

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, JUNE 11, 2018 – 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, June 6, 2018 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 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Mike Buchite in the Mayor's office due to a power outage, but was still open to the public.

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, John Tangen

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Adam Berklund – Coordinator/Zoning Administrator

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

THE AGENDA WAS AMENDED TO ADD #6 CONSIDER VACATION REQUEST FOR PUBLIC WORKS' BILL NESKA AND TO PULL #3 CONSIDER LIQUOR LICENSE FOR CHISAGO HOUSE FROM CONSENT TO THE REGULAR AGENDA.

MOTION BY MURPHY/RIVARD TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED, FOR THE JUNE 11, 2018 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/TANGEN TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: STAFF REPORTS; COMMISSION/BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS; CONSIDER BINGO APPLICATIONS FOR THE LIONS CLUB; CONSIDER NEW MEMBER TO THE HPC; CONSIDER VACATION REQUEST FOR PW BILL NESKA; CONSIDER 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 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON MAY 14, 2018.

PUBLIC FORUM

NONE

STAFF REQUESTS

NONE

COMMISSION, BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MEETING MINUTES OF THE TAYLORS FALLS LIBRARY BOARD HELD ON MAY 30, 2018.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

NONE

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDER HIRING OF NEW CITY CLERK-TREASURER

Mayor Buchite reported that with the resignation of former Clerk – Treasurer Mary Tomnitz on May 10th, Taylors Falls advertised the position in the Chisago County Press and Wisconsin's Ledger Press. Applications were received until Thursday May 17th with around 15 received. Mayor Buchite and Personnel Liaison Tangen reviewed applications and selected four of the qualified for interviews, two of which declined. Two interviews were held on May 31. Discussion resulted in a unanimous choice of Elizabeth Nealley based on qualifications, past experience in accounting, pay range, and ability to work 32 hours Monday – Thursday.

Motion was made by Council Member Julik-Heine, seconded by Council Member Murphy to offer the position and approve at the next Council Meeting, June 11, 2018 at a starting pay of \$19.00 per hour. Position was accepted and anticipated start date will be Monday June 18.

MOTION BY MURPHY/RIVARD TO OFFER THE POSITION OF CLERK – TREASURER TO ELIZABETH NEALLEY BASED ON QUALIFICATIONS, PAST EXPERIENCE WITH ACCOUNTING, PAY RANGE AND ABILITY TO WORK MONDAY – THURSDAY 32 HOURS AT A STARTING PAY OF \$19.00/HOUR STARTING JULY 18TH 2018.

CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO THE BORDER CITIES POLICY

Coordinator Berklund reported that Mayor Mike and he met with Stephen Wolff from DEED (Department of Employment and Economic Development) to discuss the eligibility of the applicants for our program. What we found out is that there are two different programs the Border Cities Development Zone (BCDZ) and there is the Border Cities Development Enterprise Zone (BCDEZ). When the legislature awarded us the \$50,000 in credits it was only for the BCDZ which does not include the job creation qualifier we thought we could use to prove eligibility.

When our Border Cities applicants went to pay their taxes they found that they did not receive the credits that were awarded through the program. What we found out is that, the State Statute that we were awarded through this program only applies to “new construction” when they apply through the property tax portion of the program. Through the sales tax portion of the program businesses are eligible for a credit on what they paid sales tax on for i.e. new equipment, construction materials.... in essence any upgrades to the business. This means we need to create a whole new policy which explains eligibility, (new construction and sales tax). DEED did admit that this was an oversight on their part We can put the new policy in place, and if applicants can show on their tax returns how much they are eligible for, we can rescind and approve the sales tax method.

Another option that we can and will do is when the Legislature is in next in session, we will work to get the language changed so we are also included in the “enterprise” portion of the program, meaning that “job creation” can prove eligibility. This will allow us to do both what we thought we were doing in the first place by creating jobs, along with the new construction and sales tax methods.

What we need to do today is approve the amendments to the policy that was put into place, pending review of our attorney and DEED. We need to authorize Mayor Mike and my signatures on the amended Memorandum understanding between the City and DEED, upon review from our attorney. Lastly rescind and reauthorize applicants the credits based on what they paid in sales tax in 2017.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE BORDER CITIES DEVELOPMENT POLICY UPON REVIEW FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY AND DEED;

FURTHER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE SIGNATURES ON THE AMMENDED MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY AND DEED UPON REVIEW FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY;

FURTHER MOVED TO RESCIND ALL ENTERPRIZE ZONE CREDIT FORMS FOR APPLICANTS THAT APPLIED FOR PROPERTY TAX CREDITS AND APPROVE SAID APPLICANTS FOR SALES TAX CREDITS UPON REVIEW OF RETURN TO DETERMINE SALES TAX ELIGIBILITY.

CONSIDER LIQUOR LICENSE FOR CHISAGO HOUSE

Dana from the Chisago House Restaurant has applied for a Wine and Strong Beer License. They have submitted all required applications, documentation and fees needed for approval. It was discussed that this is contingent on receiving required insurance certificate.

MOTION BY MURPHY/RIVARD TO APPROVE A LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE CHISAGO HOUSE AT 361 BENCH STREET:

DANA BERNING
DBA: THE CHISAGO HOUSE
361 BENCH STREET
ON-SALE WINE
ON-SALE STRONG BEER

CONSENT AGENDA

CONSIDER BINGO APPLICATION FOR THE LIONS CLUB

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM THE TAYLORS FALLS LIONS CLUB TO CONDUCT EXCLUDED BINGO AT THE TAYLORS FALLS MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTER ON JULY 20TH AND NOVEMBER 16TH, 2018.

CONSIDER NEW MEMBER TO EDC

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION BY THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION TO APPOINT BRETT LINCOLN TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION.

CONSIDER VACATION REQUEST FOR PUBLIC WORKS

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA TO APPROVE THE VACATION REQUEST FROM PUBLIC WORKS' BILL NESKA FROM JULY 2 – JULY 6 WITH JULY 4 BEING A HOLIDAY FOR A TOTAL OF 32 HOURS.

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE PAYMENT OF CHECK NUMBERS 30190 – 30237 TOTALING \$105,791.18 FOR MAY EXPENDITURES.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Larry Julik-Heine – reported that there was no new news on with the PRC. The part-timer has started and the flowers are up. Lastly he reported on the Highway 8 Task Force, that there is \$3 million in bonding for safety studies, but there will be no 4-lane upgrade, in September they will be replacing the storm water discharge pipe.

John Tangen – reported the HPC will be meeting on Wednesday.

Ross Rivard – reported there will be no HPC meeting.

Mary Murphy – reported that the fire department is getting serious about replacing their turnout gear and are looking at using run money and charitable gambling.

Mayor Buchite – reported that he will ride with the St. Croix Mayor for the parade. He also reported that the Lions Club will be painting crosswalks and parking striping. Lastly he reported that the Swedish Immigrant Trail was approved for funding.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL HELD THIS MAY 14, 2018. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Adam Berklund, Coordinator-Zoning Administrator

APPROVED: JULY 9, 2018