan stated that he would like an amendment to the noise ordinance for the 4th of July and on the Saturday of Blueberry Arts Festival. Currently the ordinance is 11:30pm on the 4th of July and 11pm on Blueberry Arts Festival. Tim would like the noise ordinance to go till 12:30am on both dates, but could concede to just the 4th.

- Omerza commented that since the 4th of July is on a Saturday this year it would be fine, but what about the future years when some people have to work the next day.
- A.Forsman commented that there are residences close by and he can understand the concerns of other citizens in the area.
- Novak said he had talked to several neighbors in the area and nobody said not to do the event.

- Chief Lahtonen stated that they received complaints last year starting at 10:30pm last year; the officer told the residents that the noise ordinance was later on those nights.
- Langowski stated that the ordinance could be drafted to include later times for Friday and Saturday and keep the current ordinance times as is.
- Kess stated that if we could include a Special Event provision to the ordinance then the city council could make the determination on how long events like these can stay open on a case by case basis.
- Klun stated that the council could set up a permit type system where the council establishes the latest hours that an event could last. The clerk's office could then issue permits within the parameters set up by the council.

Kess/A.Forsman moved to have the City Attorney and Clerk to draft the ordinance change that would reflect a creation of a Special Event Permit that requires the council to set the parameters of each event. Motion carried unanimously.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- A. Council Member A.Forsman attended the ATV Task Force meeting. This was an initial meeting trying to get Ely's ordinance up to date with state law, and they looked at potential routes around Ely for the prospectors loop. A.Forsman also attended the Comp Plan Steering Committee Meeting; they are currently working on the vision statement.

Council Member Kess noted that the deadline to apply for the RAMS Executive Director was May 1st and the Executive Director should be hired in June.

Kess and Langowski reported on the Pre-Construction Airport Runway Project meeting. The project is scheduled to start on May 28, 2015 and end around August 27, 2015. The Airport Runway will be closed for 60 days from June 6, 2015 till August 7, 2015. The Airport will remain operational even when the runway is closed!! Helicopter traffic, Life Flight and US Forest Service will still be using the airport during the runway closure.

Council Member Omerza reported on the Library Board Meeting. There are a couple of new display cases at the Library. The display cases will be changing monthly. The Library Board revisited the meeting room policy and is going to continue to discuss the issues at the next meeting. Langowski stated that we do have other city meeting rooms within the city if people are interested. The library is gearing up for the Summer Reading Program.

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

- A. Clerk-Treasurer

Langowski stated that the 8th Ave Project is going to start Monday May 11th, 2015.

- B. Fire Chief

- C. Library Director

New Trees are being planted today and the rest of the week, a total of 10 trees are going to be planted. May 15th at 5pm Largemouth Brass Ensemble will be playing at the library, hopefully they will be able to use the new outdoor space if weather permits. The Friends of the Library Book Sale is June 18-20, 2015 at the Ely Ice Arena. Donations for books will be accepted at the Ice Arena, not at the Library, they will be accepted on June 8, 10, 12, 13, 15, and 16.

- D. Police Chief

E. City Attorney

F. City Engineer

10. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. All Night Grad Party request for donations—Mayor Novak encouraged others to donate, the Party is on May 23, 2015.

B. Letter of request from the American Lung Assoc regarding e-cigarettes

Kess/Omerza moved to send a copy of the City of Ely’s Ordinance to St Louis County Commissioner Tom Rukavina regarding E-Cigarettes. A.Forsman stated that he has sent in his letters of opposition to each county commissioner, he feels that the Clean Indoor Air Act addresses second hand smoke, and until science proves otherwise with E-Cigarettes. Motion passed 4 to 2 with Council Member A.Forsman and Mayor Novak voting “no”

C. US Dept of Agriculture letter regarding the Halfway Ranger Station Building Disposition

D. 2015 Sister Cities International Annual Conference held in Minneapolis July 16-18, 2015 invitation for Mayor Novak to serve as official member of the Honorary Host Committee.

E. Ely Area Development Assoc. letter to Mayor Novak requesting support for the Job Placement Services Program

Debeltz/Kess moved to send a letter of support to Senator Bakk and Representative Dill for the Job Placement Services Program in Ely. Motion carried unanimously.

F. MN Historical Society letter regarding National Register of Historic Places building nominations

G. Hwy 1/Hwy 169 Improvement Project Update – Eagles Nest Lake Area

H. Ely Community Resource request support for youth project to clean Semer’s and Whiteside Parks.

Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve the request to support and give in-kind service to the Ely Community Resource Annual Community Service Learning Project of cleaning Semer’s and Whiteside Park Motion carried unanimously.

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:

A. City and EUC claims for May 5,2015 - \$475,543.73

B. Ely Community Resource, 2nd Quarter payment for services - \$3,875.00

Debeltz/D.Forsman Moved to approve claims for payment items A-B. Motion carried unanimously.

12. OLD BUSINESS: None

13. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve Resolution #2015-017 authorizing application of Dorothy Molter Memorial Foundation to apply for raffle permit which is to be held October 31, 2015 at the Dorothy Molter Museum. WHEREAS, the Dorothy Molter Memorial Foundation has applied for a Minnesota Lawful Gambling Permit to conduct a raffle on October 31, 2015 at the Dorothy Molter Museum located at 2002 E Sheridan St., Ely MN 55731 and WHEREAS, the City of Ely approves of said application and that the Dorothy Molter Memorial 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: A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-yes, D.Forsman-yes and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Omerza/Debeltz moved to bring the Food Truck Ordinance to the Study Session on May 26, 2015. In discussion, Omerza stated that on the National League of Cities website they have a report on the effect of Food Trucks on the local economy; the link will be available in the clerk's office. Langowski stated that the city does have a peddlers permit. The exemptions for the peddlers permit are Farmer's Market activities, and people that are on private property. The main concern is looking at on-street food trucks or on-street peddlers with traffic concerns and taking away business from our local businesses. Motion carried unanimously**

- C. Debeltz/Omerza moved to proceed with Plumbing/Mechanical Permit Ordinance. Motion carried unanimously.**

- D. D.Forsman/Omerza moved to continue with the ATV Ordinance/Map revisions. Motion carried unanimously.**

- E. Omerza/Debeltz moved to approve Resolution #2015-018 authorizing the Ely State Theater Application be given the highest priority to be added to the National Register of Historic Places. WHEREAS, Mr. John Ott has purchased the Ely State Theater property, and WHEREAS, the Ely State Theater property had become a blighted property in the city's business district as well as tax forfeited property, and WHEREAS, the Ely State Theater is a significant part of the city's history, and WHEREAS, Mr. John Ott has committed his intent to renovate the facility following the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation, and WHEREAS, a nomination of the Ely State Theater to the National Register of Historic Places has been submitted for consideration by the State Review Board, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Ely hereby demonstrates its recommendation that the Ely State Theater application be given the highest priority, and BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Ely hereby demonstrates its full support and influence to have the Ely State Theater added to the National Register of Historic Places. Roll called: A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-yes, D.Forsman-yes and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion carried unanimously.**

14. OPEN FORUM: None

15. Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting at 6:55pm.

Casey Velcheff
Accounting Clerk