

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2013 – 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, Councilors Betts, Spencer, Wenck, and Fisher
ABSENT: None
STAFF: City Administrator Hirsch, and Bob Vose
VISITORS: Jeremy Kolbe

4. CONSENT AGENDA

a. All items listed under Consent Agenda are considered to be routine by Council and will be acted on by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

- Approval of City Council minutes from August 27, 2013
- Approval of the Accounts Payable for the month of September, 2013

Wenck inquired and questioned about the cost of the asphalt, Hirsch clarified the quantity and information.

Motion by Wenck, second by Spencer to approve the Consent Agenda. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, Wenck, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

5. SET AGENDA-ANY ONE NOT ON THE AGENDA CAN BE PLACED UNDER OPEN/MISC.

A request for a two year sewer extension from Jeremy Kolbe, 3110 Co Rd 90. Hirsch stated Bruce Satek would write up a report and could be added to the next Council Meeting Agenda.

6. REPORTS OF BOARDS & COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF

Spencer attended the following meetings:

- Budget Workshop

Wenck attended the following meetings:

- Sensible Land Use Coalition
- Budget Workshop

Fisher attended the following meetings:

- Budget Workshop
- Planning Commission

Betts attended the following meetings:

- Sensible Land Use Coalition
- Budget Workshop
- Police Commission Meeting
- Fire Commission Meeting

Johnson attended the following meetings:

- Sensible Land Use Coalition
- Budget Workshop
- Police Commission Meeting
- Fire Commission Meeting
- Minnehaha Watershed District Boat Tour
- Meeting with Executive Director for the Senior Community Services
- Council of Mayor's Meeting in Minneapolis Regarding Rental
- Wright/Hennepin Electric Ribbon Cutting for Solar Panels
- Orono School Board Meeting
- Chamber of Commerce Meeting

Hirsch attended the following meetings:

Invited the Public to the Heritage Fest at Pioneer Creek Park

7. APPROVAL OF THE REVISED INDEPENDENCE OUTLET AGREEMENT.

Motion by Betts, second by Spencer to revisit the Minutes for the August 27, 2013. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, Wenck, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Correction to the minutes – the permit for the Lake Independence Outlet Project has not been issued by the DNR.

Motion by Betts, second by Fisher to approve the Council Minutes with a correction to a permit not yet issued for the Lake Independence Outlet Project. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, Wenck, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Spencer stated in the agreement Three Rivers Park District removed their \$6000 limit and upped it to \$10,000. Voss then explained the changes to the drafted agreement. There were no recitals in the prior agreement and several where as paragraphs were added. Exhibit A was added as previously discussed in at the last Council Meeting. Voss added a paragraph discussing liability. The duties of the City of Independence have been adjusted regarding getting agreements and seeking to assure maintenance of the outlet. Voss stated there are now signature blanks for all the parties.

Motion by Spencer, second by Wenck to approve the Lake Independence Outlet Agreement. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, Wenck, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

8. APPROVAL OF THE PRELIMINARY 2014 BUDGET AND LEVY, RESOLUTION NO. .

Hirsch stated there are two resolution options. She re-adjusted the second one and emailed it to everyone. The two ad valorem options were at 2.12% and at 4%.

Johnson questioned if there was an update on the final evaluation compared to last year at this time. Hirsch stated we only have the update through July and will be getting an update soon.

Wenck stated he review the year to date and revenue. He proposed to keep the ad velorum tax level with the 2013 numbers. He calculated we would gain about 80,000 more in revenue than in our budget at the rate we are going. Johnson stated the license fees and permits were 23% higher than what the budget was at this time. The fines and forfeitures are also calculating higher than last year. Wenck feels the ad velorum could then stay the same as last year.

Johnson does not want to start the levy too low. He would rather give us space to work with as it is discussed over the next three months. He discussed the limited lots available to build. Wenck then stated he would be comfortable yet with the 2.12% but nothing higher. Spencer stated there is a hefty increase coming from the police department that needs to be accounted for. If the City sets it too low other departments will need to be cut in order to compensate for WHPS.

Motion by Wenck, second by Betts to place a levy at the 2.12%, Resolution No. 13-0910-01. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, Wenck, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

9. MISC. /OPEN.

None

10. ADJOURN.

**Motion by Wenck, second by Betts to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 7:55 p.m.
Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, Wenck, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION
DECLARED CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene Nelson, Recording Secretary