

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS, MN

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

May 5, 2008

6:00 pm

1. **Call to Order:** The regular City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Randy Dressen at 6:00 pm at the ISD #15 District Offices.
2. **Roll Call:** Present were Mayor Randy Dressen, Council members LeRoy Schaffer, Steve Kane, Ray Jones, and Tim Brown. Also present was Assistant City Engineer Jared Voge (Bolton & Menk, Inc.), City Attorney Scott Lepak (Barna, Guzy & Steffen), Public Works Director Paul Teicher, Police Chief Jeff Harapat, Fire Chief Ken Pace, Finance Director Gayle Bauman, City Administrator Matt Hysten and City Clerk Barb Held
3. **Adopt Agenda:** MOTION BY BROWN SECOND SCHAFFER TO ADOPT THE MAY 5, 2008 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.
4. **Consent Agenda:** Dressen asked to add 4k. Accept the resignation of Dawn Mercill and advertise for the Police Records Clerk position. Schaffer asked to have 4g moved to 5c. MOTION BY KANE SECOND JONES TO APPROVE THE MAY 5, 2008, CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA A-K WITH EXCEPTION OF G:
 - a. Approve the City Council Minutes – April 21, 2008.
 - b. Receive and File the Planning Commission Minutes of March 19, 2008.
 - c. Receive and File the Park Commission Minutes of March 11, 2008.
 - d. Receive and File Charter Commission Minutes of March 26, 2008.
 - e. Accept the Performance Review of Police Officer A.J. Gennaro and move him to Step 5 on Grade 21.
 - f. Appoint John Marshall and Kelly Ryan to the St. Francis Fire Department.
 - ~~g. Approve Fireworks Application for Renaissance Fireworks 6/19-7/06 in the County Market Parking Lot.~~
 - h. Approve Pay Estimate #8 in the amount of \$847,612.00 to Staab Construction for the Water Treatment Plant.
 - i. Approve the Revised Personnel Policy as presented.
 - j. Approve the Payment of Claims for \$323,141.14.
 - k. Accept the resignation of Dawn Mercill and authorization to advertise for the Police Department Records Clerk position. Motion carried 5-0.
5. **Petitions, Requests, Applications:**
 - a. **Alexandra House-Sue Redmond, Community Program Director:** Ms. Redmond was before the City Council on behalf of the Alexandra House. The Alexandra House is a shelter for woman and children. Ms. Redmond is asking the City Council to help their organization in a

monetary way. Dressen asked where their funding resources come from. Ms. Redmond stated there are a variety of funding sources. Most of their funding comes from State and local resources. Dressen asked have you asked any of the local non-profit civic organizations. Ms. Redmond said no she has not. Schaffer said I hope we can help you some way. Ms. Redmond thanked the City Council for any assistance you can provide.

b. South Highway 47 Industrial Park-Preliminary Plat Approval: The City currently owns two properties near the intersection of Highway 47 and Cree Street. One property is on the north side of Highway 47 and the other is on the south. The Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Ordinance state that the northern portion of the site is Commercial and the southern if Light Industrial. The current zoning will remain the same. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on the preliminary plat and recommended approval with three conditions. **MOTION BY KANE SECOND BROWN TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2008-19 A RESOLUTION APPROVING A PRELIMINARY PLAT FOR THE SOUTH HIGHWAY 47 INDUSTRIAL PARK WITH THE CONDITIONS NOTED.** Motion carried 5-0.

c. Fireworks Application: Council member Schaffer has a concern of the past violation on their application and will vote no on this request. Kane said he will vote in favor of this, I personally don't like it, but it is a State Law that they are permitted to sell. Kane said it is unfair to local businesses to stop them. Brown said we have had the same company for a number of years. They can't sell the illegal ones here anyway. **MOTION BY KANE SECOND JONES APPROVING THE FIREWORKS PERMIT FOR RENAISSANCE FIREWORKS.** Motion carried 4-1. Schaffer voting nay.

6. Ordinances & Resolution:

a. Ordinance 119, Second Series: Amending Sec. 7.25, Entitled "Recreational Motor Vehicles" (Second Reading): **MOTION BY KANE SECOND JONES TO APPROVE THE SECOND READING OF ORDINANCE 119, SECOND SERIES AMENDING SEC. 7.25 ENTITLED "RECREATIONAL MOTOR VEHICLES".** Roll Call Brown, Jones, Kane and Dressen voting aye. Schaffer voting nay. Motion carried 4-1.

b. Ordinance 121, Second Series; Creating Chapter 10, Section 10.38: The Planning Commission held a public hearing on an ordinance regulating windmills at their April meeting. Windmills that are intended for the production of electricity (or Wind Energy Conversion Systems WECS) are heavily regulated by the State of Minnesota. The State regulates all Large Wind Energy Conversion systems ("LWECS") with a capacity of 5,000 kilowatts or more. Cities may only regulate Small Wind Energy Conversion Systems ("SWECS"). What is most prominently regulated is the procedure for granting a "SWECS", where one can be placed, and the size of the structure. **MOTION BY KANE SECOND BROWN TO APPROVE THE FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE 121, SECOND SERIES AN ORDINANCE CREATING CHAPTER 10, SECTION 10.38 ENTITLED "WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS".** Roll Call Brown, Jones Kane, Schaffer and Dressen voting aye. Motion carried 5-0.

7. Meeting Open to the Public: None

8. Reports of Consultants & Staff Members:

a. Engineer: Development Standards Revisions: At the request of the City Council revisions to the Development Standards related to water service piping were provided for your approval. MOTION BY JONES SECOND SCHAFFER TO APPROVE THE REVISIONS RELATING TO WATER SERVICE PIPING AND AUTHORIZE CITY STAFF TO AMEND THE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS DATED SEPTEMBER 2007. Motion carried 5-0.

b. Attorney: City Charter Revisions: Within the last couple months the City Charter Commission have been meeting to review and make any necessary changes to the Charter. A resolution was presented to the City Council regarding developing an EDA and asked if the City Council had time to review it. The City Charter Commission did review it again at the last charter commission meeting. Their concern was about eminent domain. The City Council still will have control over that situation. Jones asked how much money would the Economic Development Authority (EDA) have to work with. Hysten said we will come up with a mock up budget and this entity will be audited each year. Lepak will bring this back for council review in two weeks.

c. Staff: Fire Dept: No report.

Public Works: Bobcat Guaranteed Buy Back Program: Every year since the original purchase of the bobcat, the City has purchased a replacement machine on the guaranteed buy back program from Lano Equipment. This year in an effort increase efficiency and productivity, we would like to purchase a 2-speed bobcat. This would reduce the travel time and/or time spent loading and unloading the machine. Currently \$1,750 is budgeted, but for the 2-speed the cost is \$2,626.29. Money is available in the parks budget, tractor/loader fund for the difference of \$885.00. Jones asked Teicher about the options included. Jones asked about the 2-speed. Right now we are having to trailer the equipment everywhere, this would be a stand alone piece of equipment. MOTION BY BROWN SECOND SCHAFFER TO APPROVE THE GUARANTEED BUY BACK OF A 2-SPEED BOBCAT FOR THIS YEAR. Motion carried 5-0.

Liquor Store: None.

Police Dept: No report.

City Administrator Report: Currently a home along Ambassador Blvd. that was recently for sale was going to put in a new septic system at the time of their sale. Hysten stated we did contact the realtor asking about the future homeowner put money in escrow with the City and hook up to City sewer when it comes available.

Continue to discuss the possibility of an ice arena coming to town. The park commission developed a subcommittee for this project. The hockey association has hired an architect.

Summer Youth Connection: Last year the Summer Youth Connection held a program for at risk youth in St. Francis and East Bethel. Last year it was a success; however, this year they need some funding help and are asking the respected cities for \$1,000 each. Jones asked about how many kids attended. Dressen said the St. Francis section had about 50 kids. Dressen said, this project if not

supported, they will not be able to continue. It is for disadvantage and at risk kids. Jones said for \$20.00 per person he doesn't see a problem. **MOTION BY BROWN SECOND KANE TO AUTHORIZE \$1,000 FROM THE LIQUOR STORE PROFITS TO HELP FUND THE SUMMER YOUTH COLLABORATION.** Motion carried 5-0.

9. **Reports from Council Members:** Schaffer contacted two businesses. Brown asked for the Fire Department minutes again. Brown said he has heard from some people concerned about the chief's truck driving around town, is it all for business. Fire Chief Pace said about 97%.

10. **Report from Mayor:** Attended the Mayor's Conference. The most interesting session was on the joint powers agreements.

11. **Old Business:** None

12. **New Business:** Council member Jones is happy with the tree trimming along Variolite Street.

13. **Adjournment:** The Regular City Council meeting adjourned at 6:53 pm.

Barbara I. Held, City Clerk