



MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 17, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:50 pm.

Present: Mayor: Randy Gilbert; Council: Sam Rettinger, Sharon Henderson, Brian Carpenter, and Liz Olson

Staff Present: Interim City Administrator: Terrance Post; Public Works Director: Marv Wurzer; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Carpenter, seconded by Henderson, to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- A. Approve Minutes of February 3, 2009 City Council Work Session
- B. Approve Minutes of February 3, 2009 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- D. Approve a Request by Audi Club North America to Conduct a Raffle Drawing at Shavlik Financial, 1865 W Wayzata Boulevard

A motion was made by Carpenter, seconded by Henderson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

No one appeared to address the City Council during Open Correspondence.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Proposal for Additional Engineering Services Related to Downtown Surface Water Improvements Project

Post reported that at the last Council meeting, City Engineer SEH was directed by the Council to prepare a Professional Services Agreement for additional engineering services for the Downtown Surface Water Improvements Project in Nelson Lakeside Park and other areas. SEH has submitted a proposal contained in a letter from Project Manager Brad Woznak to the City dated February 12, 2009.

Post pointed out that since the time staff received the proposal, staff had met with Metropolitan Council representatives on February 12 to determine if the project was still tracking with the granting organization. Because the changes in the project approach were deemed to be new and

different and not just a change in methodology, the City has been asked to make a presentation before the Metropolitan Council's Community Development Committee on March 2, 2009 to make the case that the original asserted benefits still exist for the project. Upon this review, the committee will make the determination to either amend the original Grant Agreement to reflect current conditions or to withdraw project funding. It is because of this unknown outcome that staff would recommend the SEH additional engineering services proposal be only conditionally approved.

Brad Woznak, SEH, reviewed the history of the project from various planning milestone perspectives; and discussed the original anticipated engineering costs at the project's inception, the \$151,125 in engineering costs incurred by SEH to date, and an estimated \$16,300 in future costs to complete the project.

Council members discussed how the Metropolitan Council's recent feedback may affect the viability of the project.

Mayor Gilbert noted that Mike Wyatt from the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District would be joining him and Post at the March 2 meeting.

A motion was made by Henderson, seconded by Olson, to conditionally approve \$91,425 in additional engineering services from Short Elliott Hendrickson for the Downtown Surface Water Improvements Project subject to Metropolitan Council amendment approval to Livable Communities Grant Agreement #SG006-167. Ayes: all.

Preliminary 2008 General Fund Operating Results

Post said that the purpose of the agenda item was to bring the Council up to date on how fiscal year 2008 is wrapping up. Although 2008 General Fund operating results are preliminary, as of the most recent analysis it appears revenues will be coming in about \$24,000 less than budget and expenditures are also coming in under budget by about \$27,000 which temporarily produces a small surplus of about \$3,000. The impact of the December state aid "unallotment" is reflected in revenues which show a \$46,436 negative variance for Local Government Aid. As it currently stands, unaudited results show that for 2008 the City is very near to breaking even. Post noted that the audit process for 2008 will begin in April.

City Administrator Appointment and Execution of Employment Agreement for the Position of City Administrator

Post stated he had been appointed to serve as Long Lake Interim City Administrator upon the resignation of previous City Administrator Steve Stahmer. Mr. Post has been serving in this capacity since October 2008.

At the last Council work session on February 3, 2009, with both the Council and Post expressing interest in continuing the current working relationship, Post was directed to update the City Administrator job description to reflect the elimination of the Finance Director and City Planner positions whose responsibilities are now found in the City Administrator job description.

Subject to differing direction from the Council, the purpose of the agenda item would be to appoint Terrance Post as City of Long Lake City Administrator on a probationary basis effective February 21, 2009 at Step 7 of the 2009 Pay Plan and execute an Employment Agreement between the City of Long Lake and Terrance R. Post. Post pointed out that in Article 2 of the agreement, the date currently reflected should be amended to read February 21, 2009.

A motion was made by Henderson, seconded by Carpenter, to approve Resolution No. 2009-004 for the appointment of Terrance Post to the position of City Administrator, and to approve the Employment Agreement between the City of Long Lake and Terrance R. Post, City Administrator, amending the date in Article 2 to read February 21, 2009, authorizing its execution by the Mayor. Ayes: all.

OTHER BUSINESS

Northwest League of Cities Meeting – Council member Henderson had attended a recent Northwest League of Cities meeting. Business on the meeting's agenda included the election of officers, with Council member Henderson elected to serve as Treasurer; and a discussion with Jim Grube of the Hennepin County Transportation Department. She reported that in summary, Mr. Grube had discussed concerns about the future availability of funds for road maintenance and resurfacing. It is the County's hope that the stimulus package will create funding opportunities for roadways in order for the County's road resurfacing plans to be completed.

Meeting with Mn/DOT Regarding MOU – Council member Henderson reported that she and Council member Olson had met with John Griffith of Mn/DOT regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) executed between the City and Mn/DOT in 1996. She had sent a synopsis of that meeting to the full Council via e-mail. She and Council member Olson would be meeting with Mr. Griffith again in approximately a week. It was noted that most of the terms in the MOU have been addressed and largely completed by Mn/DOT.

Meeting Minutes on Website – Council member Olson requested that Council meeting minutes for a year prior to 2009 be added to the City's website. Moeller indicated she would make the addition requested.

Frozen Storm Sewer – Mayor Gilbert commented he had noticed a recent overflowing storm sewer being repaired. Public Works Director Wurzer stated that although it was an unusual occurrence, if a small amount of water is flowing in the affected storm sewer over a long period of time it can freeze up. The storm sewer was re-opened by cutting a hole through the ice. Mayor Gilbert stated he had been amazed at the amount of water flowing in the area. Council member Olson questioned whether the Mn/DOT ponds function properly, as it seems there is more water coming down to the area than ever before.

Warming House Closed for Season – Public Works Director Wurzer reported that with the recent varying warm and cold weather temperatures, the ice at the Holbrook Park skating rinks had been damaged and Public Works would no longer be spending resources on maintaining ice for the year. Mayor Gilbert reiterated that the Holbrook Park Warming House and rinks were closed for the viewing public, and noted that any skating on the remaining ice would be at a skater's own discretion.

Park Board Interviews – Administrator Post stated that a work session would be held prior to the March 3 regular Council meeting for the purpose of conducting Park Board member interviews. A total of five individuals had applied for the two open positions.

New Highway 12 Corridor Signage – Post indicated that true to the organization's commitment to do so, Mn/DOT had installed the new temporary signage throughout the Highway 12 corridor.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Gilbert adjourned the meeting by general consent at 7:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller
City Clerk