

**MINUTES
CITY OF ISANTI
CITY COUNCIL
DECEMBER 20, 2011
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 Jim Kennedy, Sue Larson, Steve Lundeen and Ross Lorinser

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Administrator Don Lorsung, City Attorney Clark Joslin, Finance Director Kristi Smith, Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk Karissa Henning, Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan, Planning and Parks Director Lisa Wilson, Chief Ron Sager, and City Engineer Brad DeWolf

Motion by Lorinser, second by Kennedy to approve the agenda with the addendum to the consent agenda as L.8 moved under business items as K.9, following the K.8 addendum. Motion carried unanimously.

Lundeen joined the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

E. Proclamations/Commendations/Certificate Awards

Employee recognition was given for those hitting the five, ten, fifteen, twenty etc. years of service mark. Lisa Wilson and Lowell Schwieger's recognition for five years of service was announced. Lisa was presented with her certificate of recognition.

F. Approve City Council Minutes

Motion by Larson, second by Lorinser to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2011 City Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Citizens Input

None.

H. Announcements

Announcements were read.

I. Council Committee Reports

Councilor Larson reported on:

- **Snowmobile ATV parade**
 - January 1, 2012 with the line up at 3:00 p.m. at the Isanti Middle School, the parade starts at 3:30 p.m. and ends at the Community Center with a free Chili feed and awards to follow
- **Liquor Committee**
 - Inventory completed using cycle counts
 - The Liquor Store will be open Saturday December 31st and Monday the 2nd of January
- **Isanti Area Library Friends**
 - Fundraising support
- **East Central Library Board**
 - County Commissioners Meeting will pass the budget in January
- **League of Minnesota Cities**
 - Summary on City services and funding
- **East Central Regional Development**
 - Approved the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

J. Public Hearings

1. Resolution 2011-286 Vacating Certain Drainage and Utility Easements Dedicated to the City of Isanti Pursuant to the Plat of Rum River Meadows 2nd Addition

Mayor Wimmer called the public hearing to order at 7:12 p.m.

Jennifer Stella from 1102 South Passage asked what the plans are for Rum River Meadows Park and why the easements need to be vacated. Wilson stated that the three parcels will become future park area for Rum River Meadows Park. Wilson added that the utility easements are going to be vacated so no one can place any electrical boxes in the middle of the park. Currently nothing has been planned to be placed in the middle of the park due to low funds, but ideas are still being generated for the future and citizen input is encouraged.

Mayor Wimmer closed the public hearing at 7:14 p.m.

Motion by Kennedy, second by Lorinser to approve Resolution No. 2011-286 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

K. Business Items

1. Resolution 2011-287 Extending the Original Partnership Agreements between the City of Isanti and the East Central Library Board and the Isanti Area Friends of the Library

Barbara Misselt reported that the Partnership Agreement is an important agreement to continue, the library is being put to great use for those who cannot travel to larger branches. Misselt noted that the pre-school children frequently go to the Library for story

time. Misselt mentioned that the Isanti Area Friends of the Library have great volunteers and their assistance is appreciated. Misselt requested the service contract be extended.

Mayor Wimmer asked if new people were using the Library that would have not otherwise used a Library from another branch, or if the Library is taking service away from other branches. It was reported that many new individuals are using the Library, some do come from larger branches, such as Cambridge, however a majority are new Library users.

Larson made comment that the Isanti Area Friends of the Library are working very hard; and their marketing has been excellent.

Motion by Lorinser, second by Kennedy to approve Resolution No. 2011-287 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Small Engine Repair at 310 2nd Avenue North

Motion by Kennedy, second by Larson to table the matter until a representative is present. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Resolution 2011-288 Approving the Interim Use Permit as Requested by Christopher and Kelli McDonald to Permit a Residential Kennel on the Property Located at 811 Rum River Drive SW

Mayor Wimmer withdrew himself from this item, as the applicant is his neighbor. Mayor Pro-tem Lorinser presided during consideration of this item.

Larson made comment that letters were sent out, as requested by the Ordinance, to surrounding property owners and no letters were received disputing the residential kennel permit.

Motion by Larson, second by Lundeen to approve Resolution No. 2011-288 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Resolution 2011-289 Authorizing Inter Fund Loans from Water and Sewer Funds to General Fund for Deer Haven Improvement Project Shortfall

Originally the Water and Sewer Funds were going to cash flow the 2009 Deer Haven Improvement Project and be reimbursed through special assessment collections. In light of the re-assessment, the project now has a \$31,793.44 shortfall.

Motion by Kennedy, second by Lorinser to approve Resolution No. 2011-289 as presented. Motion carried unanimously

5. Resolution No. 2011-290 Authorizing Staff to Act of Escrow Account

Authorization for Payment in the amount of \$5,628.96 from the General to the Escrow Fund for Northland 66 as the account is deemed uncollectable.

Motion by Kennedy, second by Lundeen to approve Resolution No. 2011-290 as presented. Motion carried unanimously

6. Resolution No. 2011-291 Approving 2012 Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) and Amendment to Personnel Policy Regarding Compensatory Time

Mayor Wimmer made comment that this adjustment and amendment to the Personnel Policy was approved for both unions, which were agreed upon through contract negotiations, and that the COLA increase was previously included in Lorsung's raise.

Motion by Kennedy, second by Larson to approve Resolution No. 2011-291 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Consider Amendments to the City Code and Fee Schedule

a. Ordinance No. 523 Amending the Code for the City of Isanti, Chapter 160, Fees

b. Resolution 2011-292 Adopting Fees within the City of Isanti

Kennedy questioned if the lawn sprinkling was for City water. Lorsung stated this is for City water and added that the progressive fee was already in place; the terminology was simply altered within the City Code to ensure the enforcement of the fees.

Motion by Kennedy, second by Lorinser to approve Ordinance No. 523 and Resolution No. 2011-292 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Resolution No. 2011-293 Authorizing the Purchase of a Computer, Microsoft Office License and Printer for the Liquor Store

The Liquor Store is in need of a new computer, Microsoft Office License and printer. Quotes were received and reviewed, CDW-G was found to have the best pricing for the Liquor Store's needed equipment and licensing.

Motion by Larson, second by Kennedy to approve Resolution No. 2011-293 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Failed Resolution Approving Exempt Sidewalk from Snow Removal

Mayor Wimmer questioned if a number of sidewalk exemption requests come in, would slowly more sidewalk portions become exempted from snow removal. The Mayor made comment that the same standard needs to be enforced for all. Lorsung stated there was another request that was not approved for exemption. Lorsung further explained that Al Torkelson requested for an exemption on a portion along Hickory Street for it does not serve developed residential properties. Lorinser stated having sidewalk patches exempted could become an issue for the City and other individuals within the area who use the sidewalks. Mayor Wimmer asked for confirmation that the current policy in place states that whether or not the area is developed, sidewalks are to be plowed. Lorsung confirmed

that the standard is sidewalks are to be plowed regardless of the area – developed or undeveloped.

Motion by Lorinser, second by Kennedy to deny the exemption request and to maintain the current City Policy. Motion carried 4-1 (Larson).

L. Consent Agenda

1. Accounts Payable in the Amount of \$611,330.91 and Payroll in the Amount of \$89,997.47
2. 2011 Street and Utility Partial Pay Estimate No.4 & 2011 Street and Utility Change Order No. 1
3. Water System Improvements - Well House No. 1 and Partial Pay Estimate No.3
4. **Resolution 2011-294** Approving Application for Reissuance of NPDES/SDS Permit for Wastewater Treatment Plant
5. **Resolution 2011-295** to Enter into a Site Use Agreement Between the City of Isanti and Catholic Charities to Continue Senior Dining at the Isanti Community Center
6. Approval of the November 8, 2011 Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
7. **Resolution 2011-296** Offering the Community Service Officer Position to Ms. Rachel Burns

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

Adjournment

Motion by Kennedy, second by Lorinser to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karissa Henning
Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk