

**CITY OF ISANTI
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 3, 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: Mayor Wimmer Noted the Adam Johnson was absent

Staff Present: City Attorney Clark Joslin, City Administrator Don Lorsung, Economic Development Director Sullivan, Chief Gene Hill, and City Engineer Brad DeWolf

D. Adopt Agenda

City Administrator Lorsung presented an Addendum to the Agenda adding the following new items:

- L8. Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Repayment Agreement with J Robinson Construction, Inc. for Lot 6, Block 1, Villages on the Rum Third Addition Phase Three
- L9. Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Repayment Agreement with J Robinson Construction, Inc. for Lot 7, Block 1, Villages on the Rum Third Addition Phase Three
- L10. Resolution Authorizing Letter of Support for JCF and MIF Funding

Motion by Collison, second by Lundeen to approve the agenda with the addition of Addendum items L8, L9 and L10. Motion carried unanimously.

E. Proclamations/Commendations/Certificate Awards

None

F. Approve City Council Minutes

1. April 19, 2016 – Regular Meeting of the City Council

Motion by Lundeen second by Bergley to approve the regular City Council Meeting Minutes of April 19, 2016 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Citizens Input

None

H. Announcements

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| 1. Planning Commission Meeting | Tuesday, May 10, 2016 at 7:00 PM |
| 2. City Council Meeting | Tuesday, May 17, 2016 at 7:00 PM |
| 3. Parks, Recreation and Culture Board Meeting | Tuesday, May 24, 2016 at 6:00 PM |

I. Council Committee Reports

Lundeen informed the City Council that Fire Station 3 was coming along nicely.

Mayor Wimmer thanked Isanti County Commissioner Mike Warring and Junction Bowl for stepping up and working with Coborn's to host their 3 week job fair at his business.

Mayor Wimmer stated the he and Representative Brian Johnson had spoken on May 3rd about continued support for the Job Creation Fund and Minnesota Investment Fund. He cited the use of the funds in the past by SnoBear USA and Evercat Fuels and that the majority of the funds have been used in the Twin City Metro Area. The Mayor indicated that Representative Johnson shared that the City of Isanti was one of very few communities outside the seven county Metropolitan Area that have used the programs and that they are working on getting more dollars for Greater Minnesota

Mayor Wimmer stated that once the permits are pulled for the J Robinson Construction Inc. Repayment Agreement Parcels added to this meeting agenda it will bring the yearly total to 31 new homes. In 2015, there was a total of 41 so the City ahead of last year's pace.

J. Public Hearings

1. Resolution 2016-153 to Authorize Nuisance Abatement on the Property Located at 408 Cardinal Court NW

Mayor Wimmer opened the Public Hearing at 7:04 p.m., and asked if there was anyone that wanted to speak on behalf of the item. No one spoke on behalf of the item. Mayor Wimmer closed the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m.

Motion by Lundeen second by Bergley to approve Resolution 2016–153 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

K. Business Items

1. Continued Use of Sportsman Field – Isanti Redbirds

Cindy Lind-Livingston addressed the City Council and provided comments relating to the proposed Lease Agreement and Operating Policy. The comments centered on the following items:

- Ability and terms for Redbird Baseball to terminate lease
- A request for the City of Isanti to continue to pay the utility bill for the lights at Redbird's Field which has been done over the last 30 years
- Removing the requirement for a Special Event Permit stating they are exempt due to it being an athletic field
- Not putting restrictions on use of charitable gambling proceeds
- Agreeing the liability insurance was important and that Redbirds Baseball was planning on purchasing its own insurance for the operation and naming the City of Isanti as additional insured.
- Redbirds Baseball has a concern as to future of the organization citing that all costs impact them and uncertainly of charitable gambling.

Mayor Wimmer agreed to terms on the Redbirds having the ability to terminate lease. Mayor Wimmer stated that the City needed to treat everyone the same and therefore supported the position to have Redbirds Baseball pay for the utilities. Last year the bill for utilities was \$447.00 He indicated the Special Event Permits was only needed if the event spills off the site and this was required for everyone in the city.

Cindy Lind-Livingston said that the Redbirds were different from BMX and Soccer in terms of impact and thought they should be treated differently. She indicated that the Redbirds do a great job donating to groups and causes with charitable gambling proceeds.

Discussion ensued with the City highlighting a fairness issue with use of City Property and treating all the same and acknowledging that a lot of the other community entities do great things for the community and causes they support as well. Redbirds Baseball reiterated its concerns for its long term future and that there are other public spaces the people are allowed to use at no cost. However, they don't have exclusivity of use over those areas like the Redbirds do. Redbird Baseball reiterated that it could use its charitable gambling for uses it deems appropriate not only for the improvements to the field.

Steve Allen, Manager of the Redbirds read a prepared statement and elaborated on some of the points. The following points were brought up:

Perceived or real lack of respect or appreciation for Redbirds

Redbirds Field is one of the most beautiful in the state.

History of the Redbirds

Proud of what Redbirds have accomplished in bringing team to Isanti

Partnership between City and Redbird and hoping to maintain and build on it

Concerns about the solvency of Redbirds Baseball

Fear that the Redbirds won't be able to operate into the future.

Mayor Wimmer stated that a lot of the community groups make the same arguments relating to community benefit and how their existence is part of the fabric of the community. He agreed that they all do a fantastic job. He also stated that if the Council desired it could change its policy that would allow for negotiating each deal differently with each entity or keep its current policy which attempts to have the same rules for all.

Bergley asked who else uses the field and if revenues are realized by Redbirds baseball.

Redbirds Baseball management stated that Redbirds baseball does charge or ask for in kind support for the high school and youth associations for use of the field.

Bergley stated that if the cost of business goes up it can be shared by all who use field.

Mayor Wimmer said there are similar arrangements in the community. One example was use of the Tennis Courts by the school district at Mattson Park and that those rates have increased over time.

Collison stated they are going through the same thing with the Rum River Rods in relation to having to provide insurance. He indicated that a donation was made to Rum River Rods to take care of that cost.

Steve Allen stated that if charitable gambling went away that the Redbirds probably couldn't operate so all cost increases are important.

Lundeen offered his support for Redbirds baseball and indicated that the cost of business is going up everywhere. In Cambridge, they will now have to start charging churches to cover field costs for softball.

Cindy Lind-Livingston asked if there was a percentage of City Taxes that went to Park and Recreation.

Mayor Wimmer explained how associations like BMX, Soccer and Redbirds are different in their operational and maintenance relationships than standard city parks. In those case the associations do the maintenance of their areas of use rather than the City conducting maintenance through the use of tax dollars. All taxpayers pay for all services even though they might not use them. He explained that Park, Recreation and Culture is funded from park dedication fees and the park maintenance budgets.

Lundeen stated that the world we live in makes it necessary to protect the City and the Redbirds and with insurance.

Motion by Lundeen second by Collison to table action on Lease Agreement and Operating Policy for Redbirds Field Also Known As Sportsman Field and to bring back revisions to the proposed Agreement to the following items:

- Terms regarding lease termination
- Use of charitable gambling proceeds
- Clarification that Redbird Baseball will provide insurance coverage on premises

The revised agreement will be brought to the May 17, 2016 City Council Meeting for consideration for approval. In the meantime, the Redbirds may continue using the field. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Consider Fees for Water Meters for New Construction

- a. **Ordinance No. 642 Amending Code for the City of Isanti, Chapter 160 Fees**
- b. **Ordinance No. 643 Amending the Code for the City of Isanti, Chapter 325-6 Meters**
- c. **Resolution 2016-154 To Amend the Fee Schedule**

Mayor Wimmer clarified the impacts of the fee change which will make the city whole and not carry an additional financial burden due to the installation of meters.

Motion by Lundeen second by Collison to approve Ordinance No. 642, Ordinance No. 643 and Resolution 2016-154. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Resolution 2016-155 to Approve Proposal from Bolton and Menk, Inc. for Engineering Services for Proposed Replacement of 1st Avenue NW and City Hall Sidewalks

Motion by Collison second by Bergley to approve Resolution 2016-155 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Resolution 2016-156 to Accept Planning Commission Member Cindy Lind-Livingston's Resignation

Motion by Bergley second by Collison to approve Resolution 2016-156 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Wimmer asked the City council to consider reducing the number of members from 7 to 5 for 2017. It would be brought back to the City Council for consideration at a later date.

5. **Resolution 2016-157 Authorizing Update of Historic Downtown Sign Update by Signs By Jill**
Mayor Wimmer informed the City Council that the quote provided included manufacturing, installation and an optional interchangeable panel. He indicated that Public Services was able to install the sign and that direction be given to do so.

Motion by Lundeen second by Bergley to approve Resolution 2016-157, with direction to have Public Services install the sign. Motion carried unanimously.

6. **Resolution 2016-158 Regarding Acceptance of Donation of Parcel in Redevelopment TIF District No. 9**

Motion by Lundeen second by Bergley to approve Resolution 2016-158 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

7. **Resolution 2016-159 Enter into Contract with Journal Communications to Advertise in Business Climate and MN DEED Publication**

Motion by Lundeen second by Bergley to approve Resolution 2016-159 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

8. **Resolution 2016-160 Authorizing the Sale of Fill for Economic Development Activities in Corporate City Limits**

Mayor Wimmer informed the council that the dirt was used by a local contractor for the Coborn's project prior to the City Council meeting.

Motion by Bergley second by Collison to approve Resolution 2016-160 as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

L. Approve Consent Agenda

1. Consider Accounts Payable in the Amount of \$186,510.90 and Payroll in the Amount of \$97,770.78.
2. Final Meeting Minutes for the February 23, 2016 Parks, Recreation and Culture Board Meeting
3. Consider Resolutions for the Forfeiture of 1987 Honda 250X ATV to Public Auction and Declare Public Works Items as Surplus to be Sold at Public Auction
 - a. **Resolution 2016-161** Authorizing to Auction a Forfeited ATV that the Police Department Lawfully Seized and Allowed Public Works to Use
 - b. **Resolution 2016-162** to Declare Certain Property as Surplus and Authorize its Sale at Public Auction
4. **Resolution 2016-163** Approving Application for an Exempt Gambling Permit for Isanti Firefighters Rodeo Association
5. **Resolution 2016-164** Acknowledging Permanent Status for Part Time Liquor Clerk Becky Whitman
6. **Resolution 2016-165** to Declare Hockey Rink Boards as Surplus to be Sold
7. Training Request – 2016 LMC Annual Conference, Mayor Wimmer
8. **Resolution 2016-166** Authorizing the Execution of Repayment Agreement with J Robinson Construction, Inc for Lot 6, Block 1, Villages on the Rum Third Addition Phase Three
9. **Resolution 2016-167** Authorizing the Execution of Repayment Agreement with J Robinson Construction, Inc for Lot 7, Block 1, Villages on the Rum Third Addition Phase Three
10. **Resolution 2016-168** Authorizing Letter of Support for JCF and MIF Funding

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

M. Other Communications

1. Draft Meeting Minutes for the April 26, 2016 Parks, Recreation and Culture Board Meeting

Adjournment

Motion by Lundeen second by Bergley to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sean M. Sullivan
Economic Development Director