

**CITY OF ISANTI
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2017 – 7:00 P.M.
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, Council Members: Paul Bergley, Dan Collison, Ross Lorinser and Steve Lundeen

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: City Administrator Don Lorsung, City Attorney Clark Joslin, City Engineer Brad DeWolf, Community Development Director Roxanne Achman, Human Resources/City Clerk Lindsey Giese, Police Chief Gene Hill

Others Present: K. Kolzow, T. Ranua, A. Maxwell, S. Beggs, S. Stickley, D. Simpson, C. Metz, K. Merrifield, M. Cameron, J. Kennedy, J. Merrifield, C. Galeazzi

D. Adopt Agenda

Administrator Lorsung explained the agenda was amended to include items K.1. Resolution Supporting Local Decision-Making Authority (all K items to be renumbered accordingly) and item L.10. Resolution Accepting Proposal Quote for Rug & Uniform Services for All City Departments and Entering into Three-Year Contract with G & K Services

Motion by Lundeen, second by Lorinser to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Proclamations/Commendations/Certificate Awards

None

F. Approve City Council Minutes

1. March 7, 2017 – Regular Meeting of the City Council

Motion by Lundeen, second by Lorinser to approve the minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Citizens Input

None

H. Announcements

1. Parks, Recreation, & Culture Board Meeting Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 6:00 p.m.
2. City Council Meeting Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
3. Economic Development Authority Meeting Tuesday, April 4, 2017
(Immediately following the City Council Meeting)

I. Council Committee Reports

Mayor Wimmer reported that during the Chamber Board Meeting, Cambridge Councilmember Morin updated the Chamber Board in stating that Cambridge was getting close to securing a hotel deal. The Mayor explained that it has also been one of the prime projects for Isanti for a very long time. He expressed that we have had some near misses and had some proposals within the last year that would require more City involvement to make the project happen. He has been working with the Economic Development team to see what we can get together. Mayor Wimmer asked the Council to think about what they are willing to do. Both the Cambridge and Isanti tourism studies conducted determined that this area would only be able to support one more hotel with about 80 rooms needed for our area. Once a new hotel is finalized, it would likely be five or ten years for another opportunity. The Mayor would like it discussed at the next council meeting regarding that type of proposal.

J. Public Hearings

1. 2017 Palomino Road Street & Utility Improvements Project

a. Resolution 2017-081 Ordering the 2017 Palomino Road Street & Utility Improvement Project

City Engineer Brad DeWolf gave a presentation on the project. He explained what is proposed to be upgraded is from Railroad Avenue to Trunk Highway 65. It is a municipal state aid street and was the worst rated pavement in the community according to the street rating test conducted last year. There is a six and eight inch watermain under the street that will need to be replaced, to complete a 10 and 12-inch loop that we have in the entire community. The proposed improvements include to reclaim the street and repair all bad concrete, curb and gutter, the installation of the new watermain and a proposed 10-foot trail/walkway construction. The cost is broken down between street \$380,000; watermain \$261,000; and bituminous trail \$146,000. It is proposed to use our city assessment policy, and the per parcel assessment would be on 25% of street costs only. It is not proposed to assess for watermain or trail. The estimated assessments come out to \$3,656.77 per parcel. It would be levied to property owners' property taxes and divided between ten years. The interest rate is estimated 4.75%. Other project costs will be paid by city funds and state aid. DeWolf explained they would award a bid in May, construction could start in June and the project would have an expected completion of November.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:07 p.m.

Terry Ranua, 306 Palomino Road, addressed the council and questioned why a ten-foot trail is needed instead of a four-foot sidewalk as in other parts of the city? He presented an alternative to just paint a line down the center of the road like on Railroad Avenue which would be cheaper, and stated it would not require additional maintenance in the winter. He further explained that he did not understand where the idea of the trail came from. Mr. Ranua then expressed concern over the trucks going down the road which he believes to be what damaged the road. He believes when the cross over to 65 on Main Street was closed, the traffic started coming down Palomino. Ranua believes a better option would be to get the traffic back onto Main Street instead of a residential neighborhood. He would also like to see a flashing light on the speed limit sign at each end of the street.

Mayor Wimmer addressed the concerns explaining that a ten-foot bituminous trail versus what is actually a five-foot sidewalk is typically cheaper. The Mayor explained Palomino is a major road for us and that is why we receive Municipal State Aid and why the State is actually funding a big portion of the project. He stated that having a trail along that road is in the City's Long Term Connectivity Plan to make sure we have trails where we have the most traffic. Mayor Wimmer believes that because there is no place to walk is why there is no one walking currently. The truck traffic is a concern in several areas in the City and is something we are trying to address, as we are conducting traffic studies. However, MN DOT controls the access across 65. City Engineer DeWolf addressed the question of why the trail needs to be ten-feet. He explained it is to meet state aid design standards. The Mayor explained we do have other bituminous trails around the city, however there are some that are eight feet as they are not on State Aid Roads.

Dennis Simpson, 303 Palomino, also addressed the Council. He expressed concern having the trail go to the highway. He is wondering how do we plan to control the young children going to the Highway? The Mayor addressed the concern and explained this is a long-term investment in the future development of the City. It may not be for today but because we are doing this project today, it makes it less expensive. We are at least providing a safer option than walking down the middle of the road. In afterthought, the Mayor realized he had not addressed Mr. Ranua's comment on Railroad Ave. He explained they are working at getting a trail there, it is less safe to just have that line on the road.

Sean Stickley, 301 Palomino Road, approached the Council. He questioned why they are putting no parking on the south side of Palomino Road. Mayor Wimmer replied that it is required by the State and asked Brad DeWolf to further explain. DeWolf explained the width of the road with the current curb dimensions, only permits two driving lanes and one parking lane, that is why the south side is no parking. Stickley also commented he agrees with the comments of the other two residents. He was curious if the city would assist in the clean up after the project is completed as he had just pressure washed the outside of his home and it took over a month to complete. Mayor responded that he hopes Mr. Stickley will appreciate the fact that there is a nice new road to drive on and there will not be as many pot holes damaging his vehicle.

Clint Metz, 210 Palomino, approached the Council and questioned what will happen to his irrigation and also questioned about the driveway entrances. The Mayor explained that the irrigation should not be in the city right-of-way. But if so, it is the homeowner's responsibility to move it. DeWolf explained the sidewalk/trail will go through the driveways and will be matched in behind the trail.

Terry Ranua, 306 Palomino Road, approached the podium for a second time with concern that his concrete driveway would be cut out. He also was in disbelief that concrete is not less expensive than bituminous. He also questioned what happens with the mailboxes, fire hydrants and trees. City Engineer DeWolf explained that the end of the driveway where the trail goes through will have to be removed, unless they meet the exact aid handicapped accessible slopes the State requires. Each driveway will be surveyed and if they can match into it, they will. They will look at each one separately and meet with each property owner. As for the cost of concrete versus bituminous, he did not have exact figures of price per foot on hand. However, Councilor Collison added that there is much more labor involved with concrete. Councilor Lundeen added that when he built his house, the cost was almost double for concrete and with black driveway (bituminous) it also melts off ice

quicker. DeWolf further explained the mailboxes will be behind the curb where they are permitted. The fire hydrants and power poles will have to be moved to the back side of the trail. There are a few isolated trees that will likely have to be removed. Mayor Wimmer explained that when we look at street repairs, the neighborhood does not like it due to the interruptions etc., but we have to look at it from the stand point of long term benefit to that area versus letting the infrastructure decay to such a point the cost would continue to escalate.

Mike Cameron, 206 Palomino Rd, addressed his concerns to the Council. His concern was regarding his concrete driveway being replaced. Mayor reiterated that each driveway would be looked at individually and if they don't have to touch the driveways, if they were to meet specifications, it will be cheaper for the City also. The City is responsible for repair of the sidewalks.

Linda Cameron, 205 Palomino Rd, approached the podium and expressed her concern. She questioned why the trail isn't being located on the other side of the street. She was also concerned about the taxes increasing. Engineer DeWolf explained it connects well with Railroad Avenue trail on that side and that is why it was looked at more on the north side then on the south side. The Mayor explained that it wouldn't raise the tax, but it would add an assessment, which is reflected on the tax statement. He also stated that we can all agree that we don't want taxes to be as high and valuations continue to rise dramatically. However, the City doesn't control the valuation side of it. About 40% of taxes go to the City the rest goes to the County and School District. Also, this is one of the lowest assessments we've had for similar projects. Palomino benefits because it is a Municipal State Aid Road. Further discussion ensued regarding Municipal State Aid.

Kara Merrifield, 208 Palomino Rd, addressed the Council. She expressed her concern over differing explanations of the re-location of the power lines. She stated at the open house meeting they were informed that the power lines would be placed in front of the trail by the mailboxes. DeWolf stated that the private utilities, both the cable boxes and the power poles will be relocated to the North side of the trail, as it is shown on the map.

Clint Metz, 210 Palomino Rd, raised his concern that all trees would be cut down for these power lines, and they are beautiful mature trees. City Engineer DeWolf explained that Mr. Metz' trees are located several feet back from the trail. DeWolf said they will need to meet with the power company to discuss the trimming. Councilor Lorinser asked if the lines could be run underground and the Mayor responded that it would probably double this budget.

Terry Ranua, 306 Palomino Rd, approached the podium again to reiterate his desire for a concrete, smaller sidewalk. He also raised questions on if the snow would be plowed or blown. His concern was in regards to the trail and the trail being so close to the front of his house that if the snow was blown it may hit his windows.

Mike Cameron, 206 Palomino, wanted clarification on a ten or twenty-year plan. The Mayor explained that the pavement management plan is a ten-year management plan to address the street infrastructure in the city. However, that we like to look out for several decades when planning projects and looking at the impact for the city. Isanti has changed so much in the last decade not to mention the last two or three decades. Cameron stated that the South side is swamp and the North is full so he questioned how that area is going to change in twenty years? Councilor Collison added it

is more about where that trail is going to connect in the future. Councilor Lorinser questioned if the corner of Palomino and Hwy 65 is Commercial. Mayor Wimmer replied yes. Cameron questioned why the assessment is for only the people on Palomino, and why it isn't split between all houses around there? The Mayor pointed out that \$3,600 is only 25% of the street cost. The 75% is picked up by everyone else in the City. When the streets are done in their neighborhood, they will pick up those costs. Mayor Wimmer added that \$3,600 is a very reasonable street assessment.

Kara Merrifield, 208 Palomino Rd, wanted clarification what would be happen if someone were hurt on that trail, in front of their home. Would it go on their homeowner's insurance? The Mayor explained a sidewalk is City infrastructure. She wanted to know with so many unanswered questions and things the City Engineer needs to check into, how can a decision be made tonight? The Mayor explained that they can decide to go ahead with the project to get the ball rolling, but can make change orders as the project moves forward.

The Public Hearing was closed at 7:48 p.m.

Mayor Wimmer summarized the hearing with the main concerns being the ten-foot asphalt versus a five-foot sidewalk, the other was the North or South side location of the trail, and tree preservation. The Mayor questioned would changing from a ten foot to a five-foot sidewalk save any trees and how many? If we don't have the answer, can we move forward and at that point do a change order? City Engineer DeWolf stated he would be happy to come back and do a comparison and how it would affect the trees. Further discussion ensued.

Motion by Collison, second by Lorinser to approve Resolution 2017-081 with the understanding the City Council will review information from the City Engineer at their April 4, 2017 City Council meeting regarding the impact of a 5' foot concrete sidewalk or a 10' bituminous trail, and then make a decision regarding construction of said improvement. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Resolution 2017-082 Vacation of All Drainage and Utility Easements Lying Within Lots 2 & 3, Block 1, Fairway Greens

The Public Hearing opened at 8:00p.m. There were no public comments. The Public Hearing was closed at 8:00p.m.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Collison to approve Resolution 2017-082 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

K. Business Items

1. Resolution 2017-083 Supporting Local Decision-Making Authority

The Mayor stated that Cities are having a lot of their authority taken away from them. The most recent proposal is one that would make it illegal for cities to charge planning and review fees. We would still need to do the work and pay our Community Development Director but we couldn't charge the developer for it, it would have to be paid by the taxpayers. This resolution is showing our support for local decision making authority.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Lorinser to approve Resolution 2017-083 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

City Administrator Don Lorsung

2. **Resolution 2017-084 Approving the Extension of an Agreement with Community Pride Bank for Banking Services**

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley to approve Resolution 2017-084 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Police Chief Gene Hill

3. **Resolution 2017-085 Declaring 2010 Dodge Charger as Surplus Property**

Motion by Lorinser, second by Bergley to approve Resolution 2017-085 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

L. Approve Consent Agenda

1. Consider Accounts Payable in the Amount of \$619,440.00 and Payroll in the Amount of \$92,593.77
2. Contractor's Pay Request No. 07 Wastewater Treatment Improvements in the Amount of \$335,782.00
3. Final Meeting Minutes of the February 7, 2017 Economic Development Authority Meeting
4. **Resolution 2017-086 Approving Donation Box at Liquor Store for Pet Supplies Drive**
5. **Resolution 2017-087 Approving Contract for Interim Community Development Consulting Services with Roxanne Achman**
6. **Resolution 2017-088 Accepting Quote for Fire Extinguisher Services for the City of Isanti and Entering into a Contract for Fire Extinguisher Services**
7. **Resolution 2017-089 Approving Job Descriptions Within the Public Works Department**
8. **Resolution 2017-090 Approving Farmers Market Advertisement in the May Edition of the Courier**
9. **Resolution 2017-091 Extending Vacation Hours for Liquor Store Manager John Jacobi**
10. **Resolution 2017-092 Accepting Proposal Quote for Rug & Uniform Services for All City Departments and Entering into Three-Year Contract with G & K Services**

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

At 8:06p.m. Mayor Wimmer announced that the Council would go into a brief recess to clear out the chambers and that Council would then go into closed session to discuss the Public Services 49er's Labor Negotiations.

N. Closed Session

1. Labor Negotiations

At 8:14 p.m. Council came out of closed session. Mayor Wimmer requested City Attorney Clark Joslin provide a summary of the closed session.

Attorney Joslin explained the council went into closed session for purpose of the discussion on labor negotiations with the labor contract of the Public Works Department workers through the Local 49 Union. There was discussion on the terms of the proposed contract provisions, discussion of the process that was followed in the course of negotiations and various items that were included in the

contract. Following that discussion, the Council ended the closed session and came back to open session for purpose of taking any action the Council deems appropriate.

a. Resolution 2017-093 Authorizing the Acceptance of the Labor Agreement Between the City of Isanti and I.U.O.E., Local No. 49, AFL-CIO

Motion by Bergley, second by Lundeen to approve the I.U.O.E., Local 49 union contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

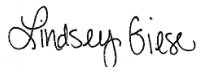
b. Resolution 2017-094 Approving a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for Non-Union Employees

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley to approve Resolution 2017-094 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Lundeen, second by Bergley. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:17p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lindsey Giese
Human Resources/City Clerk