

**MINUTES  
CITY OF ISANTI  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2020 – 7:00 P.M.  
CITY HALL**

Pursuant to Minn Statute 13D.02, the public body has determined that the Isanti City Council will not be able to hold the meeting in person due to the pandemic COVID-19. Pursuant to Minn Statute 13D.021, The Isanti City Council will be holding the City Council meeting via telephone or virtual, by use of computer, by using GoToMeeting.com

**The public can view and comment at the City Council meeting by visiting this website:**

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/714420013>

**or by calling into this number +1 (669) 224-3412 with this meeting ID 714-420-013**

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

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

Staff Present: City Administrator Josi Wood, Human Resources/ City Clerk Katie Brooks, Assistant City Administrator/ Special Projects Don Lorsung (via telephone) and Community Development Director Sheila Sellman (via telephone)

**D. Public Comment**

None

**E. Adopt Agenda**

Motion by Lundeen, second by Collison to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 5-0. Motion carried.

**F. Proclamations/Commendations/Certificate Award**

**1. Years of Service- Retirement Recognition Donald C. Lorsung**

City Council recognized Donald Lorsung for his service and thanked him for his dedication to the City of Isanti.

**G. Approve City Council Minutes**

**1. April 21, 2020- Regular Meeting of the City Council**

**2. March 17, 2020- Planning Commission Meeting**

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley to approve minutes as presented. Motion passed 5-0. Motion carried.

**H. Announcements**

**1. Committee of the Whole**

Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

**2. City Council Meeting**

Tuesday, May 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

**3. Planning Commission Meeting**

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

*(Immediately following the City Council Meeting)*

## **I. Council Committee Reports**

Mayor Johnson stated that he spoke to Melissa Bettendorf from the North 65 Chamber of Commerce and the Chamber is unsure on what they would like to do for the parade but there has been discussion about cancelling it. Johnson went on by asking City Council if they would like to continue fireworks or not.

Councilmember Collison stated that fireworks can be done with social distancing regardless if the parade is cancelled or not. Collison continued to share that it was already budgeted for and many can enjoy the fireworks from their home and cars.

Johnson agreed with Collison and stated that the fireworks will give people something to enjoy.

Councilmember Steve Lundeen stated that he does not think anything should be cancelled until the last minute. Lundeen further shared that the fireworks give people something to look forward to.

Councilmember Bergley stated that City Council should encourage the Chamber of Commerce to have the parade and wait until the last minute to make final decision whether to have parade or not. Bergley continued by stating that the fire district should wait to make a final decision with the rodeo as well.

Johnson stated it is up to the rodeo association to make the final decision.

Lundeen stated that as of right now they are still planning on having the rodeo event.

City Administrator Josi Wood stated that the PRCA (Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association) has rodeos on their website that have been cancelled and ones that are still intended on going. They have not updated anything past July 3rd

Collison stated that advanced notice is for people with hotel reservations and travel plans and those people need time to get their stuff together if it is still on and they need time to cancel if it is not. Collison further shared that the big task for the rodeo and parade is if social distancing is still required at that time how it will be policed.

Wood shared that it is up to the organizer to maintain social distancing if it is still in place and for that reason many cities such as St. Francis, North Branch, Princeton, East Bethel and Coon Rapids are cancelling events. Wood continued to share that some cities have cancelled June and July events because the liability falls upon the organizer to have social distancing maintained. Wood further shared that the rodeo is separate because they are a closed circuit and if they get full of space, they can shut their doors. Wood continued sharing that the street dance is a city event and there are no doors to close. Wood asked what the plan would be from Council for staff to carryout social distancing and if that may be putting up snow fence and keeping track of people. Wood stated that staff has reached out to some of the food vendors and the question vendors are asking is the number of people attending, as they need to plan for how much food to make and how much beer to buy. They do not want to buy too much so that food and beer is wasted. Wood further stated that if social distancing is still happening at that time and everyone is trying to plan, the vendors and bands may cancel on the city. Wood stated that staff has reached out to most vendors and they are fine with waiting to see what happens however, if they do not feel safe, they are not coming to the event.

Collison stated he would consider cancelling the June street dance as that is not that far away, but hopeful July street dance would happen.

Wood stated that her recommendation from staff would be to cancel the June street dance and postpone the Mayors Luncheon to July with the hope that all the July and August events happen.

Johnson stated that this may change May 18th and suggested waiting until May 19th city council meeting to make final decision.

Lundeen agreed that the final decision for events should be made at the May 19th city council meeting.

Wood stated it will be brought back to the city council on May 19th.

Councilmember Jimmy Gordon stated that he agreed and people can attend at their own risk and possibly have the city attorney draft a waiver if city council thinks it is necessary.

Collison stated that it needs to be remembered that a person does not have to be showing symptoms to be carrying the virus.

Mayor Johnson asked if there was any more Council/ Committee Reports.

Councilmember Dan Collison shared that the BMX National Event has been cancelled however, it has been postponed for September.

## **J. Public Hearings**

None

## **K. Business Items**

### **City Administrator Josi Wood**

- 1. Resolution 2020-096** Approving a Special Event Permit Request for the Cambridge-Isanti School District for Senior Graduation Parade

Mayor Johnson shared that the school board has contacted him about doing a parade for the seniors on June 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. and will be their virtual graduation along with a parade that will go through Cambridge and Isanti.

Councilmember Collison asked if the school board is responsible for everything.

Johnson stated that the only thing the city would be responsible for is to help out with closing roads, police presence and fire department presence. The school board will be sending home a permission slip for this event for liability purposes.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Bergley to approve resolution as presented. Motion passed 5-0.  
Motion carried.

### **Community Development Director Sheila Sellman**

- 2. Resolution 2020-097** Approving a Conditional Use Permit for a Religious Institution at 1321 Heritage Blvd.

Community Development Director Sheila Sellman shared that the applicant is Tibetan American Foundation of Minnesota (TAFM) and they are requesting a conditional use permit for a religious institution at 1321 Heritage Blvd. Sellman continued to share that the district is zoned B-2, General Business District where the religious institution requires a conditional use permit. Sellman further

shared that Spirit River Church previously occupied the space and did not have a CUP, therefore TAFM needs one and TAFM meets all the requirements for a CUP. Sellman continued to state that Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on April 21<sup>st</sup> and the applicant attended virtually and was able to answer any questions. The Planning Commission unanimously recommended approval with the conditions that the parking lot be fixed within one year.

Motion by Bergley, second by Lundeen to approve resolution as presented. Motion passed 5-0. Motion carried.

**3. Ordinance-729** An ordinance approving the amendment to Ordinance 445 (Zoning) The Official Zoning Map

Community Development Director Sheila Sellman shared that the applicant Deann Bunes of Serenity Circle Counseling is requesting to rezone property located at 201 Main Street from R3-A Low Density Residential to B-1 Central Business District with D-1 Downtown Overlay to build a new office building. Sellman further stated that the R3-A district does not allow office building therefore, rezoning is necessary. Sellman went on to share that the purpose of the Comprehensive Land Use Plan is to ensure the orderly growth and development of the city while maintaining a sound infrastructure and economy. The subject site has a Comprehensive Land Use designation of CBD, Central Business District. The Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on April 21<sup>st</sup> and the applicant was available for questions. The adjoining property owners did ask that if they were going to be rezoned and it was said at the meeting that they will not and the rezoning is specific to this property only. Sellman continued to share that because it is amending the zoning map which is part of the zoning code, a site ordinance is required.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Gordon to approve ordinance as presented. Motion passed 5-0. Motion carried.

**4. Ordinance-730** An ordinance Amending Ordinance 445, Section 7, Article 1 to include commercial recreation as a conditional use

Community Development Director Sheila Sellman shared that Scott Boecker has requested an ordinance amendment to allow for Commercial Recreation in the Central Business District. Sellman continued to share that right now commercial recreation is not an allowed use. Boecker has asked to add commercial recreation as a permitted use in the B-1 district, however the other business district in town allow commercial recreation as a conditional use, therefore staff recommends if added, it should be a conditional use and because this amendment is not site specific it would apply to all of the B-1 district. Sellman further shared that the Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on the zoning request at the April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting and also agreed that this should be under conditional use permit if added to the zoning district.

Motion by Lundeen, second by Collison to approve ordinance as presented. Motion passed 5-0. Motion carried.

**L. Approve Consent Agenda**

1. Accounts Payable in the Amount of \$300,551.77 Payroll in the Amount of \$97,225.04
2. **Resolution 2020-098** Approving the Hire of Community Development Specialist Ryan Saltis
3. **Resolution 2020-099** Approving the Hire of Administrative Assistant Intern Sarah Bjork
4. **Resolution 2020-100** Setting Work Session for 2021 Budget
5. Approving Request for Proposals for Position Classification and Compensation Study

**6. Resolution 2020-101** Awarding Quote and Authorizing to Enter into a Contract for Refuse Services for all City Facilities

Councilmember Gordon asked if the Community Development Specialist position is a new position and if it was replacing Planner.

City Administrator Josi Wood shared that this is a position that was previously listed as the city planner. Wood further shared that when the city planner resigned the job description title did not suit exactly what was in the job description so it was renamed with a new title that is more consistent with what other cities have. Wood continued to share that it is not a new position, but a new title with same job description.

Motion by Bergley, second by Gordon to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion passed 5-0. Motion carried.

**M. Other Communications**

None

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Bergley, second by Collison. Motion passed 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jaden Moore

Deputy City Clerk/ Human Resources