

**CITY OF ISANTI  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2016 – 7:00 P.M.  
CITY HALL**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Wimmer.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Mayor George Wimmer, Councilors: Paul Bergley, Dan Collison, Ross Lorinser, and Steve Lundeen

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: City Attorney Clark Joslin, City Administrator Don Lorsung, City Clerk/Human Resources Lindsey Giese, Police Chief Gene Hill, Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan, and City Engineer Brad DeWolf

Others Present: John Droubie, Randy Pauly, Mike Demmer, Bart Demmer, Megan Hawkinson, Rick Dassinger, Sara Henry

**D. Adopt Agenda**

1. Mayor requested to move item L7 Resolution Authorizing Staff to Accept the Knights of Columbus Winter Jacket Donation for Children of Need in the Isanti Schools which was under Consent Agenda to item K9 under Business Items.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Collison to approve the change. Motion carried.

**E. Proclamations/Commendations/Certificate Awards**

None

**F. Approve City Council Minutes**

1. September 20, 2016 - Regular Meeting of the City Council

Motion by Collison, second by Bergley to approve the Minutes of September 20, 2016. Motion carried.

**G. Citizens Input**

None

**H. Announcements**

1. **CITY OFFICES CLOSED** Monday, October 10, 2016  
*(In Observance of Columbus Day)*
2. Planning Commission Meeting Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
3. City Council Meeting Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.
4. Parks, Recreation and Culture Board Meeting Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at 6:00 p.m.

## **I. Council Committee Reports**

Councilor Lundeen reported on the Fire District Meeting. The Fire District had applied for a grant for self-contained breathing apparatuses. They were denied. One of the full time fireman made a phone call to the department that got the grant. The Fire District Board just passed a resolution granting permission to buy 35 units from them which are newer and the Department will get another 10 years of life out of them. They are asking for new hires. They are looking at hiring 11 or 12 people with 2 or 3 for Isanti and the rest distributed between Station 2 and 3. Lundeen mentioned that hiring a new Fireman is expensive, and that it typically costs about \$8,000 per newly hired individual for training, etc.

Mayor Wimmer shared that he, along with Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan, met with Governor Dayton today, October 4<sup>th</sup> at SnoBear. He explained that they discussed a number of things but highlighted the Economic Development tools we are using as a City, primarily the MN Investment Fund and the Job Creation Fund. Both have come under attack at the Legislature. One of the big reasons is that some outstate Legislators don't believe they are used by anyone outside of the seven county metro area. This was an opportunity to highlight that we definitely do use them, as well as other communities. Without these funds and incentives, we wouldn't have been able to get a business like SnoBear to come to Minnesota from North Dakota. It was really interesting to the Governor and his staff that we were able to get someone from the Dakota's back to Minnesota. The City staff shared a long list of projects, approximately 9 or 10, that the City has done since 2008 using the MN Investment Fund and some of the other programs. Time was spent talking about that and the Governor toured the facility. The City also conveyed some of the key items that we believe should be taken up in the next Legislative Session. The Mayor praised Sean Sullivan explaining to the Governor that the most important thing about doing a great job within every organization is having great staff, and Sean is definitely a key part of our Economic Development.

## **J. Public Hearings**

## **K. Business Items**

1. Resolution 2016-294 Approving Special Event Request for Art and Science Academy Parent Advisory Council Trek-or-Treat Walkathon

Megan Hawkinson represented the Parent Advisory Council of the Art and Science Academy. She explained that they will be holding the second annual Trek-or-Treat Walkathon. This year all of the funds will go to purchase Chrome Books for the students for their technology and art classes. Their starting goal is \$10,000 and they are hoping to have an annual goal of up to \$25,000 with their different events. Hawkinson explained they are asking for a permit for the event and also blocking off parking on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue Court so that the businesses and the buses are not obstructed by the participants. Mayor added that Chief Hill has also signed off.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley. Motion carried.

2. Consider Ordinance 2016-654 to Amend City Code 8-18: Committees and 8-10: Per Diem Fee for Service on Boards to Include Bike Isanti County Committee and Resolution 2016-295 to Amend the Designation of Committees and Representatives for City Commissions and Advisory Boards for Year 2016 to include Bike Isanti County Committee

This Committee was started by Isanti County to put together a comprehensive walk and bike trail system within the County. They started with just their Park's Staff and it now includes Cambridge. Cambridge has staff involved and a council member appointed to it. We are looking forward to our future trail connections which would be a route that takes us to North Branch, which connects to the Sunrise Trail, which then connects to the Munger Trail. We can then work on getting a regional designation. That designation opens up more funding for us. Mayor wants to assure Isanti is represented. Public Service Director/Assistant City Administrator Josi Woods, Community Events & Park Coordinator Katie Everett, and Mayor Wimmer met with Isanti County Parks Director Barry Wendorf last week to discuss this comprehensive plan. Mayor requested that City Code 8-18 and 8-10 be amended to include Bike Isanti County Committee. Katie Everett will be our staff appointed with Mayor Wimmer as the Council Representative for 2016.

Motion by Bergley, second by Collison. Motion carried.

**City Administrator Don Lorsung**

3. Resolution 2016-296 and Services Agreement for Development Legal Services from Campbell Knutson PA

Motion by Lundeen, second by Lorinser. Motion carried.

4. Resolution 2016-297 Accepting Proposal for Software Conversion Assistance Services from Abdo Eick & Meyers LLP

Motion by Lorinser, second by Collison. Motion carried.

5. Resolution 2016-298 Approving Audit Services Proposal

Motion by Collison, second by Lundeen. Motion carried.

6. Resolution 2016-299 Approving Agreement for Labor Legal Services

Motion by Lorinser, second by Bergley. Motion carried.

7. Consider Ordinance to Amend City Council Chapter 227 Parking and Storage to include West side of Centennial Dr. NW – item tabled

Due to school buses being staged along Centennial Ave NW and the safety hazard that it presents, DOAC recommends amending City Code to include no parking signs be placed on the West side along Centennial Drive NW from Spirit Brook Drive SW to Heritage Blvd NW. There is a congestion issue into the parking lot, there is an access issue, and an equity issue. Principal Randy Pauly addressed the Mayor and Council and thanked them for the opportunity to speak. He handed out a schematic of the current issue and two suggestions/solutions to address the issue. Principal Pauly told the Council that this is definitely something he would like to discuss and explained he first became aware of the issue when the District Building and Grounds Coordinator Eisenbacher, received an email from Josi Wood last week. She informed him and the District of the expected decision tonight on moving forward with this agenda item. Pauly requested, if possible, to delay a decision for at least two weeks, so that they can sit down with the City and come up with a possible solution. Mr. Pauly and Mr. Droubie, the Assistant Principal, both agree that having no parking on one side of the street, is a good idea. That the school has options to move the buses into the parking spaces they currently have. In his four years in the district, it has never been an issue. He explained that the

reason he appeared is to see if they can hold off on legislating or making a legal decision to something that can be solved without that. Bergley requested clarification of Pauly's concern with the proposal presented. The proposal before the Council would result in no parking on the West side. He would prefer the parking be allowed on the West side. If they park on the East side they have to cross the street to get to the school site. If the issue is having the buses in the street, that is something the school can handle within our current space, that it is not necessary to place no parking signs on the West side just to get the buses out of there. The Mayor explained there are a few issues. The first is the buses not being on the West side, and the visibility and trying to make the turn when the buses are there. Also, when there are events, both sides are filled. There isn't a clear answer if East or West is better. When it comes to pick up and drop off, people get the lined up and are also through the back. The Mayor also indicated that to his knowledge, there may not have been any kids run over, but there have been near misses. Mr. Pauly stated if that is the case, it is the first he has heard of it. In his four years, he has not had any comments from parents or community members of an issue. Council member Collison suggested shortening up the No Parking between signs. Councilor Bergley thanked the Mayor for his concern and suggested the Council postpones a decision and works with Mr. Pauly and the School to see if a solution can be found that works for both City and School. The Mayor agreed they can sit down and discuss it. Councilor Lundeen disagreed and believed it should not be put off any longer, that the sooner it is addressed, the sooner it will get done. Issues of miscommunication were also discussed. The Mayor stated the City will respect Pauly's request and asked that the School District do the same and respect his request regarding a separate issue which was brought up at a prior City Council meeting. It was confirmed they would meet during DOAC at 8:30 am, Thursday, October 6.

Motion by Bergley, second by Lundeen to table the item until the next meeting so as further discussion with the School District may happen. Motion carried.

#### **Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan**

8. Consider Resolution 2016-300 Authorizing Execution of Repayment Agreement with Prairie Senior Cottages of Isanti, LLC for Lot 1, Block 1, Bank Site Second Addition

Motion by Lorinser, second by Lundeen. Motion carried.

9. Resolution 2016-301 Authorizing Staff to Accept the Knights of Columbus Winter Jacket Donation for Children of Need in the Isanti Schools

Chief Hill introduced Rick Dassinger of the Knights of Columbus with the St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Church. Hill explained that their organization has donated jackets last year as well as this year to children of need of the Isanti School District. They have asked for the help from the City to identify some of those in need so it can be done anonymously. Our school resource Officer working with the school social workers will identify those in need and get these jackets to them. They currently have 24 jackets which will be distributed immediately and they can get more if needed. This program is growing and they are looking at making this project bigger next year. Mr. Dassinger then explained that they received two boxes for the City of Isanti last year and this year, Knights of Columbus received two more boxes. He explained they also have two boxes for St. Elizabeth Ann Seton's Church, and if the need is there, they will up it next year to maybe 6 boxes. Mayor Wimmer asked how many jackets were in a box. Dassinger responded that there were 12. He also went on to say that they are good quality coats.

Last year they were made by Columbia, and this year he could not recall the manufacturer, but that the coats are very well made. The Knights of Columbus Supreme Council negotiates the prices with the manufacturer each year. This is a Nationwide program. He also mentioned that if need be, they can purchase adult size jackets, however, right now the focus is kids' coats. He explained that they also have boxes at the church to put gently used coats, hats, mittens, overshoes, etc. Mayor Wimmer expressed his love of the idea, explaining that as a boy he relied on the great nuns at the Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Medford, Wisconsin (his home town) for jackets and bedding for about nine years of his life, and has a great appreciation for what the Knights of Columbus is doing.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley. Motion carried.

**L. Approve Consent Agenda**

1. Consider Accounts Payable in the Amount of \$526,544.84 and Payroll in the amount of \$100,128.64
2. Final Meeting Minutes for the August 23, 2016 Parks, Recreation and Culture Board Meeting
3. Resolution 2016-302 Appointing Election Judges for the 2016 General Election
4. Resolution 2016-303 Offering the Position of Utility Billing/Accounting Clerk to Ms. Bethany Bradley
5. Resolution 2016-304 Approving the Sale of Vehicle Forfeiture ICR#16003490, 1999 Pontiac Grand Prix VIN#1G2WP12K4XF230338
6. Resolution 2016-305 Approving the Sale of Vehicle Forfeiture ICR#16003658, 2007 Ford Edge VIN#2FMDK49C67BB12502

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley. Motion carried.

**M. Other Communications**

1. Draft Meeting Minutes for the September 27, 2016 Parks, Recreation and Culture Board Meeting

**Adjournment**

Motion by Lorinser, second by Bergley. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Janice Lutterman  
Administrative Data Clerk