

**MINUTES
CITY OF ISANTI
CITY COUNCIL
August 19, 2014
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/Assistant City Administrator Sarah Cotton, Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk Karissa Henning, Police Chief Gene Hill, Economic Development Director Sean Sullivan, Community Development Director Roxanne Achman, Public Works Director Nick Fleischhacker, and City Engineer Brad DeWolf

D. Adopt Agenda

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

E. Proclamations/Commendations/Certificate Awards

F. Approve City Council Minutes

Motion by Johnson, second by Lundeen to approve the minutes of the August 6, 2014 regular meeting and August 6, 2014 budget work session meeting of the City Council. Motion carried unanimously.

G. Citizens Input

H. Announcements

Announcements were read.

I. Council Committee Reports

Councilor Larson reported on:

- **Friends of the Library**
 - Off Leash Theatre
 - Bowling for Books
- **Highway 65 Coalition**
 - Congestion Issues
 - Joint Powers Agreement

- **GPS 45:93**
 - Housing Study

Mayor Wimmer noted at the next City Council meeting there will be an ordinance for review in regards to ATV's and golf carts.

Mayor Wimmer also stated at the next City Council meeting increasing the Council and Commissions/Boards pay will be reviewed.

K. Business Items

1. Utility Access Charges

Mayor Wimmer stated that when things were developing quickly on the east side of 65, Steve Lindell stated he had discussions with the City in regards to not paying for utility access charges. Mayor Wimmer noted that Lindell believes there was within the development agreement for his property, notation that he would not need to pay for utility access charges.

Lindell, 802 Winsome Way, was present and stated that in 2004 or 2005 he entered into a deal with the City and the developer that he would not pay for utility access charges. Unfortunately, Lindell was unable to find the development agreement or his notes in regards to those conversations/meetings. City staff also had looked for the referenced development agreement, but could not find anything.

Lindell stated that he had decided at the time of the development of his property, that he would have stubs placed in for water and sewer to avoid costs in the future - when he would eventually need to hook up to water and sewer. Lindell stated the City is now trying to charge him \$80 for the stubs as a utility access charge. Lindell did note that through further discussion with the City there was a reduced fee of \$40 proposed. However, Lindell stated his parents who live in town only pay \$60, and they use water and sewer; Lindell questions why someone who does not use water or sewer would be charged more (\$80) for an access charge.

Mayor Wimmer noted that for decades residents have been paying for access charges and that it was not until recently, when staff worked with the City Engineer on storm water fees, that it was caught that Lindell was not paying access charges. Access charges are given to everyone who has stubs.

Collison asked how many properties are paying for access charges. Cotton noted over 40 residents are paying for access charges.

Lindell stated he feels it is wrong of the City to charge residents an access fee for water and sewer when they do not use it.

Mayor Wimmer noted that this is a policy question for Council.

Larson urged Lindell to do further research to see if he could find any notes whatsoever on the past discussions had with City staff.

Lorsung stated the theory behind the current policy is that residents, who have water and sewer stubs on their property will ultimately benefit from the stubs; so base fees (as access charges) are collected to assist in paying for the overall operation and maintenance of the utility system.

DeWolf noted that the City's policy is a very common policy.

Mayor Wimmer noted if there was a policy change, where residents who are not using water and sewer do not pay an access charge, there would be a \$12 to \$15 monthly increase to those who are hooked up to water and sewer.

There was further discussion on the City paying for the maintenance and repair/replacement for access lines.

Joslin made comment in regards to the City ordinance noting if the 'service is reasonably available' and that the ordinance does not touch base on access stubs. Joslin stated it is irrelevant whether the stub is in or not.

There was discussion in regards to whether this matter should be tabled.

Motion by Collison, second by Larson to table this matter and to have the Development Advisory Committee (DAC) take a look at the policy and report back to Council. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Resolution 2014-188 Approving an Administrative Intern for the Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk Prior to 2015

Larson asked how much the intern would be paid. Mayor Wimmer replied the intern would work 10-20 hours a week, depending on work needed, and would be paid up to \$10/hour depending on experience.

Larson questioned which funds the pay for the intern would come from. Cotton noted the intern would be paid from the same fund sources as outlined in the 2015 preliminary budget.

Motion by Johnson, second by Larson to approve Resolution 2014-188. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Resolution 2014-189 Setting a Public Hearing to Vacate Drainage and Utility Easements within Isanti Hills 6th Addition

Motion by Larson, second by Lundeen to approve Resolution 2014-189. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Resolution 2014-190 Approving Modifications to Existing Telecommunication Tower Located on the Property at 501 W Dual Blvd NE

Motion by Lundeen, second by Larson to approve Resolution 2014-190. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Resolution 2014-191 Approving the Final Plat for Fairway Greens Phase Seven, Lots 1 and 2, Block 1

Motion by Larson, second by Lundeen to approve Resolution 2014-191. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Grade Crossing Construction and Maintenance Agreement

DeWolf stated the Grade Crossing Construction and Maintenance Agreement has been in the making for the past 24 months and strongly recommends Council approval.

Motion by Larson, second by Lundeen to approve the Grade Crossing Construction and Maintenance Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Resolution 2014-192 Requesting an Advancement of Municipal State Aid Funds

Motion by Lundeen, second by Larson to approve Resolution 2014-192. Motion carried unanimously.

8. Engineering Proposal for City Hall Parking Improvements

9. Engineering Proposal for City Hall Alley Improvements

10. Engineering Proposal for City Hall Sidewalk Improvements

11. Engineering Proposal for Community Center Overlay

Mayor Wimmer asked the Council approve all engineering proposals in one motion.

Motion by Larson, second by Collison to approve the following engineering proposals:

Engineering Proposal for City Hall Parking Improvements

Engineering Proposal for City Hall Alley Improvements

Engineering Proposal for City Hall Sidewalk Improvements

Engineering Proposal for Community Center Overlay

Motion carried unanimously.

12. Resolution 2014-193 Adopting a Mowing Policy

Motion by Lundeen, second by Larson to approve Resolution 2014-193. Motion carried unanimously.

13. Resolution 2014-194 Authorizing Staff to Enter into an Agreement with Crawford's Equipment for the Equipment Buyback Program

Motion by Johnson, second by Lundeen to approve Resolution 2014-194. Motion carried unanimously.

14. Resolution 2014-195 Adopting Revised Operating Policy (Exhibit D) of Lease Agreement with Rum River BMX Association

Motion by Larson, second by Johnson to approve Resolution 2014-195. Motion carried unanimously.

L. Approve Consent Agenda

1. Consider Accounts Payable in the Amount of \$213,462.83 and Payroll in the Amount of \$76,704.06

2. Final Minutes of the July 8, 2014 Planning Commission Meeting
3. Final Minutes of the July 1, 2014 Economic Development Authority Meeting
4. **Resolution 2014-196** Accepting Renewal Quote for Phone Line Services
5. **Resolution 2014-197** Rejecting Quotes, Approving Revised Specifications, and Authorizing the Obtainment of New Quotes for Police Department Window Replacements
6. **Resolution 2014-198** Offering the Position of Part-Time Liquor Store Clerk to Mr. Larry Barnes
7. **Resolution 2014-199** Approving a Donation Dox at the Liquor Store

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

Adjournment

Motion by Lundeen, second by Johnson to adjourn. Motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karissa Henning
Human Resources/Deputy City Clerk