

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2008 – 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, September 17, 2008 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, September 22, 2008 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, Larry Julik-Heine, Zara Kinnunen

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Clerk-Treasurer Jo Everson, Commissioner Rick Greene, Joe Stein, Reporter from the Ledger Press Newspaper, Tammie Milberg from the Inter-County Leader, and Bob Porter from the Chisago County Press.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The Agenda was amended to include under New Business: **Consider Resolution 08-09-03 Authorizing a Budget Transfer.**

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/JULIK-HEINE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED, FOR THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2008 COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: CONSIDER AUTHORIZING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH TO CONDUCT FUND RAISER IN MARMON PARKWAY; CONSIDER PAYMENT TO HRA-EDA FOR GRANT INSPECTION FEES; CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

**County Commissioner Rick Greene** updated the Council on the status of the County road projects to be completed yet this fall. The concrete curb & gutter along CSAH 20 (1<sup>st</sup> Street) on Angel Hill will be removed and replaced between TH 95 and City Hall. Also, CSAH 16 (Chisago Street & Wild Mountain Road) will be resurfaced in two locations: From TH 95 to the damn area, and from CR 71 north to Wild Mountain.

Greene reported that the County Board and Highway Department are reconsidering the proposed road turn-backs as previously reported. The section of Mulberry Street in Taylors Falls will definitely remain a County Road. The turn-back of County Road 71 from Highway 95 north will need to be revisited since it is the only connectivity to CSAH 16. Greene gave his assurance that he will keep the Council updated.

**STAFF REQUESTS**

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

**Consider Training Requests.** MOTION BY RIVARD/JULIK-HEINE TO APPROVE THE REQUESTS FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT TO ATTEND THE FOLLOWING TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES:

FOR PUBLIC WORKS UTILITY WORKER BILL NESKA AND PUBLIC WORKS STREET WORKER ERIC GARNER TO ATTEND THE MINNESOTA FALL MAINTENANCE EXPO TO BE HELD IN ST. CLOUD, MN ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2008, AT A COST OF \$50.00, TO BE PAID FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS TRAINING BUDGET ACCOUNT (43100-208).

FOR PUBLIC WORKS UTILITY WORKER BILL NESKA TO ATTEND THE SUBURBAN UTILITIES SUPERINTENDENT ASSOCIATION, UTILITY OPERATIONS SCHOOL TO BE HELD IN MINNETONKA, MN ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2008, AT A COST OF \$40.00, TO BE PAID FROM THE WATER FUND TRAINING BUDGET ACCOUNT (601-208).

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **CONSIDER PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL LED DRIVER FEEDBACK SIGN**

At the last Meeting the Council authorized the purchase of a LED Drive Feedback Sign (or dynamic digital display) through 3-M (St. Paul, Minnesota) at a cost of \$3,014.00 + \$1,995.00 installation of electric service + \$50.00 shipping. This sign will be placed on Highway 95 at the north end of town. At that Meeting there was discussion whether the City should purchase additional signs for County Road 37/First Street and perhaps West Street near the Elementary School. The issue was tabled until this meeting in order to research the costs to install electricity to the proposed new sites.

Mayor Buchite reminded the Council why there was money available from the Contracted Police Services budget to make these purchases. When the City was completing its work on the 2008 budget, the County was unsure as to what the exact hourly contract rate was going to be, so they provided a worse case scenario at \$47.50/hour. They eventually reduced the rate to \$43.95, but after the City adopted its budget and certified its levy. It appears that there is now approximately \$26,000.00 in available monies from that account to be used for "Public Safety". Mayor Buchite commended Corporal Shane Carroll of the Chisago County Sheriff's Department for his outstanding job of monitoring shifts by his Deputies and as a result the City has received an even greater cost-savings. He also commended the entire Department for their excellent service.

Council Member Zara Kinnunen agreed with the purchase stating that it could dramatically reduce the speed on the County Road 37/First Street hill and potentially reduce accidents.

Council Member Ross Rivard supported the use of the LED signs at the proposed locations on Bench and First Streets since they are the two main entrances to the City.

Council Member John Tangen agreed with the purchase stating that it was an aggressive option for the health, safety, and welfare of the City.

Council Member Larry Julik-Heine recommended that the Council remove consideration for the West Street signs, suggesting that the speed trailer would be more available once the LED signs were purchased, and it could be used during school hours. He stated that this would be the best option for all concerned. Other Council Members agreed.

MOTION BY RIVARD/JULIK-HEINE TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF ONE WHITE URBAN DRIVER FEEDBACK SIGN FROM 3M, INCLUDING THE AC POWER MODULE, FOR A TOTAL COST OF \$3,014.00, WITH \$50.00 SHIPPING COSTS, PLUS AN ADDITIONAL \$1,948.00 ELECTRICAL INSTALLATION COST BY ANDRIE ELECTRIC, TO BE PAID FROM SURPLUS BUDGET MONIES FROM THE CONTRACTED POLICE SERVICES (42100-304). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **CONSIDER FINANCING PROPOSAL FOR PURCHASE OF PLOW TRUCK**

The Council approved the purchase of a 2009 Ford Sterling L8500 Single Axle Truck (and accessories) on June 23, 2008, and further authorized the City Clerk-Treasurer to solicit financing proposals for both an eight- or ten-year amortization.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO APPROVE THE FINANCING PROPOSAL FROM THE RIVERBANK, TO FINANCE THE PURCHASE OF THE 2009 FORD STERLING L8500 SINGLE AXLE TRUCK AND ACCESSORIES, WITH THE FOLLOWING TERMS: \$119,070.00 TOTAL COST OF TRUCK, LESS \$17,979.00 DOWN PAYMENT WITH \$101,100.00 TO BE FINANCED FOR 10 YEARS AT 5.10%. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **CONSIDER RESOLUTION 08-09-02 SETTING FUTURE BOUNDARIES**

Representatives from Taylors Falls have met with representatives from the City of Shafer and Center City to discuss an agreement regarding the future boundary of the three cities. These meetings stemmed from the litigation caused by the annexation of Wyoming Township by its surrounding cities in western Chisago County. It was determined that an agreement as to the future, long-term boundary of the cities would potentially alleviate similar litigation. It would also be beneficial for long-term planning and providing Taylors Falls with direction for future extraterritorial growth. The agreement describes the boundaries, with the border between Taylors Falls and Shafer to be Teal Avenue.

As reported by Larry Phillips, City Zoning Administrator-Coordinator, the Planning Commission had previously discussed the subject, acknowledging that the City's Comprehensive Plan would need to be amended to reflect the boundaries. Their recommendation on that issue would be forth-coming in the near future.

Mayor Buchite explained that the document was not intended to be a joint powers agreement nor should it be construed as extraterritorial zoning. Future Councils may choose to have additional discussion on the subject, and as such, the document is not intended to be permanent.

Julik-Heine stated that the critical point was that three cities decided on an amicable basis to avoid any disputes in the future.

Tangen stated that [the agreement] tailors itself between the Comprehensive Plan and the Master Parks & Trails Plan as it speaks of countryside areas. As a [former] member of the Task Force, he agrees without much reservation.

Kinnunen stated that she agrees with the document as it avoids potential and unnecessary litigation yet lends itself open to future Council discussion.

Rivard stated that he agreed with the document in that it could be used as a guide for the Planning Commission for future planning.

MOTION BY TANGEN/KINNUNEN TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 08-09-02, A RESOLUTION INCLUDING THE CITIES OF TAYLORS FALLS, SHAFER AND CENTER CITY, REGARDING FUTURE CITY BOUNDARIES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (attached)

### **CONSIDER AUTHORIZING FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH TO CONDUCT FUND RAISER IN MARMON PARKWAY**

THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT AGENDA, THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH TO CONDUCT A FUND RAISER IN THE MARMON PARKWAY, USING TWO PARKING STALLS, ON SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> AND SATURDAY OCTOBER 4<sup>TH</sup>, 2008, AND FURTHER APPROVE WAIVING THE PEDDLERS FEES TO DO SO.

### **CONSIDER PAYMENT TO HRA-EDA FOR GRANT INSPECTION FEES**

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE PAYMENT OF \$4,000.00 TO THE CHISAGO COUNTY HRA/EDA FOR THE COST OF INSPECTIONS FOR THE SMALL CITIES GRANT ACCORDING TO THE DEED DISBURSEMENT SCHEDULE, TO BE PAID FROM THE SMALL CITIES GRANT FUND (375).

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION 08-09-03 TRANSFERRING BUDGET ACCOUNT MONIES**

Larry Julik-Heine and Ross Rivard, Public Works Council Liaisons, reported that the 2008 budget for part-time seasonal help had been depleted, in fact, was currently more than \$700.00 in the red. Their recommendation was to transfer monies from other budget accounts in order to eliminate the deficit, and allow the seasonal help to continue working as long as possible.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/KINNUNEN TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 08-09-03, APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF MONIES FROM ONE BUDGET ACCOUNT TO ANOTHER. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (attached)

**LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

**Zara Kinnunen** reported that a member of the Heritage Preservation Commission would be attending training in Northfield within the next few weeks. The Commission is planning to consider potential members for the Commission as well as other designation projects.

**John Tangen** reported that the EDC is planning to review their by-laws at the next meeting. They recently had the STS crew trim brush and trees along the Riverwalk Trail.

**Larry Julik-Heine** reported that the PRC would be submitting a recommendation at the next meeting to accept Liz Valleen's resignation and notify the Council of the appointment of Tana Havumaki as Chair. He also reported that the pavilion at the Cherry Hill Park is proceeding nicely.

**Mayor Mike Buchite** reported that the Taylors Falls and St. Croix Falls Chambers of Commerce are considering a joint merger in 2009. They also will be discussing a contribution to the City to be used towards the \$2,100.00 cost of purchasing directional/alternate route signs during the Highway 8 project in August.

The Mayor also updated the Council on the status of the \$30,000.00 emergency services monies approved by the Legislature in 2007 for Taylors Falls. This money was to be in addition to the Local Government Aid (LGA), but instead, has been included as part of the LGA, which reduces that payment by the \$30,000.00. The Mayor stated that he has been in contact with Representative Kalin to request his assistance, and up to this date he had not been able to resolve the problem. Therefore the Mayor enlisted Senator Bach's assistance, who had previously expressed his support of the Legislative action. Mayor Buchite assured the Council that he would continue to pursue the matter and would keep the Council updated.

In his final update to the Council, Mayor Buchite reported that bids were opened on September 18<sup>th</sup> for the Public Works / MnDOT buildings. Only three bids were received and all three were high, with over \$100,000.00 separating the lowest bid from the highest bid. It is a possibility that all bids may need to be rejected and the project be rebid. The Mayor announced that he called a Special City Council Meeting to consider these bids on Thursday, September 25, 2008 at 8:15 a.m. Until then he hoped to have had a conversation with MnDOT representatives.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED IN THE SEPTEMBER 22, 2008 CITY COUNCIL MEETING PACKET:

1. INFORMATION FROM LMC, RE: OSHA TRAINING
2. STAFF CORRESPONDENCE & EMAIL'S

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/KINNUNEN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL HELD ON SEPTEMBER 22, 2008. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

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Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

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Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer

**APPROVED: OCTOBER 13, 2008**