

Council Minutes: May 2, 2017

Regular Meeting Ely City Council – City Hall, Council Chambers

1. CALL TO ORDER-Mayor Novak Called the meeting or order at 5:30pm
2. Present: Council members A.Forsman, Kess, Debeltz, Omerza, Callen, D.Forsman and Mayor Novak
Absent: None
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve the Minutes from the April 18, 2017 Regular Meeting. Motion Carried unanimously.
4. ADDITIONS OR OMISSIONS TO AGENDA:
Addition 8. H. Planning and Zoning Committee
Item 8 H was added without objection
5. MAYOR’S REPORT
Mayor Novak reported on his recent trip to St. Paul.
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 CGMC Lobby Day on May 11th, 2017.
J.Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve the consent agenda A and B. Motion Carried unanimously.
7. REQUESTS TO APPEAR:
8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:
 - A. Standing/Special
 - a. **Budget Committee**
 - i. **A.Forsman/Kess moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to send a letter to Mary-Jane Caspers, 240 E Chapman Street stating that the City of Ely is not interested in pursuing purchase of her property as offered in her February 27, 2017 letter at this time. The offer will be forwarded to the Ely Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) for consideration for possible housing, if the HRA does not have interest in the property it will go back to the Library Board or Council for consideration in the future. Motion Carried Unanimously.**
 - ii. **A.Forsman/D.Forsman moved to approve the recommendation from the Budget Committee to purchase of a new carpet extractor from Range Paper for \$3,345. Motion Carried Unanimously.**
 - iii. **A.Forsman/J.Debeltz moved to approve the purchase of 2 steam humidifiers from Gartner Temperature Control totaling \$4,338 for the Library Building. Motion Carried unanimously.**

J Debeltz reported that there was not a quorum at the last cemetery meeting therefore they did not have an election of officers. Debeltz also stated that the Cemetery cleanup days are May 20th-28th.

H. Omerza reported the concessionaire license for Heavy Metal Sports was passed at the last meeting Park and Recreation meeting.

Langowski stated that Park and Rec received one bid for the Wheel Park.

Omerza stated that there were still some questions regarding the bid before they accepted it and that they were letting it sit until the meeting.

Clerk Langowski stated they needed to let the bidder know their decision by the next meeting.

Omerza added that the Employee Relations Committee is going to update the City of Ely Employee Handbook.

Callen reported on Board of Adjustment/Planning and Zoning Commission regarding the Public Hearing of the cancellation of the Conditional Use Permit for Mike Motors.

Langowski reported that Heritage Preservation Committee received two bids for their Reconnaissance Survey area and they will be looking at those bids.

Mayor Novak reported on the Joint Powers Lodging Tax Board and that they had met last fall and presented their budget for this year, it has not changed since last year which was at \$150,000. He explained that they had other individuals express interest in obtaining the lodging tax money and noted that according to state law they must be a tourism bureau and if anyone wants to take advantage they must go through the tourism bureau.

A. Forsman reminded everyone that May 19th and 20th will be the Spring Clean Up Days at Whiteside Park and that people who plan to take part will need to bring their ID or Utility Bill showing that they are a City of Ely resident.

9. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

A. Clerk-Treasurer

i. Bids for Equipment Replacement/Excavator

Clerk Langowski reported that there were seven bids from three different parties and it is recommended that the bid be awarded to Warren Johnson with a 2008 CAT 315 DL with 4260 hours in for a quoted price of \$95,000.

Motion by J. Debeltz/H. Omerza to purchase the 2008 CAT 315 DL from Warren Johnson in the amount of \$95,000. Motion Carried Unanimously.

ii. Northern Bedrock Historic Preservation Corps- Semers Park Grills – matter of information

B. Fire Chief

C. Library Director Heinrich gave an update on the events happening at the Library which can be found on the Library website. She also reported that the Library was one of 75 libraries across the nation and the only one in MN that was chosen to be part of a program called NASA at your Library.

D. Police Chief- Chief Lahtonen stated that calendar parking is suspended for the year and the work study student from Vermilion Community College will be starting on May 20th, 2 hour parking will go in effect that day.

E. City Attorney

- i. **J. Debeltz/A. Forsman moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 311, 2nd Series Amending Chapter 14, Section 14.10 Regulating Installation, Construction or Expansion of Any Illuminated Flashing, Blinking or Moving Advertising Sign Containing Changeable Messages within the City of Ely Roll Called A. Forsman-yes P. Kess-yes J. Debeltz-yes, H.Omerza-yes, R. Callen-yes, D. Forsman-yes, and Mayor Novak-yes.**
- ii. **J. Debeltz/H.Omerza Moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 316, 2nd Series Amending Chapter 10, Section 10.01 Regulating Storage, Deposit, and Disposal of Refuse Roll Called- A. Forsman-yes, P. Kess-yes, J. Debeltz-yes, H. Omerza-yes. R. Callen-yes, D. Forsman-yes, and Mayor Novak-yes.**
- iii. **J. Debeltz/A. Forsman moved to approve the Waiver and Consent for Pengals Store Inc and for Attorney Klun to work with Pengals and the City on their Storefront loan. Motion Carried Unanimously**
- iv. **J. Debeltz/D. Forsman moved to approve Pengal's Mortgage and Note for \$17,000 Motion Carried unanimously.**

F. City Engineer

10. COMMUNICATIONS:

A. RAMS weekly update Edition #5- matter of information

B. J. Debeltz/D. Forsman moved to approve the Ely Memorial High School National Honor Society's request for the City to clean the High School parking lot so they are able to re-paint the lines, Motion Carried unanimously.

11. CLAIMS FOR PAYMENT:

A. **J. Debeltz/D.Forsman moved to approve the City and EUC claims for May 2, 2017 for \$226,439.59 Motion Carried unanimously.**

12. OLD BUSINESS:

13. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Motion by A. Forsman/J. Debeltz to approve Rehabilitation Loan for Alex and Bryan Cole to update underground plumbing and a new 4" slab with drain tile and sump basket installed in basement in the amount \$6000 Motion Carried unanimously.

B. J.Debeltz/D. Forsman moved to Approve Off-Sale Liquor License for The Northern Grounds pending receiving proper paperwork.

Attorney Klun - noted that because Ely's population is under 10,000 citizens we are able to have on-sale and off-sale in the same establishment.

A. Forsman stated that there are three other liquor stores in the City of Ely and that this would compete directly with them. He would like to hear from the owners of Northern Grounds as to why they want to get into this market.

Mayor Novak stated that we don't have to limit it anybody or put any restrictions on what liquor establishments can have off sale licenses.

A. Forsman stated that he was under the impression that liquor stores were required to remove snacks, candy etc., and that the current three stores in town compete at the same level and by letting one that sells baked goods have a license puts them at an unfair advantage.

Clerk Langowski- suggested that the issue be tabled for the time being, noting that state law allows the City of Ely, as a smaller population, to issue more licenses, and those buildings are not required to have separate entrances when there is off sale and on sale. He also explained that Northern Grounds was just interested in selling bottles of wine particular to their store.

**P.Kess/D. Formsan moved to postpone action until the May 16, 2017 Council meeting.
Motion Carried unanimously**

C. J. Debeltz/R. Callen moved to approve Payment Estimate #5 for the 2016 Connector Taxiway to Hoover Construction Co. for \$95,864.50 motion carried unanimously.

D. H. Omerza/J. Debeltz moved to approve Change Order #2 for the 2016 Improvements Project which will increase the contract amount by \$3,497.58 Motion Carried unanimously.

E. J. Debeltz/D. Forsman moved to approve Final Payment Estimate #6 for the 2016 Improvements Project to Utility Systems of America, Inc for \$47,527.70 Motion Carried unanimously.

F. P. Kess/A. Forsman moved to approve the Great American Canoe Festival Interim Use Permit and Semers Park Rental, and also their request that the City Permit and rental fees be waived Motion Carried unanimously.

14. OPEN FORUM

15. **ADJOURN-** Mayor Novak adjourned the meeting at 6:20pm without objection.

Katie Richards
Account Clerk