

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2010 – 7:30 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER.

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Independence City Council was called to order by Mayor Johnson at 7:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Johnson led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL.

PRESENT: Mayor Johnson, Council Members Betts, Spencer, Wallace and Wenck.

STAFF: Clerk-Administrator Hirsch.

ABSENT: Attorney Vose.

VISITORS: Chris Cady, Kathie Pluth, LuAnn Brenno, Lance Gyllenblad, Lynda Franklin.

4. CONSENT AGENDA.

Approve:

- Council Minutes – January 12, 2010
- Resolutions revoking the following conditional use permits:
 - 10-0209-01 Revoking CUP for horse boarding operation at 1475 Nelson Road, Charles Williams
 - 10-0209-02 Revoking CUP for a sanitation service business at 1575 Copeland Road, Richard Hawkinson
 - 10-0209-03 Revoking CUP for a telecommunications tower at 2365 County Road 92, Wes and Julie Bendickson
 - 10-0209-04 Revoking CUP for retail sales of landscape and horticultural products at 2696 Copeland Road, Scott Benedict
 - 10-0209-05 Revoking a CUP for a non-rental guest apartment at 4720 South Lake Sarah Drive, Loren Kjersten
 - 10-0209-06 Revoking a CUP for a hobby kennel at 5075 Broadmoor Drive, Randy Bass
 - 10-0209-07 Revoking a CUP for a hobby kennel at 5112 Perkinsville Road, Daniel Larson
 - 10-0209-08 Revoking a CUP for a hobby kennel at 7902 Egret Drive, Cara Leach
 - 10-0209-09 Revoking a CUP for retail sales of landscape and horticultural products, Elizabeth Dayton
- Resolution No. 10-0209-11 Recommending continued support through Consolidated Development Block Grant (CDBG)

Wenck had questions on the Accounts Payable and the Pay Equity Report. He stated that if invoices miss the cutoff for the Council packets, they should not be paid until after the following Council meeting.

Hirsch noted the invoice that was added for tonight's meeting was from 2009 and needed to be paid before the audit.

Wenck asked why the Nextel phone bill was much higher than usual.

Hirsch responded her personal phone was lost and so she used the City's cell phone. She stated she repaid the bill.

Wenck asked if the septic inspection training for the Building Inspector was necessary.

Hirsch responded the Public Works Director wants the Building Inspector to take the classes to become certified.

Wenck asked if classes were available from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

Johnson directed Hirsch to come back to the Council with more information on the classes.

Wenck stated he did not think the Council could approve the Pay Equity report because the report included in the packet was for the City of Caledonia, not Independence.

Hirsch stated the numbers on the report are correct, just the name at the top of the report is wrong. She stated she would have the heading on the report changed.

Wenck asked if the Pay Equity notice was posted.

Hirsch responded it is posted on the bulletin board in the City Hall lobby.

Johnson suggested approving the Pay Equity Report contingent on changing the heading to the City of Independence.

Wenck stated that would be fine with him. He asked why the "years to maximum" was changed from 15 years to 20 years.

Hirsch responded that was done before Wenck became a Council Member.

Johnson suggested that the Council set a time for a work session to review all of the personnel policies and to discuss the City-owned house at 1830 County Road 90.

Betts asked that the typo on page 2 of the minutes be corrected.

Brenno asked for an explanation of the Pay Equity Report.

Johnson explained the State requires all cities to classify job positions to make sure that women's salary was equal to men's for similar difficulty jobs. He stated the report now has to be done every three years, but the City's hasn't been done since five years ago because the State kept changing the requirements.

Motion by Wenck, second by Betts, to approve the consent agenda, with the Pay Equity Report approval contingent upon the Council receiving a corrected report. Ayes: Betts, Spencer, Johnson, Wallace and Wenck. Nays: none. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

5. SET AGENDA – ANYONE NOT ON THE AGENDA CAN BE PLACED UNDER OPEN/MISC.

Nothing was added to the agenda.

6. REPORTS OF BOARDS & COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF

- Spencer: Pioneer-Sarah Creek Watershed Meeting, Lake Sarah Stakeholders TMDL meeting, League of Minnesota Cities Newly Elected Officials training.
- Wenck: Three Lake Minnesota Communication Committee meetings, Police Commission meeting.
- Wallace: Nothing to report.
- Betts: Police Commission meeting, Sensible Land Use meeting, Caucus.
- Mayor: SCS Annual Meeting, coffee with a person interested in doing business in the City, recognition presentation for Executive Director of the Greater Lakes Food Bank, Census event held by County Commissioner Jeff Johnson, Chamber of Commerce meeting, meeting regarding the merging of the Loretto and Hamel Fire Departments, funeral for former resident Erna Luedke who was 104, Transportation Hearing at the Humphrey Institute, Police Commission meeting, met with the Hennepin County Board, Community Action Partnership of Suburban Hennepin Board meeting, Sensible Land Use meeting, Land Use Advisory Committee meeting, West Hennepin Public Safety Director evaluation with Maple Plain Mayor, St. Paul Mayor's Winter Carnival Reception , Met Council State of the Region, Caucus, conference phone call with Transportation for America.
- Hirsch: Met with Hakanson Anderson to discuss equestrian trail and year-end items, attended the Northwest League of Municipalities meeting, Police Commission meeting, Election meeting for the 2010 elections, ABDO CPA audit preparation, met with Loffler representatives to discuss copier lease, conference call with Prudential Life Insurance, Ehlers and Associates finance seminar.

7. PRESENTATION OF RECOGNITION PLAQUE FOR LANCE GYLLENBLAD, FORMER COUNCIL MEMBER.

Johnson thanked Gyllenblad for his years of service on the City Council. He also thanked him for his work on the Police Commission and the Comprehensive Plan.

8. APPROVING RESOLUTION NO. 10-0209-10 RECEIVING FEASIBILITY REPORT AND CALLING HEARING ON IMPROVEMENT ON LINDGREN LANE/EAST SIDE OF INDEPENDENCE ROAD NORTH OF LINDGREN LANE.

Johnson stated the Metropolitan Council has not sent final approval to the City, so he recommended tabling the issue until the City receives approval from the Met Council.

Wallace asked what the status of the Comprehensive Plan is.

Hirsch responded that everything in the Comp Plan has been approved by the Met Council except the wastewater portion.

Wenck suggested that Johnson call Met Council Chair Bell to see if he can speed up the wastewater review process.

9. OPEN/MISC.

Motion by Betts, second by Wenck, to cancel the Feb. 23 Council meeting due to lack of agenda items. Ayes: Betts, Johnson, Spencer, Wallace and Wenck. Nays: none. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

10. ADJOURN.

Motion by Wenck, second by Spencer, to adjourn the City Council meeting at 7:57 p.m. Ayes: Betts, Johnson, Spencer, Wallace and Wenck. Nays: none. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted by Christina Scipioni, Recording Secretary