

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2012 - 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, November 7, 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 Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at 6:55 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 637 First Street, Taylors Falls, Minnesota.

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 6:55 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, Mary Jo Murphy

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer

CANVASSING ELECTION RESULT

The purpose of this portion of the meeting was to canvass the election results for City offices voted upon at the general election held on Tuesday, November 6, 2012. There were 544 voters and 37 absentee voters.

MOTION BY MURPHY/RIVARD TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 12-11-01A AND RESOLUTION 12-11-01B TO CERTIFY RESULTS OF THE TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2012 GENERAL ELECTION IN TAYLORS FALLS, WITH MIKE BUCHITE RECEIVING THE HIGHEST VOTES FOR THE POSITION OF MAYOR AND LARRY JULIK-HEINE AND JOHN TANGEN RECEIVING THE HIGHEST VOTES FOR THE POSITIONS AS COUNCIL MEMBERS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (attached)

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS PRESENTED, FOR THE NOVEMBER 13, 2012 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION BY RIVARD/TANGEN TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON OCTOBER 8 AND OCTOBER 22, 2012; STAFF REPORTS; COMMISSION, BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS; CONSIDER AUTHORIZING PAYMENT TO INDUSTRIAL SAFETY, INC. FOR A FIRE DEPARTMENT EXPENSE; CONSIDER ADDITIONAL EXPENSES FOR GULLY RESTORATION PROJECT; APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL; AND CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

STAFF REPORTS & REQUESTS

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE OCTOBER 2012 FINANCIAL REPORTS PRESENTED BY CLERK-TREASURER JO EVERSON.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE OCTOBER 2012 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT REPORT PRESENTED BY SUPERINTENDENT MIKE KRIZ.

PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE OCTOBER 2012 PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT REPORT PRESENTED BY COORDINATOR-ZONING ADMINISTRATOR ADAM BERKLUND.

CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA SERGEANT SHANE CARROLL'S OCTOBER, 2012 CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

CITY ATTORNEY

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE OCTOBER 2012 BILLING STATEMENT FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE OF KELLY AND LEMMONS, P.A.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER 2012 FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORTS PRESENTED BY FIRE CHIEF AL RIVARD.

COMMISSION, BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS

LIBRARY BOARD

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE LIBRARY BOARD MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 23, 2012.

PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE PARK & REC COMMISSION MEETING HELD ON SEPTEMBER 19, 2012.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

UPDATE FROM TAYLORS FALLS ICE SKATING RINK GROUP

Mark Clasen, Jerry Waltman, and Tim Fusco, founding members of the non-profit Taylors Falls Ice Skating Rink Group, provided an update to the Council. Since the rink was moved in 2006 from the Cherry Hill Park to the Elementary School site, its use has expanded to over 40 users at one time. The Group has an agreement with the Chisago Lakes Hockey Association for them to use the rink weekly. They have also offered lessons on How to Skate and Introduction to Hockey through the Community Ed program. The Group has raised over \$20,000.00 in donations and estimate that \$45,000.00 of value has been accomplished with these monies and with the help of volunteers.

The Group requested financial assistance with their annual operating budget of \$1,500.00, which pays for the lights, propane to heat the warming house, and costs of maintaining the rink.

Mayor Mike Buchite expressed his support of the Group and all that they have accomplished. However, he explained that the 2013 budget did not allow for improvements to Cherry Hill Park despite the request from the Park & Rec Commission. As such, he could not support increasing property taxes in order to fund their request regardless of how worthy the project. The Mayor further explained that the City receives several funding requests from groups that have very worthy projects and unfortunately they also go unfunded.

Council Member Ross Rivard commented that the guide recommended by the City Attorney and State Auditor's Office require that if a City contributed to a project, it must benefit the majority of the City taxpayers. He agreed that the rink is a great source of recreation for the kids, but it serves a very s

mall percentage of those that live in Taylors Falls. When the City had Charitable Gambling contributions the City could donate to this cause, as it did in 2007 when \$1,500.00 was donated toward the costs for lining of the rink.

Other Council Members agreed that the cause is worthy yet also could not support raising taxes. It was suggested that the Group submit their request during the budgeting process in 2013 for the year 2014. They were encouraged to partner with the Park & Rec Commission for possible future funding as well as seek corporate grants.

MOTION BY MURPHY/TANGEN TO DENY THE FUNDING REQUEST FROM THE TAYLORS FALLS ICE SKATING RINK GROUP FOR MAINTENANCE COSTS TO THE HOCKEY ICE RINK LOCATED AT THE TAYLORS FALLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AGREEING TO RECONSIDER THE REQUEST DURING THE 2014 BUDGETING PROCESS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM CERT FOR [ADDITIONAL] TRAINING EXPENSES

The CERT members will conclude their training on Saturday, November 17th with a course in Fire Suppression and cumulating in a mock disaster. Extinguishers will be needed as well as items to complete the donated CERT packs from the Minnesota Homeland Security.

Co-Civil Defense Director and Council Member John Tangen explained that once the CERT training is done, and a management team appointed, the Council will need to look at possibly dissolving the Task Force.

MOTION BY TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO PURCHASE SUPPLIES NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM PACKS AND TO PURCHASE FIRE EXTINGUISHERS NEEDED FOR THE UPCOMING MOCK DISASTER DRILL, PAYABLE FROM THE GENERAL FUND CASH RESERVES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER ACCEPTING GRANT FROM THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

In September Taylors Falls was awarded a Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage grant in the amount of \$18,011.00 for the Taylors Falls Public Library Restoration project. A Grant Agreement and Letter of Agreement Governing Use of an Historic Site Minnesota Historical Society must be signed. The Project may begin November 1, 2012, and must be completed by June 1, 2014.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO ACCEPT THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$18,011.00 FROM THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, AND FURTHER TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND CLERK'S SIGNATURES ON THE LETTER OF AGREEMENT GOVERNING USE OF [THE TAYLORS FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY] HISTORIC SITE, AND THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE GRANT AGREEMENT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (on file)

CONSIDER REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM WINTER PARKING

On behalf of the St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Council Member Larry Julik-Heine requested that the City exempt two parking spots on River Street from the winter parking regulations that require that require no parking on streets during November 1st to April 15th. The Church has Adoration hours from 2 pm on Friday to 6 am on Saturday which is during the no parking period. If snow plowing would be necessary it was agreed that they would move the cars to park at the Church Rectory. The Clerk will issue two parking permits that should be displayed while parking.

MOTION BY MURPHY/TANGEN TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM THE ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH TO WAIVE THE WINTER PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON TWO PARKING STALLS ON RIVER STREET FOR CHURCH ATTENDANCE REASONS, WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE CARS WILL BE MOVED IN THE EVENT OF A SNOW STORM.

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED TO ALLOW THIS EXEMPTION ON AN ANNUAL BASIS WITHOUT THE NEED FOR THE ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH TO MAKE AN OFFICIAL REQUEST TO THE COUNCIL.

MOTIONS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER ADDITIONAL EXPENSE FOR GULL RESTORATION PROJECT

In September the Council awarded the bid for the amount of \$12,290.00 to J & S General Contracting to complete the joint grade stabilization project with Chisago County SWCD. This was intended to be a 75/25% match project, with \$3,500.00 be used as in-kind fill and the remaining \$500.00 as cash.

During the pre-construction meeting it was discovered that extra work was needed on the west side of the project where a natural berm was disturbed during initial cleanup operations. As a result, the Council must authorize the additional \$2,400.00 cost to the project.

THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT AGENDA PAYMENT OF \$14,690.00 TO J & S GENERAL CONTRACTING FOR WORK COMPLETED FOR THE GRADE STABILIZATION PROJECT, PAYABLE FROM THE STORM WATER UTILITY FUND (600) UNTIL REIMBURSEMENT FROM CHISAGO COUNTY SWCD.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE PAYMENT OF CHECK NUMBERS 24887 - 24947 TOTALLING \$56,340.67, AND CHECK NUMBERS 6182 - 6191 TOTALLING \$11,490.66 FOR SEPTEMBER PAYROLL.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Mayor Mike Buchite congratulated newly re-elected Council Members Larry Julik-Heine and John Tangen.

Mary Murphy reported that she and Coordinator-Zoning Administrator Adam Berklund had reviewed the bid requirements for the improvements to the upper level bathroom at the Memorial Community Center, and would be presenting them to the Council at the November 26th meeting. She also questioned the City Ordinance requirement that a person could serve on only one City Commission, requesting discussion on this issue in the future.

Larry Julik-Heine reported that more work had been completed on the trails at Cherry Hill Park, with special thanks to Gene Andersen for use of his tractor.

John Tangen reported that the Fire Department would soon be putting up the garland and lights downtown for the Lighting Festival and holiday season.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED IN THE NOVEMBER 13, 2012 CITY COUNCIL MEETING PACKET:

1. MEMO FROM COUNTY, RE: UPDATING THE COUNTY WATER PLAN
2. CORRESPONDENCE FROM XCEL ENERGY, RE: STREET LIGHT RATES
3. STAFF CORRESPONDENCE & EMAIL'S

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL HELD THIS NOVEMBER 13, 2012. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED: DECEMBER 10, 2012