

**MINUTES
CITY OF ISANTI
CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 5, 2013
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, Adam Johnson, Steve Lundeen and Dan Collison

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Administrator/City Clerk Don Lorsung, City Attorney Clark Joslin, Finance Director Sarah Cotton, Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk Karissa Henning, Police Chief Ron Sager, Planning and Parks Director Lisa Wilson and City Engineer Brad DeWolf

D. Adopt Agenda

Motion by Larson, second by Johnson to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Proclamations/Commendations/Certificate Awards

None.

F. Approve City Council Minutes

Motion by Johnson, second by Larson to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2013 regular meeting of the City Council. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Citizens Input

Glenn Farell, 200 1st Avenue NW, brought to the Council's attention the issue of stray cats within the City of Isanti. Farell noted this year and last year he has noticed stray cats, and that the number of stray cats within the area seems to be growing. Farell mentioned many stray cats go through his backyard. Farell stated stray cats can bring disease and also attract their predators such as: mountain lions, bears, coyotes and wolves. Farell asked the Council what they will do regarding this issue.

Mayor Wimmer stated that the City does not go after stray cats, noting there is no room in the budget currently to manage the stray cat issue. Mayor Wimmer did mention the City goes after stray dogs as this has been seen to be more of an issue. Lorsung added it would be very expensive for the City to get involved in managing stray cats.

Larson asked Chief Sager if he had heard much on the stray cat issue. Chief Sager informed the Council he had not heard of this issue and there have been no reports of pets being attacked by predators of stray cats.

H. Announcements

Announcements were read.

I. Council Committee Reports

Councilor Larson reported on:

- **Chamber of Commerce**
 - City Wide Garage Sale
 - Expo
 - Law Day
 - Pet Clinic
- **Isanti Community Center Task Force**
 - Lion's Breakfast Fundraiser
- **East Central Regional Development Commission**
 - Appointments
 - Revolving fund loan
- **Isanti Area Joint Fire District**
 - Duty crew
- **Arena Board**
 - Discussions on year-round ice
 - Owl's contract
 - Finishing men's locker room
- **Northern Lights Express (NLX)**
 - Planning
- **Initiative Development**
 - Economic Gardening

J. Public Hearings

None.

K. Business Items

1. Resolution 2013-036 Approving a Special Event Application for the Cambridge-Isanti Soccer Club

Mayor Wimmer asked Representative John Kinsey to talk a little bit about the event. Kinsey mentioned throughout this event it is estimated that over all the days 12,000 people will be in attendance and that it will have cross promotional fundraising with Family Fun Day in Bluebird Park for Senior Dining and the Isanti Community Center. Kinsey noted this is the third and final year the soccer club can host this event and thanked the Council. Kinsey also added that the Isanti soccer complex has been ranked the third best complex in the State. Mayor Wimmer noted this is a wonderful event for the Community.

Motion by Larson, second by Johnson to approve Resolution No. 2013-036 as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

2. Discussion on Winter Street Parking Policy

Mayor Wimmer reviewed with Council the winter street parking policy; noting that November through April vehicles are not allowed to do overnight street parking, and that the current policy practiced by the Police is ticketing up to and during snow storms. However, depending on the time of day, and if it is past 5:00 a.m., vehicles are not being ticketed because of the thought of when overnight parking ends and day parking begins. The Police generally do not have vehicles ticketed or towed later than 5:00 a.m. Mayor Wimmer stated he wanted to bring this up with Council to make sure they are aware and okay with the policy. Chief Sager stated he is open to the thought of policy changes but noted the current policy and practice seems to be working out well, and made comment that before November the Police do start placing warning flyers on vehicles parked overnight to help make citizens aware of the policy. Chief Sager also stated if the Police know ahead of time that Public Works is coming out for plowing before 3:00 a.m. they can get the vehicles ticketed and towed in time.

3. Discussion on Snowmobile Use Within City Limits

Mayor Wimmer stated there have been trespassing issues this season with snowmobiles, and although City ordinance states snowmobiles can travel on rights of ways if they are going in or out of the City, it appears that more trespassing is going on. Mayor Wimmer made comment there are many grooves in the parks which could possibly damage the landscaping. Mayor Wimmer discussed the idea of potentially putting fences up by the parks to deter this kind of activity from happening. Larson added that trespassing is done on personal property as well and many citizens work very hard on their landscaping. Mayor Wimmer mentioned he will be meeting with the snowmobile club to see if he can fix this issue and asked of Chief Sager to be of assistance in working out designated snowmobile trails through the City, if practical.

4. Update to Engineering Proposal for 2013 Capital Improvement Projects

Mayor Wimmer stated the 2013 capital improvement projects engineering proposal was directed back to Finance Committee for review. The Committee reviewed that the 2013 projects were around \$1.2. million dollars and that this money is not in the budget for 2013. Mayor Wimmer stated that if the Council wishes for these projects to be accelerated, those discussions need to come up during the time the City is working on the budget.

There was consensus to place these projects on hold until a later date when they can be budgeted for.

5. Resolution 2013-037 Approving Engagement Letter for Banyon Bank Reconciliation Training Procedures

Mayor Wimmer noted this is for training for Cotton through the City auditors on the Banyon software that the City currently has in place. This training will allow Cotton's finance processes to become faster and more efficient. Cotton currently does her processes manually through Excel. Having Cotton trained on using Banyon will save her time and the auditor's time as well; saving the City money in the long run.

Motion by Larson, second by Johnson to approve Resolution No. 2013-037 as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

6. Incomplete Sidewalk/Trail Issues

Mayor Wimmer noted fixing the incomplete sidewalk issue and connecting sidewalks is within the City's comprehensive plan. The comprehensive plan lays out that sidewalks are to be placed in the main corridors where there are the most safety concerns. Mayor Wimmer noted that it would cost the City \$1 to 2 million dollars to connect all City sidewalks at this time. Mayor Wimmer explained there are many sidewalks that are not connected, and developments without sidewalks, because of the different beliefs of members sitting on the Council of where sidewalks are needed. With the Comprehensive plan, the City will be able to take care of those most dangerous sidewalks first, and then moving forward, when roads are reconstructed, sidewalks will slowly be able to be placed in and connected in the low traffic areas as well. Lundeen noted that in his opinion, the next focus should be CSAH 23.

7. Resolution 2013-038 Approving Easement Acquisition Along Centennial Drive NW/SW
Motion by Lundeen, second by Johnson to approve Resolution No. 2013-038 as presented.
Motion carried unanimously.

8. Cambridge-Isanti Bike-Walk Trail:

- **Joint Resolution 2012-039 of the City of Isanti and the City of Cambridge Recognizing Previous and Future Donations Towards the Bike-Walk Trail**
- **Resolution 2013-040 Authorizing City Staff to Place Donation Information For the Bike-Walk Trail on the City Website**

Motion by Larson, second by Johnson to approve Resolution No. 2013-039 and 2013-040 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

9. EDA/HRA Comparison and Downtown Loop

Mayor Wimmer stated this is in regards to one of the goals set at the 2013 goal setting session of creating a downtown loop and also about the differences in power between an EDA and HRA for this type of project, and others moving forward. It has been found that an EDA can have as much power as an HRA would. Therefore the Council would not need to implement an HRA if they so desired. There was discussion amongst the Council in regards to restructuring the EDA. There was also discussion on giving the current EDA an opportunity to review the large downtown loop project for a month, and to see how far the EDA is on the project before the Council determines whether or not to restructure the EDA. There was discussion on the timing and getting projects moving under the current EDA. Currently, the EDA is not entirely made up of Council members and Council does give the final approval for any project. There was discussion on Council making the final decision in the downtown loop project versus being involved in the process.

There was consensus among Council to give the EDA one month to work on the downtown loop project and for the Council to revisit this matter again after that one month period.

10. Resolution 2013-041 Adopting a Community Center Logo and Acceptance of Sign Donation

Mayor Wimmer noted Jill Reller, of Signs by Jill, offered this sign donation and that this is a \$400 - \$500 dollar sign. There was discussion amongst Council about the sign options available.

Motion by Collison, second by Larson to approve Resolution No. 2013-041 as presented with option number 3 for the Isanti logo. Motion carried unanimously.

11. **Resolution 2013-042** Accepting Quote for Cleaning Services and Authorizing Entering Into a Contract for Cleaning Services

There was only one quote for cleaning services and this was from Bill's Quality Cleaning.

Motion by Larson, second by Johnson to approve Resolution No. 2013-042 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

L. Approve Consent Agenda

1. Consider Accounts Payable in the Amount of \$1,791,835.72 and Payroll in the Amount of \$72,254.59
2. Final Payment for Legacy Park Trail and Change Order No. 2
3. Final Minutes of the January 22, 2013 Park and Recreation Board Meeting
4. Final Minutes of the January 22, 2013 EDA Meeting
5. Resolutions Approving On-Sale and Sunday Liquor License Renewals to the following:
 - a. **Resolution 2013-043** Rum River VFW Post 2735
 - b. **Resolution 2013-044** Wintergreens Golf & Grill
 - c. **Resolution 2013-045** Sanbrook Golf Course
6. **Resolution 2013-046** Approving Pawnshop License to Northern Pawn, Inc.
7. **Resolution 2013-047** Authorizing a Dog Clinic Sponsored by the City of Isanti Police Department
8. **Resolution 2013-048** Approving the Modifications to the Existing Telecommunication Tower Located on the Property at 501 W Dual Blvd NE
9. **Resolution 2013-049** Authorizing and Executing the Repayment Agreement with First Fruits Land Development, LLC
10. **Resolution 2013-050** Amending the Liquor Store Manual, Keg Registration and Keg and Tap Deposits Policies

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

Adjournment

Motion by Larson, second by Johnson to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karissa Henning
Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk