

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL  
TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2012 – 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 Councilmember Spencer at 7:30 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Spencer led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Councilmembers Spencer, Betts, Fisher, , and Wenck  
ABSENT: Mayor Johnson  
STAFF: Clerk-Administrator Hirsch  
VISITORS: Lynda Franklin

4. CONSENT AGENDA.

Approve:

- Approval of City Council minutes from February 28, 2012
- Approval of Accounts Payable for March, 2012
- Approval of year to date, 2012 Expense and Revenues
- Approval of Resolution No. 12-0313-01, to approve publishing Ordinance 2012-01 by Summary.
- Approval of Resolution No. 12-0313-02, to re-establish the Precinct Boundary Lines and Polling Location with no changes.
- Approval of the Planners Report regarding the City of Greenfield's Comprehensive Plan Review and approval to forward the comments to the City of Greenfield.
- Approval to move forward with R.C. Electric to replace the obsolete T12 lighting in the City Hall/Community Center by March 31, 2012 in order to retain a 50% rebate on the exchanges.
- Approval to move forward with Countryside Heating and Cooling to purchase and replace three new heating/Ac units for the City Hall/Community Center by March 31,2012 in order to retain a significant rebate on the exchanges.

**Motion by Wenck, seconded by Betts, to approve the consent agenda. Ayes: Spencer, Betts, Fisher and Wenck. Nays: None. Absent: Johnson. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

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

Wenck added discussion of public works equipment replacement.

6. REPORTS OF BOARDS & COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF

Spencer: West Hennepin Chamber of Commerce Meeting  
Wenck: Special Objective Committee Meeting of the Lake Minnetonka Cable Commission  
Fisher: Planning Commission  
Betts: West Hennepin Chamber of Commerce Meeting

7. HENNEPIN COUNTY SENIOR APPRAISER MELISSA POTTER, REVIEW OF THE 2012 ASSESSMENT AND BOARD OF APPEAL AND EQUALIZATION.

Melissa Potter, Senior Residential Appraiser, and Robert Winge, Residential Principal Appraiser, of Hennepin County were present at the meeting.

Potter reviewed a map of the area that was appraised this year. She stated they review about one fifth of the properties in the city each year. She wanted to prepare the Council for the April 10 Board of Review meeting. She discussed open book meetings with an appraiser versus the Local Board of Review meeting. She reported the changes in estimated market values are as follows:

Residential	-2.1%
Residential Lakeshore	-4.6%
Commercial/Industrial	-1.7%
Agriculture	0.8%

Potter reported that the overall value decrease for all property types in the City of Independence is -1.0%.

However, Potter stated there was an increase in values in green acres and agricultural preserve properties, based on what is being shown in southwest Minnesota. She reported that even though residential values have gone down, there were some properties that had an increase in value, so those residents will see that reflected in their statements.

Potter stated she has received five phone calls so far and they mostly were general questions. She stated that if the Council chooses to reconvene the Board of Review meeting, it must be done within 20 days from the first meeting.

Betts stated that she will be going to the training for the Board of Review.

8. MISC./OPEN

Public Works Equipment Replacement

Wenck would like to see more information on the equipment prior to holding a work session. He wants to see a financial analysis on each piece of equipment such as repair costs, service history and how many hours the equipment has been used.

Spencer asked Hirsch to look at Mayor Johnson's calendar to see when he would be able to attend a work session. Spencer would like to see the information Wenck requested prior to the work session.

Spencer stated that the 72-inch mower referenced would be replacing a smaller tractor they use to mow the park. He stated the Public Works Director would like to move forward with the bid process for the mower if the Council is comfortable with it. He stated there are adequate funds in the equipment fund to allow the purchase. Wenck would like to wait until after the work session so he can inquire why the cost of the mower is estimated at \$20,000.

9. ADJOURN

**Motion made by Wenck, seconded by Fisher, to adjourn the meeting at 7:45 p.m. Ayes: Spencer, Betts, Fisher and Wenck. Nays: None. Absent: Johnson. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Kimberly A. Olson, Recording Secretary