

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2009 - 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, February 18, 2009, 2009 at City Hall, the Post Office and the City's Web Site. Copies were e-mailed to residents requesting such, and the Press was notified.

The Taylors Falls City Council met for a regular meeting on Monday, February 23, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 637 First Street, Taylors Falls, Minnesota.

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Mike Buchite.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All those present at the meeting recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Buchite, Ross Rivard, John Tangen, Zara Kinnunen, Larry Julik-Heine

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Clerk-Treasurer Jo Everson, and Bob Porter from the Chisago County Press

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS PRESENTED, FOR THE FEBRUARY 23, 2009 COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION BY TANGEN/KINNUNEN TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEM: CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

STAFF REQUESTS

None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDER ADDITIONAL EXPENSES FOR HOGLUND PROPERTY ACQUISITION

The City Attorney has been working on the legal details to complete the gifting to the City of three parcels of property by the Hogle estate. The parcels are located along the St. Croix River and the Riverwalk Trail. The next step in this process is the Attorney's recommendation to obtain title insurance for the parcels and order a Phase I Environmental Assessment. The cost of the Environmental Assessment has been quoted at \$4,000.00. However, conditions of the site are well known, and the assumption is that the property has never been developed, is not a buildable site, and contamination does not exist on the property. Therefore the assessment is not necessary.

MOTION BY RIVARD/JULIK-HEINE TO AUTHORIZE CASTERTON TITLE TO PROCEED WITH THE TITLE INSURANCE POLICY FOR THE HOGLUND PROPERTY ACQUISITION, AT A COST OF \$592.00, TO BE PAID FROM THE COUNCIL LEGAL EXPENSES BUDGET (46100-304).

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED TO WAIVE THE REQUIREMENT FOR A FORMAL PHASE I

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE SAID PROPERTY, DIRECTING THE CITY ZONING ADMINISTRATOR-COORDINATOR AND PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO CONDUCT A SITE EVALUATION OF THE PROPERTY TO DETERMINE IF THERE ARE ANY VISIBLE "RED FLAGS".

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2009-02-23 AMENDING CHAPTER 14 – ADDRESSING

Chapter 14 of the Taylors Falls Code of Ordinances provides for street naming and principal structure numbering within the City. In the past, addressing houses using this system worked well because most neighborhoods were laid out in a grid pattern; generally streets have a north-south or west-east orientation. New development patterns are now showing curvilinear streets, which change directional orientation. Using the Ordinance addressing system under these circumstances would create an illogical address system. The proposed amendments will allow for an improved methodology, which is especially important for emergency response.

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/TANGEN TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2009-02-23, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CERTAIN SECTIONS OF CHAPTER 14 OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CODE OF ORDINANCES RELATING TO THE CITY'S UNIFORM ADDRESSING SYSTEM. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (attached)

CONSIDER PAY EQUITY IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

The City submitted a Pay Equity Implementation Report for year ending 2008, but was found in non-compliance due to a technical issue with the "comparable worth/job points" structure. The new report essentially duplicates the 2002 point structure and must be submitted by March 10th.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO APPROVE THE PAY EQUITY IMPLEMENTATION REPORT AND JOB CLASS DATA VERIFICATION LIST AND FURTHER, TO AUTHORIZE THE CLERK-TREASURER TO SUBMIT THE REPORT TO THE MINNESOTA MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET DEPARTMENT VIA CERTIFIED MAIL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 09-02-01 EXCUSING INTER-FUND LOAN FOR STREET LIGHTING

Given the recent 2008 unallotment of Local Government Aid (LGA) by Governor Pawlenty, and the recent announcement of the proposed 2009 and 2010 reductions, the City Treasurer acknowledged there are but two solutions to address these budget shortfalls – increase revenues and decrease expenses. One suggestion was to "forgive" the General Fund the (original) \$75,000+ loan to the Sewer Fund for the 2006 Bench Street lighting project. In her opinion, the cash reserves in the Sewer Fund were much healthier and could absorb the \$55,386 loss more than the General Fund could absorb the \$174,825.00 LGA loss. The Council was in agreement, however quick to explain that this action would not set precedence siting that these are extenuating circumstances. Once the Resolution is adopted, the annual \$7,750 payment would not be levied in the future.

MOTION BY RIVARD/KINNUNEN TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 09-02-01, A RESOLUTION FORGIVING AN INTER-FUND LOAN TO THE SEWER FUND. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (attached)

CONSIDER PAY REQUEST #10 TO ENCOMM, WELL/WELLHOUSE #4 PROJECT

Vice Mayor Ross Rivard reported that the work on Well #4 and the Wellhouse have been completed, with the exception of an issue in the driveway with the culvert and drainage. SEH has recommended the City retain \$5,000 for this work to be completed in the spring, and have approved the remaining monies to be paid to Encomm.

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/JULIK-HEINE TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF PAY REQUEST #10 TO ENCOMM, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,708.62 FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE WELL/WELLHOUSE #4 PROJECT, NOTING THE \$5,000.00 RETAINAGE REMAINING TO BE PAID ONCE REPAIR WORK HAS BEEN COMPLETED ON THE DRIVEWAY, CULVERT AND DRAINAGE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Mike Buchite reported that he had testified for the third time regarding the inclusion of Taylors Falls in the Border City Development Zone. This time it was before the Senate Tax committee, who laid it

over to be included in the Omnibus Tax bill.

The Mayor suggested that the Council meet in a workshop to discuss any adjustments that might be needed to be made to the 2009 budget. A date will be determined at the next meeting. He also informed the Council that he would be resuming the quarterly Commission Chair meetings.

Zara Kinnunen reported that the EDC had recently held their Organizational Meeting, with Wade Vitalis voted as Chair and Clarence Nelson as Vice-Chair. There are two applications for new members which will be acted upon at their next meeting. The EDC is looking at possible grants to complete the Riverwalk Project.

Ross Rivard encouraged the Council to add items to the Public Works "to do" list.

Larry Julik-Heine reported that the PRC discussed 2009 goals and will give their recommendation to the Council after the March meeting. Priority would be to finish the Cherry Hill Park. The group intends to invite John Laier to the next meeting and organize a barn raising crew to complete the pavillion. He also reported that the artist is still interested in lending the sculpture to the Heritage Park for display. The Council will need to review the *Lending Agreement* in the near future.

John Tangen reported that the HPC continues to work towards designating three more properties in the City.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED IN THE FEBRUARY 23, 2009 CITY COUNCIL MEETING PACKET:

1. LMC FRIDAY FAXES
2. DELINQUENT W/S BILLS
3. STAFF CORRESPONDENCE & EMAIL'S

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/KINNUNEN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL HELD ON FEBRUARY 23, 2009. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED: MARCH 9, 2009