

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, APRIL 14, 2014 – 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, April 2, 2014 at City Hall, the Post Office and on 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, April 14, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in 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, Larry Julik-Heine, Mary Jo Murphy

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Tangen

OTHERS PRESENT: Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer, Superintendent of Chisago Lakes Schools Joe Thimm, Chisago County Commissioner Rick Greene, Julie Hildebrand, and Paul Ringnell from the Chisago County Press

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS PRESENTED, FOR THE APRIL 14, 2014 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION BY RIVARD/MURPHY TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON MARCH 10, 2014; STAFF REPORTS; COMMISSION/BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/ REPORTS; CONSIDER 2014 INSURANCE PRESENTATION; CONSIDER TEMPORARY BEER LICENSE FOR ALMELUND LIONS CLUB FOR TF SMELT FRY; CONSIDER EVERGREEN RECYCLING SOLID WASTE PERMIT; CONSIDER VACATION REQUEST BY CLERK-TREASURER; APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL; AND CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC FORUM

Chisago Lakes School Superintendent Joe Thimm provided an update on the first half of the 2014 school year. He spoke about a new 50 member Steering Committee that had been organized whose goal is to determine a Strategic Plan for where the School District wants/needs to be in the next five years. They hope to make their final report to the Board in July. Thimm explained that over the past four to five years the School District has had to cut \$4 to \$5 million dollars from their operating budgets due to reduction in government revenues. However, with the new \$820,000 funding from the recent voter approved referendum, the school would be "catching up" and restoring many of the cuts that were made. There will be improvements with the security at the schools, and a new Visitor Management System is to be implemented, requiring the visitor to provide a government issued ID (driver's license) that will be scanned and sent through a pedophile database and a child-trafficking data base. New teachers would be added to various positions at all four schools, and a new reading program would be implemented (the last program was instituted in 2006). Thimm provided pictures of the "new" brands that will be used to represent the School District going forward. The Council extended their appreciation of the updates he provided, complimenting him for his work during the first year as the new School Superintendent.

Commissioner Rick Greene had submitted a report entitled “Chisago County: A Look back at 2013”, and explained that he had not been able to attend meetings as often as he would have liked due to his appointments to new committees that took him out of town more often. He reported that the Government Center would see new improvements, including a new roof, windows, and repairs to the air conditioning and boiler system. The County also hopes to partner with the DNR for funding to make the necessary improvements to County Road 16 from Highway 95 to the Wild Mountain. The State had denied the County’s request for \$10 million that would aid in the costs of construction of a new jail in Chisago County.

STAFF REPORTS & REQUESTS

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE APRIL 2014 FINANCIAL REPORTS PRESENTED BY CLERK-TREASURER JO EVERSON.

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE APRIL REPORT PRESENTED BY COORDINATOR-ZONING ADMINISTRATOR ADAM BERKLUND.

CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA SERGEANT SHANE CARROLL’S APRIL 2014 CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT MIKE KRIZ’S APRIL 2014 PUBLIC WORKS REPORT.

CITY ATTORNEY

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MARCH 2014 BILLING STATEMENTS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY’S OFFICE OF KELLY AND LEMMONS, P.A.

COMMISSION, BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS

LIBRARY BOARD

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE TAYLORS FALLS LIBRARY BOARD MEETING HELD ON MARCH 26, 2014.

PLANNING COMMISSION

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE TAYLORS FALLS PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS HELD ON JANUARY 6, 2014, AND MARCH 3, 2014.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE TAYLORS FALLS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON FEBRUARY 18, 2014.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

CONSIDER ORDINANCE 2014-04-01 AMENDING CHAPTER 13 ALLOWING CHICKENS

Over the past several months the Council has discussed the request to allow chickens on residential lots less than 10 acres. A survey was sent out to 375 property owners with 175 returns. The results were 42.8% not in favor, 10% don’t care, and 46.2% were in favor or in favor with conditions. As Mayor Buchite explained, the votes were not overwhelmingly in favor, and as such, the City owed it to those property owners opposing allowing chickens in town the due respect in protecting their properties accordingly.

City Ordinance currently reads:

345.04 Farm Animals. *Farm animals shall only be kept on a residential lot of at least ten (10) acres in size provided that no animal shelter shall be within three hundred (300) feet of an adjoining piece of property. An exception shall be made to this subsection for those animals brought into the City as part of an operating zoo, veterinarian clinic, scientific research laboratory, or a licensed show or exhibition.*

The Mayor reviewed the list of conditions Council had agreed upon at the last meeting:

- no roosters
- no free range chickens
- a limit of six chickens
- setbacks should be established, to be confirmed by inspection
- not allowed in the commercial district
- no commercial sales
- must identify how to dispose a deceased bird
- sizes should be established for coop and runway
- properties over two acres written approval not necessary if there is 200' or more from property lines
- cannot sell eggs to the public, to do so would be classified as home occupation
- recommend (not require) owners to participate in some type of chicken owner's training program
- the appearance of the coop should be established
- minimum size for the coop on a per chicken basis
- exterior finish materials
- requiring chicken run and size thereof
- fencing
- location of a chicken coop or run not to be located within 25' of any inhabitable building
- no slaughtering of chicken on premises

The Council continued their discussion and were in agreement on the following:

- The initial permit fee will be \$25.00, and a renewal permit fee will be \$5.00.
- The Applicant must obtain written consent from **100%** of the property owners immediately adjacent to his/her property in order to raise chickens on their property.
- A Self-Inspection Checklist form is to be used to verify that the applicant has submitted all the necessary information. It will also be used for the renewal permit process with a dated photo verifying the information on the checklist.

Council also reviewed the proposed handouts and attachments.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2014-04-14, AS AMENDED, AMENDING CHAPTER 3 – MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS AND LICENSING, SECTION 348 CHICKENS, OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CODE OF ORDINANCES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (attached)

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDER 2014 FIRE CONTRACT WITH SHAFER TOWNSHIP

Council Member Mary Murphy, the Council Liaison to the Fire Department, reported that she had attended several meetings with the Shafer Township Treasurer and Board to review the proposed language in the new Fire Contract, which is using the formula endorsed by the League of Minnesota Cities and Townships to calculate the percentage that is Shafer's financial responsibility. Murphy explained that she had attended last week's Township Board Meeting expecting the contract would be approved. However, new Chairman Joe (Buddy) Mattson disagreed with the increase in the fee despite using the formula introduced by the Township. After further discussion, the Board agreed to split the difference in the increase from 2013 to 2014 in order to allow them the opportunity to budget accordingly for 2015 and going forward. Murphy agreed to present the adjusted rate to the Council with the explanation provided by the Township. The Council consented to the temporary reduction, but agreed to insert new language in the contract that would compel the Township to hereinafter honor the formula calculation process to establish contract fees.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO APPROVE THE 2014 CONTRACT, AS AMENDED, FOR FIRE SERVICE BY AND BETWEEN THE CITY OF TAYLORS FALLS AND SHAFER TOWNSHIP IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,725.59. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.¹

CONSIDER PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CERTAIN ZONING ISSUES

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT: City Zoning Administrator Adam Berklund submitted his report to the Council explaining the details of this agenda item. Dan Sheild owns property at 20382 310th Street, and has applied for a Conditional Use Permit to operate a Nursery and Garden Supplies Sales business on his 36 acres that is located in the Rural Countryside zone. Sheild's proposal is allowable as a Conditional Use for this zone.

The Planning Commission held a public hearing on April 8, 2014 to consider the application. It was their recommendation that the Council approve the Conditional Use Permit based upon certain findings of fact.

MOTION BY MURPHY/JULIK-HEINE TO ACCEPT THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMENDATION AND HEREBY APPROVES A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR DAN SHEILD TO OPERATE A TREE NURSERY AT 20382 310TH STREET, PID R20.00064.20, BASED ON THE FOLLOWING FINDINGS OF FACT:

1. NURSERY AND GARDEN SUPPLIES SALES IS ONE OF THE ONLY COMMERCIAL TYPE BUSINESSES ALLOWED BY CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT WITHIN THE CITY'S RURAL COUNTRYSIDE ZONE.
2. THE TAYLORS FALLS ZONING ORDINANCE DEFINES PLANT NURSERY AS A "BUILDING OR PREMISES USED PRIMARILY FOR THE GROWING, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL SALES OF TREES, SHRUBS, FLOWERS, OTHER PLANTS AND ACCESSORY PRODUCTS EXCLUDING".
3. THE LOCATION OF THE PROPOSED USE IS COMPATIBLE TO OTHER USES IN THE GENERAL NEIGHBORHOOD.
4. THE PROPOSED USE WILL NOT PLACE UNDUE BURDEN ON EXISTING PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES IN THE VICINITY.
5. THE PROPOSED SITE IS LARGE ENOUGH TO ACCOMMODATE THE PROPOSED USE AND OTHER FEATURES AS REQUIRED.
6. THE APPLICANT HAS COMPLIED WITH ALL REQUIREMENTS AS LISTED IN SECTION 1000.008 OF THE TAYLORS FALLS ZONING ORDINANCE.
7. THE APPLICANT'S PROPOSAL DOES NOT CONFLICT WITH THE CITY'S COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ZONING ORDINANCE TEXT AMENDMENTS: City Zoning Administrator Adam Berklund submitted his report to the Council explaining the proposed ten text amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. The Planning Commission held a public hearing on April 8, 2014, and is recommending the Council adopt these amendments to the Ordinance based upon certain findings of fact.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO ACCEPT THE PLANNING COMMISSION RECCOMMENDATION AND HEREBY ADOPTS THE TEN TEXT AMENDMENTS TO THE TAYLORS FALLS ZONING ORDINANCE BASED ON THE FOLLOWING FINDINGS OF FACT:

1. THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS CLARIFY DISCREPANCIES IN THE ZONING ORDINANCE, OTHER CITY ORDINANCES, MINNESOTA STATE STATUTES, AND OTHER APPLICABLE REGULATIONS.
2. THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS BETTER ENABLE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE.

3. THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE INTENT OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND DO NOT CONFLICT WITH THE INTENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.²

CONSIDER SUPPORT OF THE FRANCONIA SCULPTURE PARK GRANT PROGRAM

In March of 2013, John Hock from the Franconia Sculpture Park approached the City about submitting an Arts & Cultural Heritage Grant as part of a Community Involved Bench Project. At that time the Sculpture Park had used their entire allowed grant funding for the year, so the City agreed to be the submitting agency. Since then another larger project has been created, which will involve three surrounding communities; Shafer, Taylors Falls, and St. Croix Falls. Community Engagement Partners include the National Park Service, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Minnesota Historical society, Falls Chamber of Commerce, St. Croix Falls Public Library, and St. Croix Falls Farmers Market.

Franconia's Big art HERE Project will infuse three-dimensional arts into existing public spaces. The project will feature highly visible public art that would transform the visual, social, and cultural landscape of the community and develop a stronger sense of regional connectivity. Requirements for the art project include; community engagement, relates to the historical, cultural, environmental identity of the community, and feature collaboration with local representatives to tailor the project to the needs of the community and site.

A recent meeting with John Hock, the Artistic Director/CEO provided assurance that the City Council would have final say in where the art would be located and what it actually looks like. Ideas included some sort of piece at the start of the Riverwalk, a possible natural looking amphitheater at the Heritage Park, and a possible mold and re-creation of a rock formation at both the WI and MN Lions Parks to create a sense of unity between the two parks.

The estimated timeline is:

- March to June 2014: Planning Phase
- June 2014: ArtPlace America grant notification
- July/August 2014: Artist selection announcement
- September 2014 to September 2015: Projects taking place

There will be no costs incurred by the City. The City's involvement would include:

- working with project staff to identify site needs, limitations, and opportunities
- establish and manage municipal arts committees
- provide input and approve RFP's
- collaborate with artists to incorporate community-specific and site-specific project components
- build connections between artists and the community
- championing/advocating for the overall project within the community
- participate in evaluation activities.

At this time only a letter of support from the City was requested.

MOTION BY MURPHY/JULIK-HEINE TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM FRANCONIA SCULPTURE PARK TO SEND A LETTER OF SUPPORT FROM THE MAYOR TO THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ARTPLACE AMERICA PROGRAM, OFFERING FULL SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED BIG ART HERE PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (attached)

CONSIDER REQUEST BY ROMAYNE'S FOR WANNIGAN DAYS STREET DANCE

David McKeag, CEO of Romaynes on Main, submitted a written request to host the annual street dance on Saturday, June 14th during Wannigan Days, which will be held in June this year rather than July. Ravine Street would need to be blocked off from Bench to Government Streets beginning at 1:00

p.m. until the end of the dance at approximately 1:00 a.m. the next morning. McKeag also requested that the City provide porta-potties for the public's use.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO AUTHORIZE THE CLOSING AND BLOCKING OF RAVINE STREET FROM BENCH STREET TO GOVERNMENT STREET FOR THE ROMAYNE'S STREET DANCE BEGINNING AT 1:00 P.M. ON SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH UNTIL THE END OF THE STREET DANCE, APPROXIMATELY 1:00 A.M. TO ALLOW TIME FOR THE DISMANTLEMENT OF THE STAGE; AND

TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY CLERK TO ISSUE A DANCE/MUSIC PERMIT WITH THE FEES TO BE WAIVED TO ROMAYNE'S ON MAIN FOR THE STREET DANCE TO BE HELD FROM 8:00 P.M. TO 12:30 A.M. ON SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH; AND

TO REQUIRE A FENCE TO BE ERECTED SURROUNDING THE ENTIRE STREET DANCE AND BEER GARDEN AREA ON GOVERNMENT, RAVINE, AND BENCH STREETS DURING THE STREET DANCE ON SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH; AND

TO AUTHORIZE/REQUIRE TWO DEPUTIES TO WORK THE STREET DANCE FROM THE HOURS OF 8:00 P.M. – 1:00 A.M. ON SATURDAY, JUNE 14TH, TO BE PAID FROM THE CONTRACT FEES EXPENSE ACCOUNT (42100-309); AND

TO APPROVE THE INSTALLATION OF TWO SATELLITE PORTA-POTTIES IN THE MARMON PARKWAY (BENCH STREET PARKING LOT) DURING THE WANNIGAN DAYS WEEKEND. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM RICK ANDERSON TO ADJUST REU'S ON CERTAIN PROPERTY

In 2007 the City adopted new standards for determining REU's, which is a way to measure or compare a non-residential property/use to a residential property/use for utility billing purposes. Currently the former Springs Inn at 361 Government Street has 7 REU's: 20 motel rooms @ 1/4 REU each = 5 REU's, and the Bar/Restaurant = 2 REU's. Rick Anderson of Croix Valley Properties, LLC, is the new owner of the property, and has requested the Council consider a reduction in the REU's currently charged, since the property is vacant and is not operating as a motel or bar.

The City Clerk explained that all accounts are charged a minimum rate whether they are snow birds or a seasonal property. However, there is a significant difference between the rates charged to his commercial property and that charged to a single residential property.

The water/sewer bills calculated using the current REU's are:

Water > \$6.53 x 7 REU's = \$45.71
Sewer > \$17.36 x 7 REU's = \$121.52
State Fee = \$1.06
Sales Tax is calculated on water sales only = \$3.14
New Well Fee = \$10.00
Commercial Stormwater Utility Fee = \$9.00
TOTAL PER BILLING CYCLE = \$190.43, x 6 BILLING CYCLES PER YEAR = \$1,142.58.

A temporary reduction in the REU's from 7 to a single REU would be:

Water = \$6.53
Sewer = \$17.36
State Fee = \$1.06
Sales Tax = \$.44 (still applicable)
New Well Fee = \$10.00
Commercial Stormwater Utility Fee = \$9.00 (size of building has not changed)
TOTAL OF REDUCED BILLING = \$44.39 x 6 BILLING CYCLES PER YEAR = \$266.34.

The Council discussed possible implications of approving such a request with regard to setting precedence. The current Ordinance language defines several other commercial properties that are

classified a single REU. However, there is no language that refers to adjusting an REU on property that has been vacant for a period of time. The Council's consensus was:

MOTION BY MURPHY/RIVARD TO AUTHORIZE A TEMPORARY REDUCTION OF THE RESIDENTIAL EQUIVANCY UNITS FOR THE FORMER COMMERICAL SPRINGS INN PROPERTY LOCATED AT 361 GOVERNMENT STREET, FROM THE CURRENT SEVEN RESIDENTIAL EQUIVANCY UNITS TO A SINGLE COMMERCIAL RESIDENTIAL EQUIVANCY UNIT.

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED TO ESTABLISH THE FOLLOWING:

- THE CITY CLERK-TREASURER HAS THE AUTHORITY TO ADJUST THE RESIDENTIAL EQUIVANCY UNITS AT HER DISCRETION DEPENDING UPON THE STATUS OF THE RENOVATIONS OF THE BUILDING AND/OR GROUNDS.
- ANY COMMERICAL PROPERTY MAY REQUEST A TEMPORARY ADJUSTMENT OF THE RESIDENTIAL EQUIVANCY UNITS IF THE PROPERTY HAS BEEN VACANT FOR ONE YEAR OR MORE. COUNCIL WILL MAKE A DETERMINATION ON A CASE BY CASE BASIS.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

INFORMATION REGARDING NEW STORMWATER PROJECTS IN TAYLORS FALLS

Council Member Larry Julik-Heine explained that in 2012 the Chisago Soil and Water Conservation District completed a grade stabilization project in the lower parking lot at City Hall. It was a cost share (25/75) project, and the City was able to provide an in-kind match to fulfill their share. The City has again been approached to consider an opportunity for two additional projects. Possible locations include the northeast corner of Angel Hill, from Military Road to the corner of Colby and First Streets, and the gully that comes from Colby Fat between Walnut and First Streets, however, plans are in the early stage of engineering. These projects would be at no financial cost to the City, although the City would advertise for bids, award the bid, pay the contractor and then the County would reimburse the City for any expenses related to the project. No action was requested at this time.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 14-04-14 AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION

Scott Sellman, Chisago County Emergency Management Director, requested the City adopt a Resolution which would allow participation in the Chisago County Hazard Mitigation Planning Process and when ready, the City would partner with other cities to obtain any grant monies available.

MOTION BY RIVARD/JULIK-HEINE TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 14-04-14 AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE CHISAGO COUNTY HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING PROCESS AND EXECUTION OF SUB-GRANT AGREEMENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (attached)

CONSIDER 2014 INSURANCE PRESENTATION

Historically Jim Stein from Stein Agency attended an annual Council Meeting to review the upcoming insurance premiums/needs. However, he was unable to attend this meeting. Council was provided 2014 insurance information.

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE SUMMARY OF INSURANCE COVERAGES AS SUBMITTED BY JIM STEIN FROM STEIN AGENCY.

THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGES BY CONSENT AGENDA THAT THE CITY DOES NOT WAIVE THE MONETARY LIMITS ON MUNICIPAL TORT LIABILITY ESTABLISHED BY MINNESOTA STATUTES §466.04.

CONSIDER TEMPORARY BEER LICENSE FOR ALMELUND LIONS CLUB

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE ISSUANCE OF AN ON-SALE TEMPORARY BEER LICENSE TO THE ALMELUND LIONS CLUB, FOR THE MAY 3, 2014 TAYLORS FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT RELIEF ASSOCIATION'S SMELT FRY.

CONSIDER EVERGREEN RECYCLING SOLID WASTE PERMIT

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA A ONE-DAY SOLID WASTE LICENSE FOR SATURDAY, MAY 3, 2014 TO EVERYGREEN RECYCLING, INC., WAIVING THE \$150.00 FEE SINCE HE IS PROVIDING A SERVICE TO THE CITY RESIDENTS DURING THE ANNUAL CLEANUP DAY. IF EVERGREEN CONTINUES TO DO BUSINESS IN TAYLORS FALLS, HE WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE \$100.00 LICENSE FEE.

CONSIDER VACATION REQUEST BY CLERK-TREASURER

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE VACATION REQUEST BY CITY CLERK-TREASURER JO EVERSON FOR AUGUST 14TH THROUGH AUGUST 21ST FOR A TOTAL OF 40 HOURS, WITH RETURN TO WORK ON AUGUST 25TH.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE PAYMENT OF CHECK NUMBERS 25727-25764 TALLING \$70,701.49 IN EXPENDITURES, AND CHECK NUMBERS 6467-6477 TALLING \$11,587.55 FOR MARCH PAYROLL.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Larry Julik-Heine reported annual Clean Up Day is Saturday, May 3, 2014.

Mary Murphy reported that the EDC will not meet in April but plans to meet in May.

Ross Rivard reported that the Smelt Fry sponsored by the Taylors Falls Fire Department Relief Association is Saturday, May 3, 2014 from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm (or when out).

Mayor Mike Buchite reminded Council of the Board of Appeals/Review Meeting scheduled at 6:00 pm on Wednesday, April 16th. He also reported that there will be a very important survey sent out to all Taylors Falls' addresses within the next few months. The survey will ask several questions with regard to the future of the Taylors Falls Post Office. An informational meeting is scheduled for June 3rd. It is important that all surveys are returned, if not it is considered a vote to shut down the Post Office. More information will be included in the next TidBits Newsletter.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED IN THE APRIL 14, 2014 CITY COUNCIL MEETING PACKET:

1. LETTER FROM CENTURLINK, RE: 2014 CONSTRUCTION SEASON
2. LETTER FROM VALLEY OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH, RE: CHANGES IN WORK INJURY CLINIC
3. STAFF CORRESPONDENCE & EMAIL'S

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL HELD THIS APRIL 14, 2014. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED: MAY 12, 2014

¹The Shafer Fire Contract was reconsidered _____ at the Shafer Town Board's request.

²The intent of the Council action was to approve the changes in the Zoning Ordinance, which actually must be done by Ordinance. Therefore Ordinance 2014-04-02 was adopted by the Council by the action taken at this meeting.

ORDINANCE 2014-04-02

CITY OF TAYLORS FALLS
CHISAGO COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER ONE – ADMINISTRATION
OF THE TAYLORS FALLS ZONING ORDINANCE

THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL HEREBY ORDAINS THE FOLLOWING TEXT AMENDMENTS
TO THE TAYLORS FALLS ZONING ORDINANCE:

SECTION 2000.018 SIGN REGULATIONS

Subd. 3 Prohibited Signs. No sign shall be erected or maintained:

T.—~~Image video display signs.~~ *Signs which have animation, motion or video.*

Subd. 4 General Provisions. The following requirements shall apply to all signs in all districts.

E. The light from any illuminated sign shall be shaded, shielded or directed so that the light intensity or brightness shall not adversely affect surrounding or facing premises, nor adversely affect the safe vision of operators of vehicles moving on the public or private roads, highways or parking areas. Light shall not shine or reflect on or into residential structures. *Any LED sign must have a brightness control device and shall adjust at the request of the City.*

SECTION 2000.004 “ST” SMALL TOWN DISTRICT

Subd. 6 Existing Neighborhoods and Infill Development.

A. Modifications to the principal structure, *setbacks* shall conform to a performance zoning approach. Generally, the standards established in the “ST” section shall apply, however, some deviations may be allowed subject to documentation of actual conditions of the surrounding properties. Performance zoning involves a standard of measurement that is consistent with the immediate surrounding neighborhood. If existing structures within a block have setbacks different from those required, the minimum setback shall be the average of the adjacent structures. If there is only one (1) adjacent structure, the minimum setback shall be the average of the required setback provided for in Subd. 5 and the setback of the adjacent structure. For example, if an infill lot is to be developed as a single family home, the standards for development are the average of the conditions on existing surrounding properties. If the ordinance requires a thirty (30) foot front yard, but the homes on the block actually average twenty (20) feet, the applicant will be allowed to construct to the average of that block.

SECTION 1000.006 BOARD OF ADJUSTMENTS AND APPEALS

Subd. 1 Creation and Membership. A Board of Adjustments and Appeals is hereby established and vested with such authority as is hereinafter provided and as provided by Minnesota Statutes. The Board shall consist of all members of the City Council. The Zoning Administrator may act as Secretary of the Board. The Board of Adjustments and Appeals shall ~~elect a Chair and Vice Chair from among its members~~ *be chaired by the elected Mayor and in his absence elected Vice Mayor.* It shall adopt rules for the transaction of its business and shall keep a public record of its transactions, findings and determinations.

SECTION 1000.007 VARIANCES

Subd. 2 Notice and Hearing Procedure.

- C. The Zoning Administrator shall determine if the application has been properly filed and is complete. If the application is incomplete, the Zoning Administrator shall send the applicant a letter within fifteen (15) business days of receiving the application stating what items are missing. Upon receiving a complete application, a Public Hearing before the ~~Board of Adjustments and Appeals~~ **Planning Commission** shall then be scheduled to consider said application. Notice of such hearing shall be published in the official newspaper of the City at least ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearing. Written notice shall also be sent to all property owners of record within 350' of the affected property in incorporated areas and unincorporated areas. A copy of the notice and a list of the property owners and addresses and local governments to which the notices were sent shall be attested to by the Zoning Administrator and made part of official record. The failure to give mailed notice to individual property owners or defects in the notice shall not invalidate the proceedings, provided a bonafide attempt to comply with this subdivision has been made.
- D. The ~~Board of Adjustments and Appeals~~ **Planning Commission** shall consider the request at the public hearing. The applicant or a representative thereof, shall appear before the Board of Adjustments and Appeals in order to answer questions concerning the requested variance.
- E. The ~~Board of Adjustments and Appeals~~ **Planning Commission** and staff shall have the authority to request additional information from the applicant or to retain expert testimony, at the expense of the applicant, when said information is declared necessary.
- F. The ~~Board of Adjustments and Appeals~~ **Planning Commission** shall make a finding of fact. Such findings shall be entered in and made a part of the written record of the ~~Board of Adjustments and Appeals~~ **Planning Commission** meeting.
1. Variances - In considering requests for variances, the ~~Board of Adjustments~~ **Planning Commission** shall make a finding of fact as to whether the request meets all of the following cases.
 - e. The variance requested is the minimum variance which would alleviate the hardship. If the variance request meets all of the conditions of items (a) through (e) above, the variance may be granted. Economic considerations alone shall not constitute an undue hardship if reasonable use of the property exists under the terms of the Ordinance. Access to direct sunlight in cases of solar energy systems shall constitute grounds for granting a variance. The ~~Board of Adjustments and Appeals~~ **Planning Commission** may not permit as a variance any use which is not permitted within the zone where the property is located.
- H. Where, in the opinion of the ~~Board of Adjustments and Appeals~~ **Planning Commission**, a variance may result in a material adverse effect on the environment, the applicant may be requested to demonstrate the nature and extent of that effect.
- I. The ~~Board of Adjustments and Appeals~~ **Planning Commission** may impose conditions in the granting of variances to ensure compliance and to protect adjacent properties and the public interest.
- J. **The Planning Commission shall make a finding of fact and recommend actions or conditions relating to the request to the City Council.**

Upon receiving the report and recommendation of the Planning Commission, the City Council shall either:

- 1. Approve or disapprove the request as recommended by the Planning Commission, based upon whether the application meets the requirements stated in the Ordinance.*
- 2. Approve or disapprove the recommendation of the Planning Commission with modifications, alterations, or differing conditions. Such modifications, alterations or differing conditions shall be in writing and made part of the Council's records, or*
- 3. Refer the recommendation back to the Planning Commission for further consideration. This procedure shall be followed only one time on a singular action.*
- 4. Approval of a request shall require passage by a majority vote of the full City Council. The Zoning Administrator shall notify the applicant of the Council's action.*

Subd. 3 Whenever within one (1) year after granting a variance the work as permitted by the variance has not been completed, then such variance shall expire unless a request for extension of time in which to complete the work has been granted by the ~~Board of Adjustments and Appeals~~ **Planning Commission**. Such extension shall be requested in writing and filed with the Zoning Administrator at least thirty (30) days before the expiration of the original variance. There shall be no charge for the filing of such request. The written request for extension shall state facts showing a good faith attempt to complete the work permitted in the variance. The extension may be granted for up to one (1) year. Such request shall be presented to the ~~Board of Adjustments and Appeals~~ **Planning Commission** for a decision, and shall be requested only one time on a singular action.

SECTION 1000.002 DEFINITIONS

Subd. 24 Owner. An individual, partnership, firm, association, syndicate, public or quasi-public corporation, private corporation, trust, other legal entity, or a combination of any of them having legal title to or having sufficient proprietary interest in the land sought to be subdivided to commence subdivision proceedings pursuant to these regulations. *For purposes of public notice definition will incorporate property owner of record.*

SECTION 1000.011 OTHER PERMITS

Subd. 1 Building Permits.

- A. No structure shall be erected, moved in or structurally altered until a zoning *and or building* permit has been issued by the Zoning Administrator, indicating that the existing or proposed structure and the use of the land comply with this Zoning Ordinance.

SECTION 1000.012 SITE PLAN REVIEW

Subd. 1 *A site plan review is required for all* A commercial, industrial, multiple-family housing with three (3) or more dwelling units, or institutional development applications *which* shall be reviewed under the site plan approval process as set forth in this subsection. Site plan review will be coordinated with the review of applications for preliminary plats, rezoning, conditional use permits, and variances.

SECTION 1000.012 SITE PLAN REVIEW

Subd. 8 Financial guarantee. Finance guarantee for *processing of* a site plan is specified in Section 3000.015.

SECTION 2000.033 OUTDOOR WOOD-FIRED BOILER

Subd. 1 Required Permits. Outdoor wood-fired boilers are permitted in the “RC”, “RT” allows for wood gasification or equivalent technologies with a zoning permit, permitted in “ST” through Conditional Use Permit.

Subd. 2 Performance Standards. Outdoor wood-fired boilers must meet all of the following standards

- A. No person may install a new outdoor wood-fired boiler unless it is installed a minimum of 100 feet from the nearest property line.*
- B. No person may install a new outdoor wood-fired boiler unless it has a permanently attached stack with a minimum height of 10 feet above the ground that is installed according to the manufacturer’s specifications.*
- C. No person that operates a new or existing outdoor wood-fired boiler may use fuel other than:
 - a. clean wood*
 - b. wood pellets made from clean wood*
 - c. home heating oil, natural gas, propane or that which complies with all applicable sulfur limits and is used as a starter or supplemental fuel for dual-fired outdoor wood-fired boilers.**
- D. No person may burn any of the following items in an outdoor wood-fired boiler:
 - a. any material not listed in C.*
 - b. treated or painted wood*
 - c. furniture*
 - d. garbage*
 - e. tires*
 - f. lawn clippings or yard waste*
 - g. materials containing plastic*
 - h. material containing rubber*
 - i. waste petroleum products*
 - j. paint and paint thinners*
 - k. chemicals*
 - l. any hazardous waste*
 - m. coal*
 - n. glossy colored paper*
 - o. construction and demolition debris*
 - p. plywood*
 - q. particleboard*
 - r. salt water driftwood*
 - s. manure*
 - t. animal carcasses*
 - u. asphalt products**

SECTION 2000.004 “ST” SMALL TOWN DISTRICT

Subd. 3 Conditional Uses

I. Outdoor Wood Boiler

- a. Wood gasification system or equivalent technologies.*

SECTION 2000.004 “ST” SMALL TOWN DISTRICT

Subd. 3 Conditional Uses. The following Conditional Uses may be permitted through the issuance of a conditional use permit:

I. Hospitals, clinics, nursing homes and similar institutions.

Subd. 5 New Neighborhoods (subdivisions) in “ST” District.

4. Nursing homes and similar institutions shall have a density ratio of 12 units per acre.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON APRIL 14, 2014
PUBLISHED IN THE CHISAGO COUNTY PRESS APRIL 24, 2014

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer

ORDINANCE 2014-04-01

**CITY OF TAYLORS FALLS
CHISAGO COUNTY
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**AN ORDINANCE ADDING SECTION 348 – CHICKENS
TO CHAPTER 3, MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS AND LICENSING
TAYLORS FALLS CODE OF ORDINANCES**

THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL HEREBY ORDAINS THAT THE FOLLOWING SECTION SHALL BE ADDED TO CHAPTER 3, MUNICIPAL REGULATIONS AND LICENSING OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CODE OF ORDINANCES:

348.01 Definitions. As used in this subdivision, the following definitions shall apply:

Chicken means a domesticated bird that serves as a source of eggs or meat.

Coop means the structure for the keeping or housing of chickens permitted by the Ordinance.

Hen means a female chicken.

Permit means a Back Yard Chicken Permit.

Permit Fee means a fee which shall be paid and filed with the permit and/or renewal permit application, and which shall be established by City Council Resolution.

Representative of the City means a person employed by the City of Taylors Falls.

Rooster means a male chicken.

Run means a fully enclosed and covered area attached to a coop where the chickens can roam unsupervised.

Substrate means the base of the chicken coop/run.

348.02 Backyard Chicken Permit required.

Subd. 1 Ownership. It is unlawful for any person to keep, harbor, maintain, possess, or otherwise control any chicken within the City, except:

- A. In an area zoned as Rural Countryside; or
- B. Pursuant to a permit issued by the City under this subdivision on a parcel of record Residential Transitional or Small Town with a single family detached dwelling only.

Subd. 2 Approval of Adjoining Properties. The City may grant a permit for chickens after the applicant has obtained written consent of one hundred (100%) percent of the owners and occupants of privately or publicly owned real estate that are located immediately adjacent (i.e., sharing property lines) on the outer boundaries of the premises for which the permit is being requested. Where an adjacent property consists of a multiple dwelling or multi-tenant property, the applicant need obtain only the written consent of the owner or manager or other person in charge of the building. Such written consent shall be required on the initial application and as often thereafter as the City deems

Subd. 3 Exempt Properties. Properties two (2) acres or more in size are exempt from the written approval requirement if there remains a minimum of two-hundred (200') feet between the property line and the proposed coop and run.

348.03 Application. An application for the permit shall be filed with the City Clerk upon a form furnished by the City. The permit fee shall be paid and filed with the permit application. A permit issued shall be for duration of one year, from May 1st to April 30th. The permit application shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

1. The full name and address of the following persons:
 - (a) The applicant.
 - (b) The owner(s) of the property on which chickens are to be kept and for which the permit would apply.
2. If the applicant is not the only fee owner of the premises on which the chickens are to be kept and for which the permit would apply, the application shall be signed by all fee owners of the premises.
3. The street address of the property on which chickens are to be kept.
4. The number of chickens and breed of chickens to be kept.
5. A detailed site plan of the property showing the location and size of the proposed coop and run, setbacks from the chicken coop to property lines and surrounding buildings (including houses and buildings on adjacent lots), and the location style, and height of fencing proposed to contain the chickens in a run or exercise area. Portable coops and cages are allowed, but portable locations must be included with the site plan.
6. A Self-Inspection Checklist form for the applicant to complete, verifying that each requirement of this Ordinance have been complied with, which includes statements that the applicant will at all times keep the chickens in accordance with the conditions prescribed by the City, or modification thereof, and that failure to obey such conditions will constitute a violation of the provisions of this chapter and grounds for cancellation of the permit.
7. Any other and further information as the City deems necessary.

348.04 Granting or Denying Issuance of Permit.

Subd. 1 Prior to Issuance. The Applicant for the permit to Keep Backyard Chickens must acknowledge that they have read the “Backyard Chicken Basics” obtainable from the University of Minnesota Extension, <http://www.extension.umn.edu/food/small-farms/livestock/poultry/backyard-chicken-basics/> (or attached), and viewed the three short videos entitled Raising Chickens #1: setting up the space, Raising Chickens #2: moving chicks into the space, and Raising Chickens #3: supplemental heat, viewable at <http://www.extension.umn.edu/food/small-farms/livestock/poultry/> .

Subd. 2 Granting Permit. The permit may be issued by the City Clerk following the initial inspection by a City Representative, who shall inspect the location and construction of the chicken coop and run as illustrated on the permit application to ensure compliance with the requirements of this Ordinance.

Subd. 3 Denying Permit. The City Clerk may deny a permit hereunder for any of the following reasons:

1. The application is incomplete or contains false, fraudulent or deceptive statements.
2. The signed Self-Inspection Checklist form was not attached to the application form.
3. The applicant does not or has not complied with one or more of the provisions of this subdivision.
4. The applicant or owner of the premises where the chickens are to be kept has been convicted of a violation under this subdivision or under any state or local law governing cruelty to animals or the keeping of animals.
5. The applicant is not the owner of the chickens proposed to be kept on the premises.
6. The applicant is not the occupant of the premises for which the permit is to be issued.

348.04 Subd. 4 Renewal Permit. The City Clerk may issue a renewal permit upon receipt of the following:

1. Submission of the Renewal Permit Application.
2. Submission of the Self-Inspection Checklist form which verifies the number of birds, the condition of the roof, coop, fencing, and substrate, and that all other requirements of this Ordinance have been complied with.
3. Submission of a dated photo validating the information submitted on the renewal permit application and Self-Inspection Checklist form.
4. The renewal fee.

Subd. 5 Transferability of permit. A permit issued hereunder shall be nontransferable. It is unlawful to keep, harbor, maintain, possess, or otherwise control any chicken on property that is not identified on the permit.

348.05 Regulations. The keeping, harboring, maintaining, or possessing of any chicken under a permit issued pursuant to this subdivision shall be in accordance with the following:

1. No more than six (6) chickens shall be kept on the premises.
2. Roosters are prohibited.
3. Slaughtering of chickens is prohibited on the premises.
4. No chickens shall be kept, maintained, housed or permitted inside any residential dwelling or any garage.
5. No chicken shall be permitted to run at large. The term "run at large" is defined as any chicken freely roaming outside of a secure and proper boundary fenced coop and run.
6. Chickens shall not be kept in such a manner as to disturb the peace and quiet of the City or to otherwise become a public or private nuisance so as to annoy, injure or endanger the health, safety, comfort or repose of the public.

7. No chicken eggs shall be sold or offered for sale; all chicken eggs shall be for personal use or consumption.
8. All grains and feed for the chickens shall be stored inside a structure in a rodent and vermin-proof container.
9. Dead chickens must be disposed of according to the Minnesota Board of Animal Health rules, which require chicken carcasses to be disposed of as soon as possible after death, usually within forty-eight (48) to seventy-two (72) hours. Legal forms of chicken carcass disposal include offsite burial, off site incineration or rendering, or offsite composting.

348.06 Chicken coop and run required. A chicken coop and run are required to house the chickens.

Subd. 1 Coops. Coops must be constructed and maintained to meet the following minimum standards:

1. The chicken coop shall be setback at least ten (10') feet from the rear lot line and at least ten (10') feet from the side lot lines. The chicken coop and run, or any portion thereof, shall not be located in the front yard, which is defined as any area located between the front lot line and the front setback line or front building line, whichever is further from the front lot line, running from side lot line to side lot line.
2. No chicken coop or run, or any portion thereof, shall be located within twenty-five (25') feet of the outer perimeter of any inhabitable building.
3. The interior floor space of the chicken coop shall be a minimum size of five (5) square feet for each chicken, and an interior height of six (6) feet to allow access for cleaning and maintenance.
4. The exterior finish materials of the chicken coop shall be weather-resistant, protective covering material, decay-resistant wood, or if exterior finish wood is not decay resistant, then the wood finish shall be protected from the elements and decay by paint or protective covering (e.g., siding, fascia wrap).
5. The construction of, and materials used, for the chicken coop and run, must be stored adequately to prevent access by rodents, vermin, and predators.
6. The chicken coop and run shall be kept in a sanitary and odor-free condition, including the regular and frequent removal and proper disposal of any accumulated chicken feces or waste, dirt or filth that could create a safety or health hazard, and devoid of all rodents and vermin.
7. The chicken coop shall be immediately removed within ten (10) days if a permit granted under this subdivision expires or is revoked.

Subd. 2 Runs. Runs must be constructed and maintained to meet the following minimum standards:

1. The chicken run shall be setback at least ten (10') feet from the rear lot line and at least ten (10') feet from the side lot lines. The chicken coop and run, or any portion thereof, shall not be located in the front yard, which is defined as any area located between the front lot line and the front setback line or front building line, whichever is further from the front lot line, running from side lot line to side lot line.

2. The run shall be a minimum of ten (10') square feet per bird. If the coop is elevated two (2') feet so the hens can access the space beneath, that area may count as a portion of the minimum run footprint.
3. The coop's attached pen must be securely constructed with at least a mesh type material and shall have protective over-head netting to keep the chickens in and the predators out. The attached pen must be well drained so there is no accumulation of moisture.
4. The chicken run shall be kept in a sanitary and odor-free condition, including the regular and frequent removal and proper disposal of any accumulated chicken feces or waste, dirt or filth that could create a safety or health hazard, and devoid of all rodents and vermin.
5. The substrate shall be composed of material that can be easily raked or regularly replaced to reduce odor and flies.
6. The run shall be immediately removed if a permit granted under this subdivision expires or is revoked.

348.07 Revocation of permit.

1. All complaints received by the City shall be investigated. If found that a violation of a provision of this Ordinance exists, and if the violation is significant in nature, it may constitute grounds for the revocation of a permit. A revoked permit may not be re-issued for a period of one (1) year.
2. Any person, whose permit has been revoked, shall within ten (10) days thereafter, humanely dispose of all chickens being owned, kept or harbored by such person, and no part of the permit fee shall be refunded.
3. Any person found to be in violation shall reimburse the City for all costs borne by the City to enforce the conditions of the permit including but not limited to the pickup and impounding of the chickens.

348.08 Severability If any section or provision of this Ordinance is declared by the courts to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the Ordinance as a whole, or any part thereof, other than the part so declared to be unconstitutional or invalid.

348.09 Effective Date. This Ordinance shall be effective upon its passage and publication according to law.

ADOPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON APRIL 14, 2014
PUBLISHED IN THE CHISAGO COUNTY PRESS APRIL 24, 2014

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

TAYLORS FALLS, MINNESOTA



April 8, 2014

Mr. Jamie Bennett
Executive Director
ArtPlace America
New York, NY

Dear Mr. Bennett,

I write to you today to express full support of the application being submitted to the Artplace America program by Franconia Sculpture Park to fund *Big Art Here*, a unique arts project designed to transform the visual landscape of our community.

The City of Taylors Falls is a core partner in the *Big Art Here* project and given our history of partnering with Franconia Sculpture Park as well as their work as the major cultural attraction in the area, we are in full support of Franconia providing leadership for this exciting project. *Big Art Here* has goals to create a distinct sense of place and increase vibrancy in our community through twelve artist-led, place-based public art projects.

Taylors Falls is a small, historic village nestled amongst the bluffs of the St. Croix River that, while small in size (pop. 976), is huge in heart, with citizens who frequently boast of small town pride. Our community is inextricably connected to the St. Croix River and the surrounding countryside, a place of unique natural and scenic splendor, and of history and small town character. *Big Art Here* will support the City of Taylors Falls goals in enlivening areas that are languishing, in particular “dead” areas in main streets, underutilized parks with unlimited potential, and historic sites, invigorating these community spaces with activity and people, and driving economic activity in our town. By fostering community dialogue and participation, *Big Art Here* will reenergize these community spaces with visible, place-based artist-led public art projects to elevate the historical, cultural, and ecological distinctiveness of the Upper St. Croix Valley region, and our community in particular.

To use a specific example, one of the project sites identified in Taylors Falls is the scenic Riverwalk Park along the St. Croix River, highly accessible from our ‘Main Street.’ This park provides pedestrian access to the banks of the river and the entrance to Interstate Park (a Minnesota State Park). However, the park is significantly underutilized by residents and visitors because it lacks recognition. Working with an artist to develop a community-based project specifically for Riverwalk Park will help create a visual anchor for the site, develop buzz for the park, and encourage residents and visitors to make use of the public space. Since the park is accessible from the downtown district, we hope to increase pedestrian traffic to local shops and restaurants.

MICHAEL D. BUCHITE, MAYOR
CITY OF TAYLORS FALLS
637 FIRST STREET
TAYLORS FALLS, MN 55084-1144

Big Art Here supports goals identified in the City's Comprehensive Plan of Conservation and Development to activate community places that celebrate the history and character of Taylors Falls, places where residents and visitors will gather in a place that celebrates our heritage and our environment. This project will help the City achieve key goals such as: 1) increasing walkability and vibrancy on main streets, 2) activating underused public spaces to bring them to their full potential, 3) celebrating the unique character and heritage of Taylors Falls, and 4) attracting and retaining a diverse citizenry. The project represents our firm belief that the Taylors Falls community will welcome change if it respects the special qualities of this place.

As a core partner of this project, the City of Taylors Falls fully supports the application to ArtPlace America in support of *Big Art Here*. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

MICHAEL D. BUCHITE, MAYOR
CITY OF TAYLORS FALLS
637 FIRST STREET
TAYLORS FALLS, MN 55084-1144

**RESOLUTION 14-04-01
CITY OF TAYLORS FALLS
COUNTY OF CHISAGO
STATE OF MINNESOTA**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE CHISAGO COUNTY
HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING PROCESS AND EXECUTION OF SUB-GRANT AGREEMENT**

WHEREAS, the County of Chisago (hereinafter referred to as "County") is participating in a hazard mitigation planning process as established under the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, the Act establishes a framework for the development of a multi-jurisdictional hazard mitigation plan; and

WHEREAS, the Act as part of the planning process requires public involvement and local coordination among neighboring local units of government and business; and

WHEREAS, the plan must include a risk assessment including past hazards, hazards that threaten the County, maps of hazards, an estimate of structures at risk, estimate of potential dollar losses for each hazard, a general description of land uses and future development trends; and

WHEREAS, the plan must include a mitigation strategy including goals and objectives and an action plan identifying specific mitigation projects and costs; and

WHEREAS, the plan must include a maintenance or implementation process including plan updates, integration of plan into other planning documents and how the County will maintain public participation and coordination; and

WHEREAS, the draft plan will be shared with the State of Minnesota and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for coordination of state and federal review and comment on the draft; and

WHEREAS, approval of the hazard mitigation plan will make the County eligible to receive Hazard Mitigation Assistance grants as they become available;

SO THEREFORE BE RESOLVED by the Taylors Falls City Council that it hereby approves a sub-grant agreement with the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management of the Minnesota Department of Public Safety for the program entitled Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) for the development or update of the Chisago County Hazard Mitigation plan.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and City Clerk are hereby authorized to execute and sign such sub-grant agreements and any amendments hereto as are necessary to implement the plan on behalf of Chisago County.

APPROVED THIS 14th DAY OF JANUARY, 2014

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer