

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
INDEPENDENCE CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY, MAY 27, 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, and Fisher

ABSENT: Councilor Wenck, City Administrator Hirsch and City Attorney Voss

STAFF: City Planner Kaltsas

VISITORS: Katie and Cody Johnson and Darryl Jorgenson

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 May 13, 2014
- Approval of the purchase for a Ton & ½ Truck/with trade for the Public Works Department
- Approval to install a blacktop floor in the salt shed and apron for the Public Works Department.
- Resolution No. 14-0527-01 to allow for the residents located at 361 Game Farm Road to live in their home while constructing their new home. To be completed within a six-month time span, starting when the permit is pulled.
- Resolution No. 14-0527-02 to allow a variance for side yard and OHWL setbacks for the property located at 4545 Shady Beach Circle, Cody and Catherine Johnson.

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

Johnson wanted to further discuss the Resolutions on the Consent Agenda. He stated at the last City Council Meeting a Temporary Conditional Use Permit was requested for 361 Game Farm Road, and at the meeting it was discussed that a Resolution would be more appropriate for this request.

Motion by Spencer, second by Fisher to approve Resolution No 14-0527-01 allowing for the residents at 361 Game Farm Road to live in their home while constructing their new home. To be completed within a six-month time span, starting when the permit is pulled. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: Wenck. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Kaltsas stated at the last City Council meeting it was requested that the owner of the northwest neighboring property acknowledge that they understand the plans for the proposed home on 4545 Shady Beach. Acknowledging they understand the 4545 Shady Beach owners are requesting a variance to allow the home to be built six feet closer to the property line and changing the variance request for the OHWL setback from 34 feet to 40 feet. The owners acknowledged this and had no problem with this request. They sent an email to the City stating this. Kaltsas stated the staff amended this resolution and all the other conditions would remain the same.

Johnson asked if the email was a sufficient legal document to file in the records. Kaltsas stated the City's Attorney, Voss, saw the email, and he was fine with this. Johnson discussed that the sewer hook-up was not mentioned in the resolution. Kaltsas stated we could add to the record that the owner must hook up to the city sewer connection. Spencer stated he appreciates that the variances now do not set a new precedence.

Motion by Spencer, second by Betts to approve Resolution No 14-0527-02 allowing for a variance for the side yard and OHWL setbacks for the property located at 4545 Shady Beach Circle and the proposed house would connect to the City Sewer. Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: Wenck. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

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

None

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

Spencer attended the following meetings:

- City Work Session
- Pioneer Sarah Creek Watershed Work Session
- Memorial Day Ceremony Delano with the Boy Scouts

Wenck attended the following meetings:

Absent

Fisher attended the following meetings:

None

Betts attended the following meetings:

- City Work Session
- Police Commission Meeting

Johnson attended the following meetings:

- City Work Session
- Conference Call for the CC Ludwig Award
- Northwest League of Municipalities Meeting in Loretto
- WeCan 25th Anniversary Open House
- Camp Ihduhapi Open House
- LICA Annual Meeting at Baker Park
- Plymouth Senior Center Choir Concert
- Birthday Parties for Marian Beal and Delores Burke
- Police Commission Meeting
- Orono Schools Award & Scholarship Ceremony
- Meeting with Jill Robbins regarding property lines
- Memorial Day Service at the Lewis Cemetery with a firing squad

Hirsch attended the following meetings:

Absent

7. **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY, GARY KROELLS – ACTIVITY REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL, 2014**

Director Kroells thanked Ray McCoy, who retired April 30, 2014, for his years of service and all those who attended his Open House retirement party.

Kroells recapped the April 2014 activity report. He stated the month of April they were extremely busy. There were 1,083 incident reports for the City of Independence; which is less than last year's year-to-date total. He stated this is mostly due to the cold winter and reduced amount of traffic stops. Kroells stated a goal of his is to increase the traffic contacts over the next 90-days.

Kroells recapped the incidents that occurred including vehicle break-ins, traffic stops, and drugs found. He thanked the Orono Police and Fire Department, Maple Plain Fire Department, Orono High School, and WHPS Officer Rick Dennison for their assistance with a mock car crash at the Orono High School on April 23rd. He stated the LMCC recorded the event and the video can be seen on You Tube. Also on April 23rd, there was also a felony traffic stop with a stolen vehicle.

Kroells stated on April 27th, there was a great team effort by WHPS to assist with a felony domestic assault involving a shotgun. He stated that no one was injured and an arrest was made. Johnson inquired about costs involved with the arrest. Kroells stated this was a felony, so the costs stay with the County.

8. MISC. /OPEN.

None

9. ADJOURN.

Motion by Spencer second by Fisher to adjourn the City Council Meeting at 7:53 p.m.

Ayes: Johnson, Betts, Spencer, and Fisher. Nays: None. Absent: Wenck. MOTION DECLARED CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Jolene Nelson, Recording Secretary