

**MINUTES
CITY OF ISANTI
CITY COUNCIL
October 7, 2014
ISANTI CITY HALL**

Mayor Wimmer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Mayor George Wimmer, Councilors Sue Larson, Steve Lundeen, and Dan Collison

Members Absent: Adam Johnson

Staff Present: City Administrator Don Lorsung, City Attorney Clark Joslin, Finance Director/Assistant City Administrator Sarah Cotton, Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk Karissa Henning, Public Works Director Nick Fleischhacker, Police Chief Gene Hill, Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan, Community Development Director Roxanne Achman, and City Engineer Brad DeWolf

D. Adopt Agenda

Addendum:

Add K.9 Report on LELS Arbitration (City Attorney Joslin)

Motion by Larson, second by Lundeen to approve the agenda with the addendum as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

E. Proclamations/Commendations/Certificate Awards

1. Mayor's Proclamation for Minnesota Manufacturers Week

Mayor Wimmer proclaimed that the week of October 19 - October 25, 2014 will be Minnesota Manufacturers Week and read the proclamation for Minnesota Manufacturers Week.

F. Approve City Council Minutes

Motion by Lundeen, second by Collison to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2014 regular meeting of the City Council. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Citizens Input

None.

H. Announcements

Announcements were read.

I. Council Committee Reports

Councilor Larson reported on:

- **Arena Board**
 - Year-Round Ice
 - Ice Schedules
 - Transition to New Manager
- **Highway 65 Coalition**
 - By-Laws and Joint Powers Agreement
 - City of Isanti Hosted September Meeting
- **GPS 45:93**
 - Community Venture Network
 - GPS Annual Meeting and Succession Planning Discussions
- **Friends of the Isanti Area Library**
 - Bowling for Books
- **Anoka-Ramsey Community Education Advisory Council**
 - Goals

J. Public Hearings

1. **Vacation of Drainage and Utility Easements Lying with Lots 16, 17, 18, and 19, Block 1, Isanti Hills 6th Addition**
 - a. **Resolution 2014-229 Vacating a Utility Easement**

Mayor Wimmer opened the public hearing at 7:09 p.m.

Jim Lindberg from Lindberg & McKinnis, P.A., representing Susan Torkelson, was present and stated he welcomes questions from the Mayor and Council or citizens if there are any. There was no discussion on the matter or questions.

Mayor Wimmer closed the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

Motion by Collison, second by Larson to approve Resolution 2014-229. Motion carried unanimously.

K. Business Items

1. **Bluebird Park Parking Lot Lighting**

DeWolf reported that Connexus Energy has designed the lighting layout for the Bluebird Park parking lot, which should assist with enhanced safety and visibility of the parking lot and adjacent park area. Connexus submitted a quote in the amount of \$18,787.50 to furnish and install the lighting. DeWolf recommends approval of this.

Larson asked where the money is coming from for the improvements. DeWolf explained the money will come from part of bond proceeds, from when the City bonded for this improvement.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Larson to approve the Bluebird parking lot lighting layout and quote from Connexus Energy as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

2. **Public Works Lift Station Electrical Service**

DeWolf reported that Connexus Energy has designed the electrical layout and has submitted a quote in the amount of \$3,131.31 to furnish and install a new electrical service line for the Isanti BMX Building as well as the Public Works Building. DeWolf recommends approval of this.

Motion by Larson, second by Collison to approve the quote by Connexus Energy for the proposed electrical service line as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Engineering Proposal for New Public Works Overhead Door

DeWolf stated this proposal is for design services for a new overhead door for the sewer jet vac truck in the amount of \$3,780.00.

Motion by Larson, second by Collison to approve the engineering proposal for the Public Works new overhead door as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Resolution 2014-230 Authorizing the Replacement of Case Loader Tires

Motion by Larson, second by Collison to approve Resolution 2014-230. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Resolution 2014-231 Approving Staff to Plan a Cambridge-Isanti Bike/Walk Trail Event and to Apply for Applicable Grant Opportunities

Mayor Wimmer noted that this is something he and Mayor Palmer have been working on to celebrate activities between the two communities; he hopes this will plant some seeds for future ventures.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Larson to approve Resolution 2014-231. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Resolution 2014-232 Authorizing Execution of Repayment Agreement with J. Robinson Construction, LLC on Lot 11, Block 2 Villages on the Rum , Third Addition, Phase Three

Motion by Collison, second by Lundeen to approve Resolution 2014-232. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Resolution 2014-233 Authorizing Execution of Repayment Agreement with J. Robinson Construction, LLC on Lot 12, Block 2, Villages on the Rum, Third Addition, Phase Three

Motion by Lundeen, second by Larson to approve Resolution 2014-233. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Special Vehicle Permits

a. Ordinance 587 Amending the Code of the City of Isanti Chapter 160 Fees

b. Resolution 2014-234 Adopting the Fees Within the City of Isanti

Mayor Wimmer stated the proposal to amend the City Code for special vehicle permits is for ATV's and golf carts.

Larson asked if this change to the code will open up for more allowance of snowmobiles.

Mayor Wimmer stated this change is not for snowmobiles; currently snowmobiles can take the fastest route to a snowmobile trail; this will remain the same. Snowmobiles are allowed on Isanti County highway rights of way. Mayor Wimmer noted snowmobiles are rougher on public infrastructure.

Larson noted she believes it is time to allow special vehicle permits for ATV's and golf carts.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Larson to approve Ordinance 587 and Resolution 2014-234.
Motion carried unanimously.

9. Report on LELS Arbitration

Joslin reported that the City received an opinion and award for the arbitration the City had with Law Enforcement Labor Services (LELS), the Police Department union, in regards to tuition reimbursement language within the union contract. It was the City's stance that reimbursement for books and tuition are subject to City approval. For budgetary reasons the City denied the request, which is outlined within the arbitration opinion and award. The City has always approved requests on a course by course basis. The request that went to arbitration was for reimbursement for all courses and books. The arbitrator reviewed the matter and split the issue. The City is to pay for five out of ten requested courses contingent upon the conditions outlined in the union contract, such as a passing grade of "C" or better. Joslin noted moving forward the City will need to review courses on a course by course basis and use the same discretion the arbitrator has outlined in the award and opinion. The City will need to plan for future reimbursement requests.

Mayor Wimmer stated he feels this puts the City in a box and undercuts the management rights of the City. How the award and opinion is outlined leaves the City vulnerable to multiple degrees or degree level requests. Mayor Wimmer noted this will affect the City's 2015 budget. The City will need to reserve tens of thousands of dollars for tuition reimbursement. Tuition reimbursement could be a significant cost to the City. Mayor Wimmer expressed he feels that this money for Police Officers tuition reimbursement requests should come from the Police Department Budget. Mayor Wimmer noted he would like Joslin and Lorsung to work on trying to determine/outline some type of parameters for tuition reimbursement requests with the union. Mayor Wimmer noted he wished this award and opinion held some consideration to the City's budget and budget cycle. Mayor Wimmer commented that he feels the City may have to remove the proposed Police Investigator position, as other departments should not have to take on this expense. Mayor Wimmer noted at this point, all the information presented is just informational.

Collison questioned if once the LELS contract is up, the City will have to continue to pay for tuition reimbursement. Mayor Wimmer replied yes, unless the City is able to negotiate it out of the contract.

Mayor Wimmer also noted currently, the City has treated all employees and union employees as similar and as fairly as it can. The arbitration award now opens tuition reimbursement up for Police Officers, currently, but a decision will have to be made moving forward in regards to other staff members outside of the Police Officer union.

L. Approve Consent Agenda

1. Consider Accounts Payable in the Amount of \$1,414,751.90 and Payroll in the Amount of \$84,012.96
2. 2014 BMX Building Pay Request No. 2 in the Amount of \$835,686.50
3. 2014 BMX & Public Works Site Improvements Pay Request No.1 in the Amount of \$256,431.34
4. Final Minutes of the August 26, 2014 Parks, Recreation, and Culture Meeting
5. **Resolution 2014-235** Terminating the Agreement Between the City of Isanti and Owls Hockey Club to Allow Parking a Motor Coach on City Property
6. **Resolution 2014-236** to Remove Gordon from the Isanti Planning Commission and to Advertise to Fill the Vacancy
7. **Resolution 2014-237** Approving a Local Gambling Permit to the Knights of Columbus
8. **Resolution 2014-238** Approving to Sell the 2008 Dodge Charger Police Package at the Public Auction
9. **Resolution 2014-239** Approving to Replace the Vacancy in the Part-Time Peace Officer Roster
10. **Resolution 2014-240** Authorizing Execution of Agreement for the Safe and Sober Grant
11. **Resolution 2014-241** Approving a Contract with Leaf's Towing & Recovery
12. **Resolution 2014-242** Approving Quote for Police Department Window Replacements
13. **Resolution 2014-243** Authorizing the Purchase and Installation of Water Meters in the Fire Station
14. **Resolution 2014-244** Updating Residential Equivalency Charges for Sewer and Water Usage
15. **Resolution 2014-245** Approving to Enter Into an Agreement with Toshiba and Upgrade to a New Copier at City Hall
16. **Resolution 2014-246** Offering the Position of Administrative Intern to Jolene Brown
17. **Resolution 2014-247** Authorizing Staff to Work Towards the Implementation of a Part-Time Custodian Position for January 2015

Motion by Lundeen, second by Larson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion by Lundeen, second by Collison to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karissa Henning
Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk