

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, APRIL 23, 2012 – 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, April 18, 2012 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 23, 2012 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.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Buchite, Ross Rivard, John Tangen, Mary Jo Murphy

MEMBERS ABSENT: Larry Julik-Heine

OTHERS PRESENT: Clerk-Treasurer Jo Everson, Denise Martin from the Chisago County Press, and T.A. Doughty-St.Hilaire from the Ledger Publications

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Agenda was amended to include under New Business: **Consider EDC's Recommendation To Pay Archway Additional Expenses.**

MOTION BY TANGEN/MURPHY TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED, FOR THE APRIL 23, 2012 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION BY MURPHY/RIVARD TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: CONSIDER 2012 SOLID WASTE PERMIT FOR EVERGREEN RECYCLING; CONSIDER TEMPORARY BEER LICENSE FOR ALEMELUND LION'S CLUB; CONSIDER AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A WAL*MART GRANT APPLICATION; CONSIDER EDC'S RECOMMENDATION TO PAY ARCHWAY ADDITIONAL EXPENSES; CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

STAFF REQUESTS

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Consider Training Request. Public Works Maintenance Worker Bill Neska needs training hours in order to retain his sewer license. MOTION BY RIVARD/TANGEN TO APPROVE THE REQUEST BY THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT FOR BILL NESKA TO ATTEND THE 2012 WASTEWATER OPERATOR TRAINING, SPONSORED BY THE MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY, AT THE BEST WESTERN INN IN NORTH MANKATO, MINNESOTA, AT A COST OF \$300.00 AND \$254.97 FOR HOTEL EXPENSES, TO BE PAID FROM THE SEWER FUND (602). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDER AWARDING BID FOR WATER STANDPIPE REHABILITATION PROJECT

On Thursday, April 19th, six bids were opened by City Engineer Steve Heth, from Bolton & Menk, Inc. for the 150,000 Gallon Water Standpipe Rehabilitation Project. The total unit price bid amounts ranged from \$137,850.00 to \$287,550.00. The low bid amount was submitted by Tri-State Coatings of Wadena, Minnesota. At the time of bid opening, it was unknown if the project would require a full containment system (which is required for containing lead based paint during sandblasting of an existing coating system whenever the lead concentration is measured above the hazardous threshold concentration level). Testing of the paint chip samples revealed the lead contents were significantly less than the level of hazardous contamination. Therefore the lowest bid was reduced from \$137,850.00 to \$122,850.00 based upon the per unit price item for the unnecessary containment system.

MOTION BY MURPHY/RIVARD TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION FROM BOLTON & MENK, INC. AND AWARD THE BID FROM TRI-STATE COATINGS, AT A COST OF \$137,850.00 (LESS \$15,000.00 FOR DEDUCTION OF THE CONTAINMENT SYSTEM), FOR THE 150,000 GALLON WATER STANDPIPE REHABILITATION PROJECT, WITH A SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION DATE OF JUNE 29, 2012. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The Clerk-Treasurer was directed to research financing options for the project and provide her recommendation to the Council at their next meeting.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 12-04-03 APPROVING A GAMBLING PREMISE PERMIT

The organization called The Aliveness Project submitted an application for a Premise Permit from the Minnesota Lawful Gambling Control Board to conduct charitable gambling at the Border Bar & Grill. The mission for the Organization is to encourage self-empowerment and provide direct services for persons living with HIV/AIDS. In 2011, it provided programs and services to 1,602 individuals in Minnesota, at no cost to the individual.

The Organization requested the Council waive the contribution requirement in Section 350.08, of the Taylors Falls Code of Ordinances which require that *“the organization expend no less than fifty percent of its lawful expenditures of funds derived from gambling activities for the direct benefit of citizens living, working or learning with the “local trace area”*. They indicate that approximately 10% of the individuals they serve live in the greater Minnesota with several members in Chisago County. Gaming funds are used to support the general operating (programs & services) of The Aliveness Project.

The Council discussed the repercussions if the City were to waive the contribution requirement for this Organization, recognizing that other organizations may follow suit and request the same. The City has never reduced the requirement in the past, nevertheless the Council agreed that the City should consider similar requests on a case-by-case basis.

Council Member Ross Rivard suggested that rather than waive the requirement, the Council should consider reducing the contribution percentage from 50% to 25%. Rivard further explained that the Border Bar & Grill has a difficult time retaining Charitable Gambling Organizations, so this change might provide an incentive for them to stay longer.

MOTION BY RIVARD/TANGEN TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 12-04-03, AS AMENDED, AUTHORIZING THE MINNESOTA GAMBLING CONTROL BOARD TO ISSUE A CLASS B PREMISE PERMIT TO THE BORDER BAR & GRILL, 367 BENCH STREET, TAYLORS FALLS, MINNESOTA, IN ORDER FOR THE ALIVENESS PROJECT GAMING TO CONDUCT LAWFUL GAMBLING ON SAID PREMISES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (attached)

CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM RIVARD LAWN & LANDSCAPING

Rivard Lawn & Landscaping have provided lawn care services in Taylors Falls since 2008. They have submitted a proposal for 2012 that would include a \$10.00 increase in fees as well as a 5% fuel surcharge *“until [fuel] prices return to an economical level”*. Mayor Buchite requested this agenda item

be tabled in order to allow Public Works Superintendent Mike Kriz to evaluate what (or if) properties should be included in the Rivard proposal.

MOTION BY MURPHY/TANGEN TO TABLE FURTHER ACTION ON THE CONTRACT WITH RIVARD LAWN & LANDSCAPING TO PROVIDE LAWN CARE AND LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT IN TAYLORS FALLS FOR THE 2012 SEASON, UNTIL THE MAY 14, 2012 COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER AUTHORIZING STAFF TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR OUTDOOR SIREN

With the State of Minnesota mandating the change in emergency frequencies to narrow banding, the City must upgrade or replace its existing outdoor siren system so that it is compatible with the new warning system. The Mayor recommended that Council Members John Tangen and Ross Rivard work with Staff to determine what equipment would actually be needed. The installation must be completed prior to June 26th, because this is the date the 800 MHz goes live.

MOTION BY TANGEN/RIVARD TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR THE UPGRADE OF THE CITY'S EXISTING OUTDOOR SIREN TO RECEIVE NARROW BAND SIGNALS FROM CHISAGO COUNTY DISPATCH, OR IN THE ALTERNATIVE, REPLACE THE EXISTING SIREN IF NECESSARY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER AUTHORIZING STAFF TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR WETLAND DELINEATION

Wetland delineation is a requirement under the Clean Water act to establish the boundary between wetlands and uplands. The route of the proposed Valley View Trail includes a questionable wetland area that must be delineated before any work can be performed on the site. Jeff Fertig, Chisago County Wetland Specialist, provided a list of available Certified Wetland Delineators. Once the area is delineated and mapped by the Minnesota Wetland Conservation Act, the Notice of Decision is valid permanently.

There may be a possibility that the City cannot go forward with the project if the costs are excessive. In that event, the City would need to decline the two grants that have been awarded (but not paid yet). This determination will be made at a later date.

MOTION BY MURPHY/RIVARD TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO SOLICIT BIDS FOR THE WETLAND DELINEATION OF APPROXIMATELY 1,500' ON THE ROUTE OF THE PROPOSED VALLEY VIEW TRAIL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER SOLID WASTE PERMIT FOR EVERGREEN RECYCLING

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA, A ONE-DAY SOLID WASTE LICENSE FOR SATURDAY, MAY 5, 2012 TO EVERGREEN RECYCLING, INC., WAIVING THE \$150.00 FEE SINCE HE IS PROVIDING A SERVICE TO THE CITY RESIDENTS DURING CLEAN-UP DAY. IF EVERGREEN CONTINUES TO DO BUSINESS IN TAYLORS FALLS, HE WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY THE \$150.00 ANNUAL LICENSE FEE.

CONSIDER TEMPORARY BEER LICENSE FOR ALEMELUND LIONS CLUB

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE ISSUANCE OF AN ON-SALE TEMPORARY BEER LICENSE TO BE ALMELUND LIONS CLUB, FOR THE MAY 5, 2012 TAYLORS FALLS RELIEF ASSOCIATION SMELT FRY AND FOR THE JULY 14, 2012 WANNIGAN DAY "TUG ACROSS THE ST. CROIX RIVER."

CONSIDER AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A WAL*MART GRANT

THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT AGENDA FOR TANA HAVUMAKI, CHAIR OF THE TAYLORS FALLS PARK & REC COMMISSION, TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION TO WAL*MART, FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CONTINUE THE TAYLORS FALLS SUMMER KID'S PROGRAM.

CONSIDER EDC'S RECOMMENDATION TO PAY ARCHWAY ADDITIONAL EXPENSES

The Economic Development Commission has been working with an Eagle Scout who is rebuilding the archway(s) to the Riverwalk Trail. The Council authorized up to \$500.00 for expenses, with the

Stipulation that the Scout was to obtain outside funding as part of his award. The supplies needed for the archway exceeded the \$500.00 approved, but was necessary to finish the project. The EDC has recommended the Council approve the expense, to be taken from their operating budget fund (230).

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE RECOMMENDATION FROM THE TAYLORS FALLS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TO PAY THE ADDITIONAL \$38.12 EXPENSE FOR THE RIVERWALK TRAIL ARCHWAY EXPENSES, TO BE PAID FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OPERATING FUND (230).

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

John Tangen reminded Council of the Fire Department's Annual Smelt Fry on Saturday, May 5th.

Ross Rivard reported the Public Works Department would be presenting bids for sewer lining and street work at the next Council meeting.

Mary Jo Murphy reported that the EDC reviewed its initial "visions" of the Commission. The archway to the Riverwalk Trail is scheduled to be placed by Memorial Day. The second archway should be up by the fall. Randy Thoreson from the National Park Service is assisting with the design and specifications for the trail signs.

Mayor Mike Buchite reported he had met with officials of Chisago County to discuss the on-going issues with the 800 MHz radios and annual subscriber fees. He explained to the Council and the reporters in the audience that Taylors Falls had received two grants to purchase the radios, a \$31,729.51 SHSP grant, and \$16,380.00 from a USDA grant that required \$1,872.22 in matching funds from the City. With Chisago County finalizing their purchases for the entire County, we learned that they have purchased radios for Taylors Falls as well, despite the fact they were aware that we had been awarded the grant(s). In order to pay for the radios, Chisago County intends to levy dollars through property taxes from every property in the County. In essence, Taylors Falls would then be paying twice for the radios, first through the acquisition of grants, secondly through property taxes. The Mayor indicated that this fact does not sit well with him nor should it to the members of the City Council. Taylors Falls was the only City in Chisago County to obtain grants, and it seems the City might be penalized for doing so.

The Mayor further explained that Chisago County is pressuring the City to finalize and sign the Communications System Subscriber Agreement. The Agreement describes the subscriber fees that will be charged, which include radio and equipment fees, site electricity, site generator fuel, employee costs (including salary and benefits) for programming, software updates, and technical support, and other staff-related costs, system test equipment, and other site costs, including insurance costs. Every radio in the system that is narrow band compliant will be charged \$480.00 per radio each year. The fees for Taylors Falls equal \$7,680.00 annually. Taylors Falls is the only City in Chisago County who has not signed the Agreement.

Taylors Falls has been negotiating with Chisago County regarding the radio purchases, the Grants, and the subscriber fees. Several options were discussed at the first meeting. The County's solution is to take ownership of the radios, with a slightly lower subscriber fee per radio, but does not recognize or compensate the City for the grant awards. This arrangement does not represent the best interests of the taxpayers of Taylors Falls. The second option presented by Taylor Falls is one that we feel is a good alternative. Chisago County takes ownership of the radios, and in lieu of the annual subscriber fees, the grant money would become a line of credit from which the annual fees are deducted. There is no exchange of money, and taxpayers from Taylors Falls would not receive an unfair tax increase for any radio costs (until the credit line has been expended). The Mayor indicated that we believe this is an equitable solution to the issue, although Chisago County does not agree. Staff has been corresponding with the grant entities to question what the City can do at this point. Another meeting is scheduled for Thursday of this week. He assured the Council that any final decision and/or action would need Council approval.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED THE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE APRIL 23, 2012 COUNCIL PACKET:

1. CORRESPONDENCE FROM LMC, RE: 2012 WORKER'S COMPENSATION DIVIDEND
2. STAFF CORRESPONDENCE & EMAIL'S

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY MURPHY/TANGEN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE APRIL 23, 2012 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED: MAY 14, 2012

RESOLUTION 12-04-02

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

**A RESOLUTION CONFIRMING THE 2012 ELECTION OF OFFICERS
FOR THE TAYLORS FALLS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT**

WHEREAS Minnesota Statutes and the Taylors Falls City Ordinance requires City Council confirmation of the Fire Department's election of officers;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Taylors Falls City Council that it hereby approves the following 2012 officers of the Taylors Falls Volunteer Fire Department;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the pay for such offices shall be as indicated:

<u>POSITION</u>	<u>OFFICER</u>	<u>ANNUAL PAY</u>
FIRE CHIEF	Al Rivard	\$1,400.00
ASSISTANT CHIEFS	Mike Erding	\$800.00
	Sheldon Magnuson	\$800.00
CAPTAINS	Jeremy Hansen	\$200.00
	Kyle Rivard	\$200.00
TRAINING OFFICERS	Carl Ostling	\$200.00
	Jake Vodenka-Reed	\$200.00
PRESIDENT	Jerry Waltman	\$250.00
SECRETARY	Matt Carlson	\$175.00
TREASURER	Chad Miller	\$250.00
AIR PACK MAINTENANCE	Luke Miller	\$175.00
FIREFIGHTERS	Drills & Meetings	\$8.00
	Fire Calls	\$14.00

ADOPTED ON APRIL 9, 2012

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

ATTEST:

Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer

Wal-Mart
Grant Request
April 15, 2012

The City of Taylors Falls, through its Parks and Recreation Commission is requesting assistance from Wal-Mart to continue operation of its "Summer Kids' Program" (SKP).

The SKP began as a four week pilot project in the summer of 2010, offering a three hour afternoon program on Tuesdays and Thursdays with fun activities, play time and special guest speakers/demonstrators providing a variety of experiences designed not only for enjoyment, but also offering learning opportunities for the children. Programs like this are instrumental to a child's development, as school learning retention drops substantially during the three month break. SKP was set up for local youth in 1st through 5th grades.

Initially, the program directors were teachers' aides from Taylors Falls' Elementary School, but, in 2011, Bob Zemlin, a credentialed teacher, was hired to run the program, which he expanded to eight weeks in June and July, again on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mr. Zemlin's parents served as unpaid assistants.

Mr. Zemlin has expanded the scope of the SKP, with the children engaging in more activities available than offered before. One of the major projects he initiated was movie making, from beginning to end. The children not only helped write the movie, but also designed and painted the sets, provided costumes, served as assistant directors and other staff, and starred in the production. While working on this, the children learned how much work is involved in producing a movie or television show, albeit on a small scale. Each child received a CD of the finished production, one of which is attached for your viewing pleasure!

In addition to all the activities, a healthy snack is offered each day.

The number of children varies each session from a low of 7 to a high of 34. Each child has been charged \$1.00 each day of attendance to help cover supply costs and refreshments.

This is the only afternoon program offered in Taylors Falls, and is much appreciated by both the kids and parents.

The City of Taylors Falls offers the Community Center free of charge for this program.

Budget
Summer Kids' Program

Teacher- 17 sessions @ \$12.50 per hour; 4 hours per session (includes prep time and clean up)	\$ 850.00
Supplies and refreshments	\$ 250.00
Stipend for assistants	<u>\$ 400.00</u>
Total Request	\$1500.00

Contact Information:

**Mike Buchite, Mayor, City of Taylors Falls, 637 First Street, Taylors Falls, MN 55084
651-465-5133
Tana Havumaki, Chair, Parks and Recreation Commission, 531 Chestnut St., Taylors Falls,
MN 55084 651-465-0353**

