

**CITY OF ISANTI
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2016
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: Paul Bergley, Dan Collison and Steve Lundeen

Members Absent: Adam Johnson

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

D. Adopt Agenda

Addendums:

Add new L.10 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Repayment Agreement with J. Robinson Construction, Inc. for Lot 8, Block 1, Villages on the Rum, Third Addition, Phase Three
Add new L. 11 Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Repayment Agreement with J. Robinson Construction, Inc. for Lot 9, Block 1, Villages on the Rum, Third Addition, Phase Three

Motion by Collison second by Bergley to approve the agenda with addendums as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Proclamations/Commendations/Certificate Awards

None

F. Approve City Council Minutes

1. February 2, 2016 ~ Regular Meeting of the City Council

Motion by Bergley second by Collison to approve the Regular City Council Meeting Minutes of February 2, 2016 as presented.

G. Citizens Input

None

H. Announcements

Announcements were read

I. Council Committee Reports

Mayor Wimmer addressed the explosion felt that day from Orbital ATK in northern Anoka County. The Mayor noted that a lot of questions had arisen regarding the explosion. There was some misinformation that circulated regarding the explosion indicating that it was an accidental discharge; however, the discharge was planned although there was significantly more ordnance being destroyed than what is typical. The Mayor noted that for most, it was merely a nuisance; however, it was a significant explosion and residents were uncertain as to what was happening. The Mayor acknowledged receiving a number of calls, some from people who have relatives in the community who suffer from Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD). The Mayor plans to work with the Isanti County Sheriff on receiving prior notice when similarly large discharges take place so that the City can provide announcements to its residents in the future.

The Mayor also read the Allina Clinic Release announcing their anticipated spring 2017 Medical Clinic opening in the City of Isanti. The release indicated that the Allina Board of Directors had approved a 17,000 square foot facility. Lundeen asked if the building size had been reduced from 19,000 square feet to 17,000 square feet. Mayor Wimmer clarified that a 17,000 or 19,000 facility had been approved allowing Allina room to expand. It was generally believed that Allina would go to the 19,000 square footage because the cost to expand in the future would be greater than building to 19,000 from the start. The Mayor reiterated that this will be a model new Clinic for Allina. It will be a model for how they build and deliver health care in the future with both medical and complimentary therapy features to be included in this facility.

J. Public Hearings

1. Request from Property Resource Group for the Vacation of a Drainage and Utility Easement Lying with Isanti Commons First Addition

Mayor Wimmer opened the public hearing at 7:04 p.m.

There were no questions or comments.

Mayor Wimmer closed the public hearing closed at 7:05 p.m.

a. Resolution 2016-041 Vacating a Utility Easement

Motion by Lundeen second by Bergley to approve Resolution 2016-041 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

K. Business Items

1. Knights of Columbus Jacket Donation

Chief Hill addressed the City Council stating that the Knights of Columbus had reached out to the City of Isanti Police Department along with the School Resource Officer, Middle School, Elementary School and Primary School staff to identify children in need to be the recipients of the many winter jackets being donated by the Knights of Columbus. Chief Hill thanked the Knights of Columbus for the partnership and for allowing them to assist in getting the jackets to needy kids.

Motion by Lundeen second by Bergley to accept the donation. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Discuss C-I Bike/Walk Trail Amendment (Mayor Wimmer)

Mayor Wimmer stated that the Isanti County Parks Director had raised the question of having the Bike/Walk Trail Committee amend the language in the Joint Powers Agreement currently in place with the City of Isanti, Isanti Township, City of Cambridge and Isanti County, to allow for making connections with the Isanti County trail systems and build upon what is currently in place. The Mayor proposed that his focus would be to build upon what the City has already done versus start from scratch. He stated that it was originally stressed to try and finish some connections with the Bike/Walk Trail on the northern end and to connect to the City of Cambridge. The Mayor advocated that from the perspective of the City of Isanti, it would be desirable to have a connection to the east with North Branch going along Highway 5 which already has a bike lane. The Mayor also noted that improvements are needed on a stretch of Highway 95 before entering the City of North Branch, as the area which would need some significant safety improvement; otherwise, the trail could connect with the Sunrise Trail which has runs north and south. The Mayor remarked that Chisago County, North Branch and neighboring communities are working to get further north and thereby connect with trails there. The Mayor also confirmed that the City of Isanti built the trail from the Bluebird Park by the soccer fields all the way up to 299th. He emphasized that this wasn't part of the trail dollars, but rather a connection paid for by the City of Isanti. The Mayor told the Isanti County Parks Director that he didn't believe the City of Isanti would be interested helping fund their connection on the north end into the City of Cambridge, believing it fair that they, likewise, would pay for their own. The Mayor indicated that he was looking to the Council for approval in going forward with getting the City Attorney and staff to put some amendment language together. Also, another meeting would be required with Cambridge to hammer out the details.

A motion was made by Lundeen second by Bergley to move forward with amending the Cambridge Isanti Bike/Walk Trail Joint Powers agreement to include potential new trail links. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Resolution 2016-042 Approving a Five Thousand Dollar Increase to All Department Head Salaries and Amending the 2016 Budget (Mayor Wimmer)

The Mayor proposed a basic \$5,000 dollar increase across the board for department heads with a total impact of \$42,000. The Mayor noted that as indicated on the salary ranges from adjacent cities, the current salary ranges for City of Isanti employees are \$6,000 to \$23,000 less than the comparables. Lundeen asked that it be stressed that the impetus for this action was to help curb the loss of department heads as seen recently. The Mayor acknowledged that pay raises are seldom popular with the constituency; however, he stated that he would be willing to engage that discussion with anyone and indicated that comparable figures were starker than he had anticipated.

Motion by Bergley second by Collison to approve Resolution 2016-042 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Ordinance 633 Approving an Amendment to the Zoning Map to Rezone Lots 6 & 7, Block 3 of Isanti Meadows from R-1 Single Family Residential to Park and Open Space

The Mayor noted that these were the forfeited lots that were designated for future parkland.

Motion by Lundeen second by Bergley to approve Ordinance 633 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Resolution 2016-043 Establishing and Appointing Members to the GreenStep Committee

The Mayor stated that GreenStep is the program through the MCPA and League of Minnesota Cities to improve the City's impact on the environment and one of the steps the City needs to take is to have an official committee structure set up. Bergley asked if the assigned committee members had agreed to participate to which the Mayor responded that the committee had already been meeting, the City merely needed to make it official. Mayor Wimmer commented that the committee has done a fantastic job and anticipates that by this summer, the City will be at Step 3 in the program which indicates significant progress. The Mayor recognized Community Development Director Roxanne Achman and Public Services Director Josi Wood for their contribution to this program.

Motion by Lundeen second by Bergley to approve Resolution 2016-043 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Resolution 2016-044 for Public Works Lighting Upgrade and Grant Submission

Bergley inquired in what manner the lighting was considered inefficient. Lorusung responded that it is inefficient from the standpoint that it is old technology and of candles per square foot. Lorusung stated that the lighting upgrade was going to reduce the City's use of energy at the public works facility and provide better lighting for the City's employees. Collison confirmed that it is very dark in the City's public works building. Lundeen indicated that it is likely that there would also be financial assistance from the utility company as they would come in to audit the energy usage after the upgrade. Lundeen also noted that a lot of facilities have undergone these upgrades for the financial assistance received from the utility companies, underscoring the value of an upgrade for the City.

Motion by Lundeen second by Bergley to approve Resolution 2016-044 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Resolution 2016-045 for Water Treatment Plant Hatch Improvements

DeWolf reported to the Council that at the City's water treatment facility there are four steel pressure filters with each filter having four hatches on it. After the warranty period on the project, it was noted that the hatches had some problem with corrosion and are starting to leak. Three of the hatches with the greatest problems were repaired when Public Works Director Fleischacker was still with the City; however, it is obvious the other 13 need repair. Quotes were solicited from several contractors. Shank Construction, who fixed the original three, was the only contractor to respond as it is extremely tedious work. This project was estimated at \$50,000; the bid came in at \$57,200. DeWolf recommended the City move forward with this bid indicating that the design was poor from the start; however, noting the fix is a long-lasting solution. DeWolf also stated that keeping these hatches from leaking has taken up many public works staff hours over the past year and would thus definitely be a benefit from a time/cost perspective.

Bergley asked if the job should be split as only \$50,000 was budgeted. Lundeen indicated that it would likely cost an additional \$20,000 if the project were split. The Mayor noted that the cost for the work will come out of the water fund.

Motion by Lundeen second by Bergley to approve Resolution 2016-045 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

L. Approve Consent Agenda

1. Consider Accounts Payable in the Amount of \$471,357.16 and Payroll in the amount of \$88,997.56
2. Pay Request No. 1 – Railroad Avenue Pond in the Amount of \$53,261.80
3. Final Minutes of the January 5, 2016 Economic Development Authority Meeting
4. Final Minutes of the January 12, 2016 Planning Commission Meeting
5. Animal Control Services – Amendment to Specifications
6. **Resolution 2016-046** Authorizing the Conveyance of Outlot A, Mattson's Second Addition Pursuant to the Deed
7. **Resolution 2016-047** Awarding Environmental Project to Carlson McCain and Authorization of Interfund Loan
8. **Resolution 2016-048** Approving a Local Gambling Permit to the Cambridge-Isanti Rotary Club
9. **Resolution 2016-049** Accepting Liquor Store Clerk III Angela Sheppard's Resignation
10. **Resolution 2016-050** Authorizing the Execution of Repayment Agreement with J. Robinson Construction, Inc. for Lot 8, Block 1, Villages on the Rum, Third Addition, Phase Three
11. **Resolution 2016-051** Authorizing the Execution of Repayment Agreement with J. Robinson Construction, Inc. for Lot 9, Block 1, Villages on the Rum, Third Addition, Phase Three

Motion by Lundeen, second by Collison to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carla Scharber
Administrative Data Clerk