

**MINUTES
CITY OF ISANTI
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 17, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.
CITY HALL**

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members Present: Mayor Jeff Johnson, Councilors: Jimmy Gordon, Paul Bergley and Steve Lundeen.

Members Absent: Dan Collison

Staff Present: City Administrator Josi Wood, Human Resources/ City Clerk Katie Brooks, Chief of Police Travis Muyres, City Engineer Jason Cook, Assistant City Administrator/ Special Projects Don Lorsung and Finance Director Mike Betker

D. Public Comment

None

E. Adopt Agenda

Addendum:

Remove K.1 New Emergency Notification System for Isanti County

Add L.8 Resolution 2020-075 Approving and Adopting the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan-Pandemic and Public Health Emergency Plan and Continuity of Operations Plan

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley to approve the agenda with the modifications listed above. Motion passed 4-0. Motion carried.

F. Proclamations/Commendations/Certificate Awards

None

G. Approve City Council Minutes

1. March 4, 2020- Regular Meeting of the City Council
2. February 4, 2020- Regular Economic Development Authority Meeting
3. February 18, 2020 Special Economic Development Authority Meeting

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley to approve minutes as presented. Motion passed 4-0. Motion carried.

H. Announcements

1. Park, Recreation, & Culture Board Meeting Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.
2. City Council Meeting Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
3. EDA Meeting Tuesday, April 7, 2020
(Following the City Council Meeting)

Councilmember Bergley asked if the Park, Recreation and Culture Board meeting on Tuesday, March 24th will be cancelled as City Hall is closed to the public.

City Administrator Josi Wood shared that if the City of Isanti moves into the next phase of the pandemic plan the next phase is to cancel all board and commissions except for City Council. Wood continued to share that it may come very soon.

Mayor Johnson stated that the Declaration for the COVID-19 is a global pandemic by the World Health Organization means that there are community level outbreaks of COVID-19. Johnson continued to share that as of March 17th, 2020 there are no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the City of Isanti or Isanti County but stated that it is likely that will change. Johnson stated that the City has very fortunate to have highly skilled medical facilities, outstanding law enforcement officers and emergency responders working closely with the Isanti County Public Health Department and the Minnesota Department of Health. Johnson further shared that COVID-19 has been recognized by the CDC to have more serious symptoms that are likely to effect the elderly population and those with serious chronic medical conditions with no vaccinations available at this time, governing bodies across the state and the county are working together to slow the spread of the virus down. Along with many other cities across the state the City of Isanti has decided to close City Hall and the Police Department to the public effective Wednesday, March 18th, 2020 through Friday, March 27, 2020 and at that time it will be reevaluated and determine if needed the dates need to be extended. Johnson stated the announcement was shared on the City's website, police and City Facebook pages. Johnson further stated that the chairs in the chamber have been separated for social distancing.

Councilmember Lundeen shared that other cities are doing the same thing where they will still issue building permits, inspections on homes or buildings as long as they are not occupied. Lundeen further shared that if the buildings are occupied, they are not entering the home.

I. Council Committee Reports

None

J. Public Hearings

None

K. Business Items

- ~~1. New Emergency Notification System for Isanti County (*Ross Benzen*) -update only~~
Ross Benson informed staff ahead of time he had to cancel.

- 1. Resolution 2020-063** Interview Applicant for Vacant Economic Development Authority Board Seat (*Luke Merrill*)

Applicant Luke Merrill was interviewed via Skype by Mayor Johnson for the open Economic Development Authority seat. Johnson asked questions specific to Economic Development Authority.

Councilmember Bergley asked for clarification on the question Merrill was asked about what he sees for the potential future growth for Isanti.

Merrill stated he thought the town is well developed at the moment for how many citizens Isanti is at. Merrill continued to share that the community continues to grow and it is important to evaluate new options that are coming to town, but he does not want to over pollute the City with businesses that he does not think are a good fit and that it is important for someone on EDA to voice their opinions and different mind sets.

Councilmember Gordon stated that all businesses should be encouraged to invest in Isanti and create more jobs and tax-base.

Bergley stated that his concern is limiting the economic opportunity to bring more businesses into Isanti. Bergley further stated that residents had concern over another dollar store opening, but if they meet the requirements of zoning code and City ordinances then they can be allowed.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Gordon to approve resolution as presented. Motion passed 3-1 with Bergley voting Nay. Motion carried.

2. Resolution 2020-XXX Consider the 3.2 Off-Sale Liquor License Application for Coborn's, Inc City Administrator Josi Wood shared that an application has come in from Coborns and they were notified to attend the meeting so City Council could ask questions and the last staff had heard they were attending however, there is no representative from Coborns in the audience. Wood further stated that it is up to City Council's discretion if they want to grant this license or not.

Councilmember Lundeen stated he heard that Coborns would be asking for a 3.2 license and he believes Cub Foods in Cambridge has 3.2 there as well as Wal-Mart.

Mayor Johnson asked if it has ever come up about any gas stations in Isanti that would like to sell 3.2.

Wood stated it was brought up when Kwik Trip came to Isanti and per city code 3.2 is only allowed in grocery stores and it does not allow for convenience stores to sell 3.2 alcohol and that was to limit it because Isanti does have a Municipal Liquor store and most sales to go there.

Assistant City Administrator/ Special Projects Don Lorsung shared that in Cambridge's situation the businesses may have had the 3.2 license before they authorized strong liquor in the community.

Lundeen stated Cambridge had the municipal liquor store prior to Wal-Mart being built.

Lorsung stated that Cambridge might have had a prior grocer that had 3.2.

Bergley stated that he does not feel threatened as for the city's municipal liquor store.

Wood stated per city code that a representative need to be present at the meeting this will need to be postponed to a future City Council meeting when they can attend.

City Administrator Josi Wood

3. **Resolution 2020-064** Approving a Special Event Application for BMX 2020 Race for Life and DK Gold Cup Qualifier Event (*Larry Merchlewitz*)

Larry Merchlewitz shared that every year Rum River BMX is given the chance to have a "Race for Life" where Rum River BMX raises money for children suffering with leukemia. Merchlewitz continued to share that the Gold Cup Qualifier is a race to earn points for a regional plate and currently in Minnesota three tracks awarded the Gold Cup Qualifier including Rum River BMX, New Ulm and Detroit Lakes. Merchlewitz stated it is expected to draw a lot of attendees to the Gold Cup Qualifier. Merchlewitz stated that unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 epidemic, the

Gold Cup Qualifier and Race for Life will need to be postponed and that the new date for Race for Life and Gold Cup Qualifier the same weekend as the State Qualifier. Merchlewitz stated the Race for Life will be June 26th, Gold Cup Qualifier will be June 27th and the State Qualifier will be June 28th.

City Administrator Josi Wood stated the State Qualifier on June 28th will have a separate Special Event Permit.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley to approve the resolution with the dates of June 26th and June 27th. Motion passed 4-0. Motion carried.

4. **Resolution 2020-064** Approving a Special Event Request for the 2020 Downtown Street Dances
City Administrator Josi Wood shared that this Summer there will be some fun events going on including the street dances. Wood continued to share that on June 20th it will be The Farmers Daughter, July 18th will be Brother Ferris and August 8th will be The Brat Pack. Wood further stated that it will be similar to previous years where it will be downtown at the intersection of First and Main.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley to approve resolution as presented. Motion passed 4-0. Motion carried.

City Engineer Jason Cook

5. **Resolution 2020-065** Establishing No Parking on Particular Municipal State Aid Routes within the City of Isanti
City Engineer Jason Cook stated that this is the same item that has been discussed a couple times and in order to meet the state aid criteria for the project “no parking” must be assigned to one side of the street. Cook further stated that as discussed in the past, recommendation is for the east side of the road for the length of the project and allowing parking on the west side. Cook further stated this is a required resolution and approval to be able to use the state aid funds on the project.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley to approve resolution as presented.

6. **Resolution 2020-066** Approving Plans and Ordering Ad for Bids for 6th Avenue SW Rehabilitation Project
City Engineer Jason Cook stated this resolution is to move forward with the completed plans and specs. Cook continued to share that the plans and specs have been reviewed by city staff and state aid and are asking for authorization to advertise for bids April 14th.

Motion by Bergley, second by Lundeen to approve resolution as presented. Motion passed 4-0. Motion carried.

7. **Resolution 2020-067** Awarding the Bid for the 2020 Storm System Maintenance Project
City Engineer Jason Cook shared that the bid was submitted to five different contractors and only one of which submitted a bid. Cook further stated the bid received was from Dirtworks. Cook continued to share that Dirtworks did the work last year and know what the project is and did a great job previously. The bid received from Dirtworks is in the amount of \$103,770 which was slightly over the engineers estimate but is still under what was budgeted.

Motion by Gordon, second by Lundeen to approve resolution as presented. Motion passed 4-0.
Motion carried.

- 8. Resolution 2020-068** Awarding the Bid for the 2020 Pavement Management Project
City Engineer Jason Cook shared that this project is over the threshold to advertise and publicly bid. Cook continued to share that two bids were received both of which have done work in the City and both have done reasonable and acceptable work. The lowest bid was from AZTECH Corporation with \$243,221.33 and they are also the ones that got the project last year.

Motion by Bergley, second by Gordon to approve resolution as presented. Motion passed 4-0.
Motion carried.

L. Approve Consent Agenda

1. Consider Accounts Payable in the Amount of \$387,095.66 Payroll in the Amount of \$107,732.94
2. **Resolution 2020-070** Approving a Check to be Written to Isanti Ambassadors for Volunteering at the Community Movie Night
3. **Ordinance-726** Approving Adult Use Zoning Code Amendment
4. **Resolution 2020-071** Approving Goals for Year 2020
5. **Resolution 2020-072** Approving the Sale of Surplus/Abandoned Property Held by the Police Department to an Authorized Retailer
6. **Resolution 2020-073** Emergency Personnel Planning Policy
7. **Resolution 2020-074** Approving Staff to Apply for MN DNR Grant
8. **Resolution 2020-075** Approving and Adopting the Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan-Pandemic and Public Health Emergency Plan and Continuity of Operations Plan

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion passed 4-0.
Motion carried.

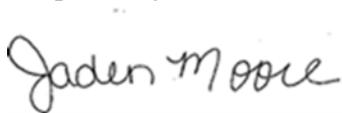
M. Other Communications

1. February Police Department Reports
2. February Code Enforcement Officer Report
3. February Building Inspector Report
4. March Engineering Project Status Report

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Bergley, second by Lundeen. Motion passed 4-0. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jaden Moore
Deputy City Clerk/ Human Resources