

**SPECIAL TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2015 – 6:30 P.M.

THE CITY COUNCIL WILL BEGIN THEIR MEETING AT 6:30 P.M. IN CLOSED SESSION IN ORDER TO CONDUCT AN EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION. COUNCIL WILL MOVE INTO OPEN SESSION AT ITS CONCLUSION, WHICH MAY OR MAY NOT BE AT EXACTLY 7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, November 5, 2015 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.

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 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, Mary Jo Murphy, Larry Julik-Heine

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Mary Tomnitz – Clerk/Treasurer, Adam Berklund – Coordinator/Zoning Administrator

ANNOUNCEMENT

Mayor Buchite stated the Council would enter closed session for the purpose of a performance evaluation of Coordinator – Zoning Administrator Adam Berklund

MOTION BY MURPHY/JULIK-HEINE TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION. AYES: ALL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The Council entered closed session at 6:33 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

MOTION BY RIVARD/MURPHY TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED, FOR THE NOVEMBER 10, 2015 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: STAFF REPORTS; COMMISSION/BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/ REPORTS; CONSIDER TAYLORS FALLS LIONS CLUB EXCLUDED BINGO APPLICATION; APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL; AND CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 25 & 30, 2015 CLERK – TREASURER CITY COUNCIL INTERVIEW MINUTES.

PUBLIC FORUM

NONE

STAFF REPORTS & REQUESTS

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE JULY 2015 FINANCIAL REPORTS PRESENTED BY COORDINATOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR ADAM BERKLUND.

CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA SERGEANT SHANE CARROLL'S JULY 2015 CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT MIKE KRIZ'S JULY 2015 PUBLIC WORKS REPORT.

CITY ATTORNEY

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE JULY 2015 BILLING STATEMENTS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE OF KELLY AND LEMMONS, P.A.

COMMISSION, BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS

PLANNING COMMISSION

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE TAYLORS FALLS PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS HELD ON OCTOBER 5, 2015; SEPTEMBER 8, 2015; AUGUST 24, 2015; AND AUGUST 11, 2016.

TAYLORS FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE TAYLORS FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 28, 2015.

OLD BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDER EMPLOYEE EVALUATION DECISION

The purpose of the closed session was to discuss disciplinary action for the City's Coordinator – Zoning Administrator Adam Berklund.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO PUT COORDINATOR – ZONING ADMINISTRATOR ADAM BERKLUND ON UNPAID LEAVE FOR THE NEXT THREE THURSDAYS.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION 15-11-01 AMMENDING THE TAYLORS FALLS ZONING ORDINANCE

Coordinator – Zoning Administrator Adam Berklund discussed the City putting on a six month moratorium for any type of solar. The proposed text amendments for a Solar Ordinance were researched and reviewed by the Planning Commission on the following five meeting dates: July 7; August 11; August 24; September 8; and October 5, 2015.

Commissioners were tasked with first deciding if a solar ordinance was needed, it was agreed unanimously to research the topic due to the prospective projects popping up in Chisago County. Ordinances were reviewed from Chisago County, North Branch and the Town of Adams Pennsylvania. Chisago County seemed to lack specifics and North Branch mimicked the County's. It was agreed to tailor the Town of Adams' Ordinance to the style of Taylors Falls' Ordinances.

Summary of Changes

Chapter One

- Solar Energy Systems (SES) was added to the definitions.
- Large-Scale Ground Mounted SES was added as a Conditional Use in specific requirements grouped with Light Industrial Uses.

Chapter Two

- SES was added as a Conditional Use in Rural Countryside.
- Subd. 10 in Heritage Preservation Overlay was added as safeguards for historic sites and districts. They will be allowed, but will not be seen from the street.
- SES was added as 2000.035.
- This was broke into two types of systems; Ground Mounted & Building Integrated Systems and Large Scale System.
- Ground Mounted & Building Integrated Systems will be allowed in any Zoning District, and the size is regulated by the Utility Provider. Zoning Administrator will determine potential impacts to neighbors.
- Large-Scale systems are only allowed in Rural Countryside through a Conditional Use Permit.

City Council was in agreement that there was a need for the ordinance to be in place, and that it looks very good and is very much like our other ordinances.

MOTION BY RIVARD/TANGEN TO APPROVE THE PLANNING COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 15-11-01 AMENDING THE TAYLORS FALLS ZONING ORDINANCE AS PRESENTED, BASED OF THE FOLLOWING FINDINGS OF FACT:

1. MINNESOTA STATUTE 216B.1691 RENEWABLE ENERGY OBJECTIVES; SUBD. 2F. SOLAR ENERGY STANDARD. (A) . . . EACH PUBLIC UTILITY SHALL GENERATE OR PROCURE SUFFICIENT ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY SOLAR ENERGY TO SERVE ITS RETAIL ELECTRICITY CUSTOMERS IN MINNESOTA SO THAT BY THE END OF 2020, AT LEAST 1.5 PERCENT OF THE UTILITY'S TOTAL RETAIL ELECTRICITY SALES TO RETAIL CUSTOMERS IN MINNESOTA IS GENERATED BY SOLAR ENERGY;
2. THERE ARE SUBSTANTIAL REBATES AND TAX CREDITS AVAILABLE TO MAKE SOLAR ENERGY AFFORDABLE;
3. TAYLORS FALLS DOES NOT CURRENTLY HAVE REGULATIONS FOR SOLAR ENERGY IN CITY LIMITS;
4. THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS CLARIFY DISCREPANCIES IN THE ZONING ORDINANCE, OTHER CITY ORDINANCES, MINNESOTA STATE STATUTES, AND APPLICABLE REGULATIONS;
5. THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS BETTER ENABLE ADMINISTRATION OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE;
6. THE PROPOSED AMENDMENTS ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE INTENT OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE AND DO-NOT CONFLICT WITH THE INTENT OF THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

CONSIDER ADOPTING ORDINANCE 2015-11-12 REPEALING SOLAR MORATORIUM ORDINANCE

Coordinator – Zoning Administrator Adam Berklund discussed the options of repealing the moratorium or letting it expire on December 6, 2015. To repeal the moratorium it would need to be published in the paper at a cost to exceed \$100 - 150. Council was in agreement that it only makes sense to let the moratorium expire to save the City money.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN AS COUNCIL WOULD LET MORATORIUM EXPIRE DECEMBER 6, 2015 AS IT WILL SAVE THE CITY MONEY AND WILL DO NO HARM.

CONSIDER ASPHALT REPAIRS

Councilmember Rivard discussed the need to repair the west end of Walnut Street as it had been washing out during every rain event. Sealtech was hired to build a curb so the washing out would be into the ditch. Sealtech also fixed a portion of Basil Street at the same time. It was done prior to Council, field approved as asphalt plants were closing.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO APPROVE ESTIMATE FROM SEALTECH INC AT A COST OF \$4,775.00 FOR MAINTENANCE OF WALNUT AND BASIL TO BE PAID FROM THE STORM WATER UTILITY FUND (600).

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSIDER FIRE DEPARTMENT PURCHASE

The Fire Department is requesting to purchase a dual side sonar imaging system for their rescue boat. This will help them be more efficient in river rescue incidents. Stacy Fire currently has the equipment and are called on to use it frequently. The estimate provided is for a bottom of the line model, but Firefighters are requesting to add \$300-500 for a mid-range model.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/TANGEN TO APPROVE ESTIMATE FROM GRAMPA JOE'S MARINE AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED \$3,000 TO PURCHASE SIDE IMAGING SONAR FOR THE RESCUE BOAT TO BE PAID FROM NEW EQUIPMENT FUND (580).

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER TAYLORS FALLS LIONS CLUB EXCLUDED BINGO APPLICATION

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE APPLICATION FOR THE TAYLORS FALLS LIONS CLUB TO HOST EXCLUDED BINGO AT THE TAYLORS FALLS MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTER ON THE FRIDAY'S OF NOVEMBER 20TH AND 27TH, 2015.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE PAYMENT OF CHECK NUMBERS 26580 – 26615 TOTALLING \$35,816.82 IN EXPENDITURES, AND CHECK NUMBERS 6719 – 6726 TOTALLING \$10,432.04 FOR JULY PAYROLL.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Larry Julik-Heine reported the PRC planned a work session at Cherry Hill Park in October, but they were rained out. Also that some of the playground equipment at the Totlot will need to be replaced.

Julik-Heine was in attendance at the Rick Nolan meeting and he focused his questions on a potential round-a-bout downtown, the Swedish Immigrant Trail and frac sand trucks.

Mary Murphy reported she had met with the Fire Department several times to find out what equipment they would be needing in the before the end of the year. More items other than sonar will be coming to Council for flashlights, helmets and hoods.

Also reported that she attended the Rick Nolan meeting and that he is very involved in transportation issues and that he has a staff that specializes in finding grants. Murphy reported she would be looking for grants to get new equipment for the FD.

Lastly she commended Clerk Tomnitz and PW Kriz for helping to get the ceiling of the Community Center tested for asbestos. Hoping that it will come back negative so we can figure out what type of ceiling we could put up.

Ross Rivard reported the Planning Commission had been working hard on the new Solar Ordinance that was adopted tonight, and that they would be taking December off. Most of the maintenance department items were on the agenda tonight, and that they have been doing a great job.

John Tangen reported the HPC would be meeting this week and will be looking a record retention plan to have historical documents put into the MNHS archives.

Mayor Mike Buchite reminded everyone that the annual Christmas party would be the first Friday in December and that staff is looking into some sort of entertainment. Also that Taylors Falls received a Water Fluoride Quality Award for 2014, which means the City kept optimal levels for health for 12 straight months.

CORRESPONDENCE

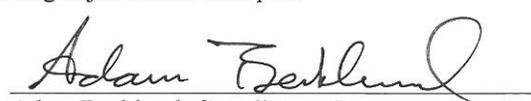
THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED IN THE AUGUST 10, 2015 CITY COUNCIL MEETING PACKET.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL HELD THIS NOVEMBER 10, 2015. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.


Michael D. Buchite, Mayor


Adam Berklund, Coordinator-ZA

APPROVED: MARCH 14, 2016