

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MARCH 25, 2014 – 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, City Attorney Voss, and City Planner Kaltsas

VISITORS: None

Prior to the meeting the Council attended a work session with the Maple Plain Administrator, Tessia Melvin, regarding work projects in Maple Plain. They also had a meeting with the Hennepin County Assessor, Melissa Potter and two staff members regarding the upcoming open appeal process.

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 February 25, 2014
- Approval of Accounts Payable for March 2014,
- Approval of Resolution # 14-0325-01; a Resolution of support for the Master Plan for a Regional Trail between Carver and Baker Park Reserves.

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

Dan Schultz requested to speak. Comments added under Open/Misc.

6. REPORTS OF BOARDS & COMMITTEES BY COUNCIL AND STAFF.

Spencer attended the following meetings:

- Workshop with Assessor
- Workshop with Maple Plain Administrator
- Meeting with Chris Lord from the Anoka County Soil and Water
- Meeting with Public Works Director

Wenck attended the following meetings:

- Workshop with Assessor
- Workshop with Maple Plain Administrator
- Essential Land Use Coalition Meeting
- He discussed a Negotiation Priority List from the LMCC

Fisher attended the following meetings:

- Workshop with Assessor
- Workshop with Maple Plain Administrator

Betts attended the following meetings:

- Workshop with Assessor
- Workshop with Maple Plain Administrator
- Maple Plain Fire Commission Meeting
- Police Commission Meeting

Johnson attended the following meetings:

- Workshop with Assessor
- Workshop with Maple Plain Administrator
- Joint Legislative Conference with School Board, Counties and Townships
- Community Action Partnership Suburban Hennepin County Board Meeting
- Community Action Partnership Suburban Hennepin County Committee Meeting
- Maple Plain Fire Commission Meeting
- National League of Cities Conference in Washington DC
- Two Steering Committee Meetings for Small Cities and Energy, Environment, and Natural Resources
- Community Action Partnership Suburban Hennepin County Finance Committee Meeting
- Hennepin County Quarterly Active Living Committee Meeting
- Delano School Board Meeting
- Police Commission Meeting
- Land Use Advisory Committee Meeting
- Wright Hennepin Electric Annual Meeting

Hirsch attended the following meetings:

- Workshop with Assessor
- Workshop with Maple Plain Administrator
- Quarterly Loretto Fire Commission Meeting
- Meeting with Maple Plain Administrator regarding shared tasks
- Chamber of Commerce Board Meeting
- Police Commission Meeting
- MCFOA Conference in St. Cloud
- Northwest League of Minnesota Cities

7. **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY, RAY MCCOY-ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 2014**

McCoy recapped the February activity. Between the two cities, the year-to-date activity is down by 75 incidents. He stated, versus last year, traffic incidents and criminal activity are down but car accidents and spin out are up, all likely due to the weather conditions.

McCoy stated at the March 18th Police Commission Meeting, Sergeant Kroells was appointed as the next Director of Public Safety. McCoy stated he was very happy with this decision and feels Sergeant Kroells will serve the two cities very well.

McCoy stated the audit report was submitted at the last Police Commission Meeting, on March 18th. The auditors suggested WHPS add money to their capital expenditure program to increase their surplus. WHPS came in very close to their budget and both Betts and Johnson, Police Commissioners, were happy with their numbers. McCoy stated the WHPS did have a few unplanned expenditures, including last summer's storm. Johnson inquired about any outstanding funds yet to come from FEMA. Hirsch stated she is wrapping the City's portion, as she just received something in the mail this week looking for confirmation of completed projects. She stated everything is completed and has been submitted, so she will call to follow up. McCoy stated WHPS submitted the last few pieces to FEMA in January. The FEMA reporting is a long process.

McCoy stated the Police Commission approved the hiring of WHPS Reserve Officer Matt Rosati. He grew up in the area, recently completed his schooling, and currently lives in Chanhassen.

McCoy stated the Citizen Police Academy graduation is coming up on April 10th. All are invited to attend; coffee and cake will be served.

McCoy stated on March 26th there will be a four-hour training class regarding an emergency management plan, workplace safety, and radio training. Staff from Maple Plain and Independence will be there.

McCoy stated this will be his last report to the City Council. He thanked them for their support and for supporting the entire Police Department. He stated he appreciated serving the Communities of Maple Plain, Independence, and the City Councils. The Council thanked McCoy for his service, and Johnson announced there will be an Open House for Ray McCoy's retirement on, Tuesday, April 29th starting at 4:30PM to 7:30PM. A dinner party will be held on April 30th, if you would like to attend please contact the WHPS for reservations.

8. RAY AND CARRIE CARUSO, 3560 AND 3610 COUNTY ROAD 90 (PID #'S 11-118-24 32-0002 AND 11-118-24 32-0003)- DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 14-0325-02 VACATING A (PORTION OF) THE DRAINAGE AND UTILITY EASEMENT ACROSS THE ABOVE REFERENCED TWO PROPERTIES.

Kaltsas explained the request to vacate a portion of their drainage and utility easement, due to a subdivision and change of property lines last fall. He stated a resolution is enclosed and the City has not received any comments regarding this.

Open Public Hearing

No Comments

Motion by Betts, second by Fisher to close the Public Hearing. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, Wenck, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Motion by Wenck, second by Spencer to approve the Resolution No. 14-0325-02 Vacating a (Portion of) the Drainage and Utility Easement across 3560 and 3610 County Road 90. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, Wenck, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

9. PLANNER MARK KALTSAS – ANNUAL SUMMARY OF 2013'S PLANNING AND CITY COUNCIL'S ACTIONS.

Kaltsas recapped the 2013 Planning Commission summary. He discussed how this helps the Planning Commission and City Council review the work that was done.

He stated the Planning Commission held 10 meetings in 2013. He stated 20 applications were reviewed by the Planning Commission in 2013, and nine of those applications were minor subdivisions. There were a couple CUP applications, CUP amendment applications, and several rezoning applications. The report shows actions that were taken with the applications. He stated the Planning Commission reviewed this and recommended the City Council be provided this information.

10. MISC. /OPEN.

Dan Schultz, Independence resident, 6014 Main St. West, questioned the City Council awareness of the road construction projects in Maple Plain. He explained where he lived and how this affects him.

Johnson asked about a water line on his property. Schultz stated he believed there is one, and there is an easement and a water hydrant near the corner. He just wanted to bring this to the Council's attention. The Council informed him this project was discussed with the Maple Plain Administrator at the meeting earlier that night and someone from Maple Plain will be contacting him.

11. ADJOURN.

**Motion by Wenck, second by Betts to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 8:07 p.m.
Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, Wenck, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: None. MOTION
DECLARED CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene Nelson, Recording Secretary