

Ely City Council Regular Minutes, September 1, 2015

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Ely City Council Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Novak at 5:45pm on August 18, 2015 at the City Hall Council Chambers.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Council Members A.Forsman, Kess, Debeltz, Omerza, Polyner, D.Forsman and Mayor Novak (7)

Absent: None

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

D. Forsman/Omerza moved to approve the minutes from August 18, 2015 Public Hearing, August 18, 2015 Regular Meeting, August 25, 2015 Public Hearing, August 25 2015, Study Session. Motion Carried Unanimously

4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:

A. Addition: 13 K: JPJ Notice of Award for Business Park 2 to Mesabi Bituminous, Inc for \$366,797.00

B. Addition: 5 A: Proclamation: October 3, 2015 Rudy Semeja Day

C. Addition: 13 L: Letter from Chamber- 100th Year Whiteside Park Anniversary- \$375 to cover costs listed and supplies needed

D. Addition: 8 A: Permit Fee Task Force Minutes

E. Addition: 8 A: RAMS Committee Brochure

Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve additions A-E to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

5. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Novak Proclaimed that October 3, 2015 is Rudy Semeja Day. **WHEREAS**, Rudy Semeja, a man who has served the Ely Area and with his many years of service at Vermillion Community College is an individual who has given his personal time and effort to the growth and development of young people; and **WHEREAS**, Rudy Semeja has been an important member of the Highway 169 Task Force and has worked for well over a decade to improve the safety of Ely's most important highway; and **NOW THEREFORE**, I, Chuck Novak, Mayor of the City of Ely, Minnesota do hereby proclaim October 3, 2015 as Rudy Semeja Day in the City of Ely in recognition of Rudy Semeja's long time dedication the Ely Community and Vermillion Community College.

Amy Klobuchar was in Ely yesterday (August 31, 2015) promoting her book *The Senator Next Door* at VCC. Mayor Novak stated that he met with the Senator for about a half hour and asked for her guidance as to where different options for government funding might be.

6. CONSENT AGENDA:

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

Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve the consent agenda item A. Motion carried unanimously.

7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR:

- A. Nancy Tubbs, Chair of Board and Rob Schultz, Executive Director: Update on Wolf Center and the Future of the Wolf Center:

Rob Schultz from the International Wolf Center gave an update on the Wolf Center. Currently the temporary exhibit is Raptors, predators from the sky, with local photographer's pictures in the exhibit. They also started a 2nd day re-entry program with wrist bands so visitors can come and enjoy the Wolf Center and wolves for two days. Fall of 2015 they are planning an expansion at the Wolf Center, and in 2016 new wolf pups will arrive! They have been working with the North American Bear Center to find ways to co-promote each organization and increase tourism in Ely. They are in preliminary discussions with the DNR and the Forest Service to obtain the 14.5 acre land exchange behind the Wolf Center

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A.Forsman reported that the Comp Plan Steering Committee came up with a vision statement. They are asking all departments to provide their information to the Comp Plan Steering Committee. A.Fosman stated that they are approximately 50% done with the Comp Plan, and a lot of the parts should come together at once towards the end. The Comp Plan Steering Committee has a March of 2016 for the Comp Plan to be completed.

A.Forsman reported that the Permit Fee Task Force had their first meeting last night (August 31, 2015). Steve Smrekar is the Chair, Anthony Colarich is the Vice Chair, and Tim Hogan is the Secretary. The next meetings for the Permit Fee Task Force will be on September 10 and 17 at 5pm.

Kess presented the council with a copy of the new RAMS brochure from the RAMS meeting. Steve Giorgi the new executive director of RAMS has offered to come speak to the council during a study session.

Debeltz wanted to thank the city and the city workers for their help with preparing the softball fields for the annual Labor Day Tournament.

Omerza reported that the second round of bidding for library/community center items is open. Items will be available for viewing at the new library; the second round of bidding will go until September 12, 2015.

D.Forsman/Omerza moved to approve the support of the Ely Greenstone to find outside grant sources for the Captains Dry Roof/Retaining Wall. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Forsman/Debeltz moved to approve the support of the IRRRB grant application for the Washington Elementary roof and demolition of the JFK Building. 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. League of Minnesota Cities: Letter from new Executive Director--Matter of Information

B. St Louis County Community Development Block Grant(CDBG)--Matter of Information

C. Letter from James Lah Requesting Trees on 400 block of East Harvey-Forwarded to the Tree Board and Projects Committee--Matter of Information

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:

A. City and EUC claims for September 1, 2015 - \$664,068.63

B. Ely Area Ambulance Service: 2015 EAAS Joint Powers Contribution-- \$17,629.55

C. Utility Systems of America: Partial Payment Estimate No. 1 2015 Improvement Projects-- \$58,770.80

Debeltz/D. Forsman moved to approve the Claims for Payment A-C. Motion carried unanimously.

12. OLD BUSINESS:

13. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Omerza/Debeltz moved to approve the hiring the Accounting Clerk position to Katie Krtinich pending a background check. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve the TKDA: Ely Municipal Airport- 2017 Proposed Development and Environmental Assessment (EA)-Early Coordination. Motion carried unanimously.

C. Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve the request for the 22nd Annual Harvest Moon Festival in kind work to be provided by the City. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Kess/Omerza moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 304, 2nd Series Authorizing Sale of real property to E Chapman Properties, LLC. Roll Called: A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-yes, Polyner –yes D.Forsman-yes and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Debeltz/Omerza moved to approve Resolution#2015-027 Approving and Adopting Proposed Tax Levy Collectible in 2016. WHEREAS, the City of Ely is required by Minnesota Law to adopt a proposed tax levy for 2016 and to certify it to the St. Louis County Auditor. NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

that the Ely City Council adopts and approves the following proposed tax levy to be levied for the current year, collectible in 2016, upon taxable property in the City of Ely, for the following proposes:

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------|
| General Fund | \$ 1,008,800 |
| Library Fund | \$ 252,400 |
| General Obligation Bonded Debt | \$ 359,600 |
| Total Certified Levy | \$ 1,620,800 |

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Ely City Clerk/Treasurer is hereby instructed to transmit a certified copy of this resolution to the County Auditor of St. Louis County, Minnesota prior to September 15, 2015.

Roll Called: A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-yes, Polyner –yes D.Forsman-yes and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

- F. **A.Forsman/Debeltz moved to approve Resolution #2015-028 Authorizing City of Ely to Make Application to and accept funds from FY16 Development Infrastructure Grant Program: Priority #1 WHEREAS THE** authorizing authority approves of the attached application for the 17th Avenue East Improvements project; and **WHEREAS THE** authorizing authority agrees to accept funding for the underlying project if approved by IRRRB. **NOW BE IT RESOLVED** that the authorizing authority of the City of Ely does adopt this resolution.

Roll Called: A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-yes, Polyner –yes D.Forsman-yes and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

- G. **Debeltz/Forsman moved to approve Resolution #2015-029 Authorizing City of Ely to Make Application to an accept funds from FY16 Development Infrastructure Grant Program: Priority #2. WHEREAS THE** authorizing authority approves of the attached application for the 2016 Capital Improvements, Sanitary Sewers/Water Mains project; and **WHEREAS THE** authorizing authority agrees to accept funding for the underlying project if approved by IRRRB. **NOW BE IT RESOLVED** that the authorizing authority of the City of Ely does adopt this resolution.

Roll Called: A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-yes, Polyner –yes D.Forsman-yes and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

- H. **D.Forsman/Debeltz moved to approve Resolution #2015-030 Regarding Annexation and Intent of the City Relative to Lands Immediately West of Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital**

WHEREAS, the City of Ely received petitions and has formally requested annexation of approximately 52 acres immediately west of the Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital. **WHEREAS**, the City of Ely fully supports the efforts of the Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital and the Ely Area Ambulance Service to expand and improve their respective services, **WHEREAS**, the Ely Area Ambulance Service is considering the construction of a new ambulance garage, the property being considered for the ambulance garage is owned by the City of Ely and directly abuts the Ely municipal boundary, **WHEREAS**, the Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital is considering the need for a potential future development site, the property being considered for the future Hospital expansion is owned by the City of Ely and directly abuts the Ely municipal boundary, **NOW**,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, upon completion of the requested annexation, the Ely City Council intends to deed the necessary and required property for the proposed ambulance garage construction and parking lot to the Ely Area Ambulance Service. The City also intends that the proposed property/parcel will be sufficient to anticipate further expansion needs of the Ely Area Ambulance Service. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Ely will fully pay any costs for permitting and building inspections to ensure the building code is enforced and, **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that these contributions be made in addition to the normal annual financial contribution determined by the Ambulance Joint Powers. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** upon completion of the requested annexation, the Ely City Council intends continue to work on a development agreement with Ely Bloomenson Community Hospital. In drafting the development agreement, the City intends to retain ownership of the current snowmobile/ ATV trail on the property.

Roll Called: A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-yes, Polyner –yes D.Forsman-yes and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

I. D.Forsman/A.Forsman moved to approve Resolution #2015-031 Regarding Annexation and Intent of the City Relative to Property on West Shagawa Road

WHEREAS, the City of Ely has received landowner petitions and has formally requested annexation from the Township of approximately 2.2 acres found on West Shagawa Road. **WHEREAS**, the property owners on West Shagawa Road currently petitioning into the City are in need of City sewer service, primarily due to the property owners' inability and/ or expense to construct septic systems on their current property, **WHEREAS**, the City of Ely currently provides water service to township residents along the road, **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, upon completion of the requested annexation, the Ely shall coordinate with the individual land owners to obtain City sewer service. To date, a cost analysis has not been performed, however, the expense of connection shall be borne 100% by the individual landowners and, as such, the cost of connection may be assessed to the individual properties. The City will notify landowners that they are responsible for said cost associated with sewer connection by forwarding a copy of this resolution to each property owner requesting annexation. **NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the City of Ely shall provide the Town of Morse with a map delineating the boundaries of the proposed annexation area. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the City of Ely does not intend on altering the water service lines as they are currently constructed, specifically, the City will not eliminate water service lines to current landowners in the area receiving service.

Roll Called: A.Forsman-yes, Kess-yes, Debeltz-yes, Omerza-yes, Polyner –yes D.Forsman-yes and Mayor Novak-yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Novak recessed the meeting at 6:30pm for 5 minutes.

Mayor Novak called the meeting back to order at 6:35pm.

- J. Debeltz/Omerza moved to table the Ely Community Access Television Contract between City of Ely and Ely TV for 2015-2017. Motion carried unanimously.**

- K. Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve the JPJ Notice of Award for Business Park 2 to Mesabi Bituminous, Inc for \$366,797.00. Motion carried unanimously.**

- L. Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve to \$375 to cover costs of additional cakes and serving items, a commemorative gift for the Whiteside Family, and 100th Anniversary souvenirs to be given out in the City/Park and Rec Booth during the Harvest Moon Festival and the 100th Anniversary of Whiteside Park. Also to furnish other supplies requested by the Chamber. Motion carried unanimously.**

14. OPEN FORUM

Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting at 6:51pm.