

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, September 22, 2010, 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, September 27, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. Because City Hall did not have power, the meeting was moved to the Mayor's Office at City Hall, 637 First Street, Taylors Falls, Minnesota.

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Mike Buchite.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Buchite, Ross Rivard, John Tangen, Larry Julik-Heine, Zara Kinnunen

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Clerk-Treasurer Jo Everson, Joe Thimm, Bob Meyer, Jerry Vitalis, Lisa Clasen, Patty Vodenka-Reed, Pam Brisson, and Eric Vargo from the Chisago County Press

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Agenda was amended to add under New Business: **Consider Pay Request #2 for the PW Addition Project.**

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/JULIK-HEINE TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED, FOR THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2010 COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION BY TANGEN/RIVARD TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT THE ARTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND GRANT; CONSIDER TF LION'S CLUB B-I-N-G-O REQUESTS; CONSIDER PAY REQUEST #2 FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS ADDITION PROJECT; CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

STAFF REQUESTS

PUBLIC WORKS: Consider Sidewalk Installation on River Street. Council Member Ross Rivard explained that there is a section of sidewalk in front of the St. Joseph's Church Parsonage on River Street that has considerable damage to its curb and sidewalk surface, presumably due to snow plowing practice. There is an additional section not included in the original proposals that should be included. Rivard recommended the issue be tabled until the October 11, 2010 meeting to allow Public Works to obtain new proposals.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/KINNUNEN TO TABLE CONSIDERATION OF SIDEWALK INSTALLATION ON RIVER STREET UNTIL THE OCTOBER 11, 2010 COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

CHISAGO LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT OPERATING REFERENDUM ISSUE PRESENTATION

Joe Thimm, Taylors Falls Elementary School Principle, gave a presentation to the Council regarding the proposed Operating Referendum questions included on the November 2nd ballot. Thimm explained that the Chisago Lakes Area Schools (CLAS), like all schools in Minnesota, are struggling with funding shortages from the State. Nearly 90% of Minnesota schools have some form of operating referendums in place. CLAS has had an operating levy in place for nine years, which expires on June 30, 2012. Question #1 on the ballot is asking for approval to renew this referendum. If approved, this operating referendum would generate \$400.96 per pupil unit. Question #2 asks for approval to increase its general education revenue by \$290 per pupil, for 10 years. If also approved, the additional tax impact on a home valued at \$250,000 would be \$14.08 per month. The current State average of operating revenue per pupil unit is \$847 compared to Chisago Lakes' proposed \$690.96.

The group is meeting with as many organizations as possible to get the message out (Joe Thimm, Jerry Vitalis, School Board Director, and Bob Meyer, Community Ed). Only 1/2 of the voting citizens are parents of children attending the school district. The remaining 2/3's must be educated as to what the referendum would do for this District. On October 6th there is a Public Forum scheduled that is hosted by the group OSOR – Our Schools – Our Responsibility.

The Council praised them for their efforts and wished them well in their endeavors. No action was requested or taken by the Council.

TF FIRE DEPARTMENT WOMEN'S AUXILLIARY PRESENTATION

Several wives of firefighters in the Taylors Falls Fire Department have organized a Women's Auxiliary Group. They appeared before the Council to introduce themselves: Lisa Clasen, Patty Vodenka-Reed and Pamela Brisson. They explained that they hope to have several fund raisers for the Department in the future. The first is scheduled to be a Scrapbooking & Craft Day at the Fire Hall on October 9th. Because this is a City facility used by a non-city entity, the Council would need to authorize its use for liability purposes.

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/TANGEN TO AUTHORIZE THE TAYLORS FALLS FIRE DEPARTMENT WOMEN'S AUXILIARY TO UTILIZE THE FIRE HALL TO HOST A SCAPBOOKING AND CRAFT DAY FUNDRAISER ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2010 FROM 9 A.M. TO 9 P.M. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER REQUEST FROM FRIENDS OF TF PARKS – OKTOBERFEST

The Friends of Taylors Falls Parks have requested permission to hold an Oktoberfest Celebration in the Marmon Parkway (Bench Street Parking Lot) on October 16th. They intend to sell brats, kraut, german potato salad, chips, desert and a beverage as a fundraiser for recreation costs in 2011.

MOTION BY RIVARD/KINNUNEN TO AUTHORIZE THE FRIENDS OF TAYLORS FALLS PARKS TO UTILIZE TWO PARKING SPACES IN THE MARMON PARKING LOT (BENCH STREET PARKING LOT) FROM 9:00 A.M. – 3:00 A.M. ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2010, TO HOST AN OKTOBERFEST FUNDRAISER.

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED TO WAIVE THE PEDDLERS PERMIT REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS NON-PROFIT GROUP. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER BORDER BAR & GRILL FAILED COMPLIANCE CHECK

Corporal Shane Carroll, notified the City that the Border Bar & Grill failed their annual liquor compliance check on Friday, September 10th. City Ordinance 400.12 Subd. 2E *Sale of alcoholic beverages to under-age person*; provides for a \$200.00 penalty for this violation. Owner Larry Schmidt was notified that he had a right to contest the allegation, but chose not to and paid the \$200.00 fine prior to the meeting.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO FIND THAT THE BORDER BAR & GRILL, 367 BENCH STREET, FAILED ITS ANNUAL LIQUOR COMPLIANCE CHECK BY THE CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2010, AND AS A RESULT IS HEREBY FINED \$200.00 AS ESTABLISHED IN THE TAYLORS FALLS CODE OF ORDINANCE. MOTION CARRIED WITH TANGEN ABSTAINING SINCE HE IS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT.

CONSIDER RECOMMENDATION FROM PRC TO REIMBURSE TF LION'S CLUB PARK EXPENSES

Council Member Larry Julik-Heine reported that the Lion's Club had appeared before the Park & Rec Commission (PRC) within the past five years to request financial assistance in the construction of a stairway at the south Lion's Park. At the time the PRC made the commitment, funds were available in the Park Fund. However, since that time the monies were spent on the Pumphouse Playground. Unbeknownst to the PRC, the Lion's Club completed the project this summer and now are requesting the monies. In light of the circumstances, Julik-Heine stated that the PRC recommended payment from the Park Improvement Fund, even though it has very limited monies available.

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/TANGEN TO APPROVE THE TAYLORS FALLS PARK & RECOMMENDATION TO REIMBURSE THE TAYLORS FALLS LIONS CLUB \$365.62 FOR THE STEP INSTALLATION AT THE SOUTH LION'S PARK THIS PAST SUMMER, TO BE PAID FROM THE PARK IMPROVEMENT FUND (404). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER AUTHORIZATION TO SUBMIT THE ARTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE FUND GRANT

On June 14, 2009 the Council authorized the Economic Development Commission to pursue the Arts & Cultural Heritage Grant Program administered by the East Central Arts Council. The grant request is \$15,000 with no match required from the City. In-kind matching includes Staff time, retaining wall space, etc. If awarded, the Council must authorize the artist to create the mural. A site alteration permit from the HPC will also be required. The grant is due October 1st. A rough draft of the application was reviewed by Staff at the East Central Arts Council for technical assistance. Feedback was provided and will be incorporated into the final draft. The final draft is not complete, but will be done October 1st. The City will know this winter if it is awarded the grant. If successfully funded, this will be a summer 2011 project.

THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE SUBMISSION OF THE ARTS AND CULTURAL HERITAGE GRANT APPLICATION, ADMINISTERED BY THE EAST CENTRAL ARTS COUNCIL, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000, WITH A LOCAL MATCH NOT REQUIRED. FURTHER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR, CLERK-TREASURER, AND ZONING ADMINISTRATOR-COORDINATOR TO SIGN THE SAID APPLICATION.

CONSIDER TF LION'S CLUB B-I-N-G-O REQUESTS

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE REQUEST FROM THE TAYLORS FALLS LIONS CLUB TO CONDUCT EXCLUDED BINGO AT THE TAYLORS FALLS MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTER, 312 GOVERNMENT STREET IN TAYLORS FALLS, ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH, AND SATURDAY NOVEMBER 27TH (FOR THE TAYLORS FALLS LIGHTING FESTIVAL COMMITTEE).

CONSIDER PAY REQUEST #2 PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING PROJECT

THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT AGENDA PAYMENT OF \$1,840.00 TO GREG GAUTSCH FOR LABOR FOR BUILDING THE PARTITION WALL FOR THE PUBLIC WORKS ADDITION PROJECT, TO BE PAID FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS BUILDING FUND (550), ACKNOWLEDGING THE FINAL INVOICE FOR MATERIALS WILL BE CONSIDERED AT A FUTURE MEETING.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Ross Rivard reported that the River & Second Street project is nearly half done at this time. Construction on the Public Works Building and Salt/Sand Storage Building has begun. The Public Works Department has completed the fall sewer rodding.

Larry Julik-Heine reported that the PRC is working on the next phase of the Cherry Hill Park. Plantings in the perennial garden has begun, a berm with a rock surround is yet to be installed before

frost. The lumber has been relocated to John Laier's property so that he can begin construction on the picnic tables and benches.

John Tangen reported that he had met recently with the Fire Chief and Officers to discuss pending grants and radio purchases, and the possibility of obtaining a boat from the Chisago County Sheriff's Department.

Mayor Mike Buchite reported that City Engineer Steve Heth recently left the employment of Short Elliot Hendrickson to work at Bolton & Menk & Associates. Heth does not have a "no compete" contract with SEH, nor does the City have a binding Contract with SEH. The Mayor would like to continue the working relationship with Heth and requested with the Council's permission to invite the new firm and Heth to the next Council Meeting. The Council had no objection.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED IN THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2010 CITY COUNCIL MEETING PACKET:

1. CORRESPONDENCE FROM ABDO EICK & METERS, RE: MERGER NOTICE
2. STAFF CORRESPONDENCE & EMAIL'S

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/JULIK-HEINE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL HELD ON SEPTEMBER 27, 2010. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED: OCTOBER 11, 2010