

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2011 – 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, August 17, 2011 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, August 22, 2011 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, Rick Greene, T.A. Doughty-St. Hilaire from the Ledger Press Newspaper, and Holly Gutner from the Chisago County Press

**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 Unfinished Business: **Consider Payment of Rowe Sewer Service Invoices**; and under New Business: **Consider BINGO Permit for Falls Chamber of Commerce**.

MOTION BY MURPHY/TANGEN TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED, FOR THE AUGUST 22, 2011 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION BY RIVARD/MURPHY TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: CONSIDER RESOLUTION 11-08-07 DESIGNATING 707 RIVER STREET AS A HERITAGE PRESERVATION SITE; CONSIDER CHANGES TO EDC MEMBERSHIP; CONSIDER PAYMENT OF ROWE SEWER SERVICE INVOICES; CONSIDER BINGO PERMIT FOR FALLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE; CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

**Chisago County Commissioner Rick** Greene updated the Council on various County activities. The search for a new County Administrator is nearly over, with background checks and contract negotiations yet to be concluded. Greene also reported that Chisago County has been declared a federal disaster area by FEMA due to the recent storms that hit the County and especially the North Branch area. The County recently learned that the Market Value Credit program has been eliminated by the State in 2012, which equates to \$3.5 million alone in Chisago County. This is a cut from the State, but the local Representatives should plan to take the "heat" since property taxes will need to increase in order to make up the difference. Lastly, road projects in progress include County Road 12, with County Road 20 next on the schedule.

**STAFF REQUESTS**

**Planning & Zoning Administrator**

Larry Phillips, City Zoning Administrator-Coordinator requested authorization to attend a grant writing class taught by Grant Writing USA. Council questioned if the class would teach new information, since the Zoning Administrator-Coordinator has attended two other similar grant writing

workshops. It was also discussed if the Planning Commission members planned to attend any training sessions since the training budget in the Planning & Zoning Department's budget can be used for them as well.

MOTION BY RIVARD/MURPHY TO APPROVE THE REQUEST FROM THE PLANING & ZONING DEPARTMENT TO AUTHORIZE LARRY PHILLIPS, ZONING ADMINISTRATOR-COORDINATOR, TO ATTEND THE GRANT WRITING CLASS BY GRANT WRITING USA, ON AUGUST 29-30, 2011, IN MINNEAPOLIS, AT A COST OF \$425.00 PLUS MILIAGE, TO BE PAID FROM THE PLANNING & ZONING TRAINING AND INSTRUCTION BUDGET ACCOUNT (41910-208). APPROVAL IS CONDITIONAL UPON FINAL DETERMINATION BY THE PERSONNEL LIASIONS AFTER SPEAKING WITH PHILLIPS WHETHER THE WORKSHOP IS A DUPLICATION OF PAST WORKSHOPS ATTENDED BY PHILLIPS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **CONSIDER PAYMENT OF ROWE SEWER SERVICE INVOICES**

At the July 25, 2011 Meeting, Council reviewed several invoices from Rowe Sewer Service, which were charges for services from the recent sewage backup crisis. Since it was after normal business hours and an emergency situation, the fees were higher than usual. Council Member Ross Rivard reviewed the invoice with the owner and was satisfied with the charges and recommended payment by the City.

THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT AGENDA, PAYMENT OF \$2,515.00 TO ROWE SEWER SERVICE, TO BE PAID FROM THE SEWER FUND REPAIR ACCOUNT (602).

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **CONSIDER PROPOSALS FOR STREET LIGHTS ON BENCH STREET**

The Council discussed the need to finish the sidewalks and the lighting on the east side of Bench Street from Pine Street to Chisago Street. The sidewalks will be delayed until the State has completed the mill and overlay with curb and gutter repairs next summer on Highway 95. However, three proposals were reviewed for the street light installations.

MOTION BY TANGEN/RIVARD TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FROM ANDRE ELECTRIC AT A COST OF \$22,058.00 TO BE PAID FROM THE PROPERTY REDEVELOPEMENT FUND (555), WHICH IS THE FUND INTENDED TO FINANCE THIS PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Mayor Buchite commented that the project should be completed as soon as possible.

#### **CONSIDER PURCHASE OF RIGHT-OF-WAY FOR TRAIL PROJECT**

In 2010 Taylors Falls was awarded \$197,404.00 of Federal Transportation Enhancement Funding, which will be used to partially fund the proposed Valley View Trail Project (yet to be officially named), resulting in the construction of a new 4,500' trail within the City that will connect several neighborhoods to the downtown area, including the planned County Swedish Immigrant Trail, the future State Gateway Trail, Minnesota Interstate State Park, Bryant Woods Park Reserve and other local parks. One of the next steps is to purchase by fee title a parcel owned by Jack Liljenberg, and purchase an easement from Arlo and Victoria Sanvick. These areas are on the abandoned Northern Pacific Rail Road bed needed for the Trail. The acquisitions equal roughly 500' of old rail road bed.

**Liljenberg Parcel.** The trail will encumber the entire property, therefore outright purchase of the parcel is recommended. Purchase price is \$3,000. The parcel is +/- .74 acres. The terms of payment are \$100 now and the balance at closing which will likely be in 2012. The additional time allows the City Attorney to finish some legal work before closing.

MOTION BY MURPHY/TANGEN TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT WITH JACK LILJENBERG FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,000 FOR LAND THAT WAS FORMERLY RAIL ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO BE USED FOR THE TRAIL PROJECT, ACKNOWLEDGING \$100 TO BE PAID UPON EXECUTION OF THE PURCHASE AGREEMENT AND THE BALANCE TO BE PAID UPON CLOSING (WHICH IS ANTICIPATED IN 2012). (on file)

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE CLERK-TREASURER TO PAY THE \$100 EARNEST MONEY FROM THE VALLEY VIEW TRAIL FUND (412) AND TO AUTHOIRIZE THE CLERK-TREASURER AND MAYOR TO SIGN SAID PURCHASE AGREEMENT.

MOTIONS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Sanvick Easement.** Since the trail will travel only a small portion of the Sanvick property a trail easement needed rather than a fee title purchase. The funds are due upon receiving a signed easement from the Sanvicks.

MOTION BY RIVARD/TANGEN TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF A TRAIL EASEMENT FROM ARLO AND VICTORIA SANVICK OVER LAND THAT WAS FORMERLY RAIL ROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY TO BE USED FOR THE TRAIL PROJECT, ACKNOWLEDGING THAT \$1,500 WILL BE PAID UPON RECEIVING A SIGNED AGREEMENT FROM THE SANVICKS. (on file)

IT WAS FURTHER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE CLERK-TREASURER TO PAY THE \$1,500.00 FROM THE VALLEY VIEW TRAIL FUND (412).

MOTIONS CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION 11-08-07 DESIGNATING 707 RIVER STREET**

THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTION 11-08-07 DESIGNATING 707 RIVER STREET AS AN OFFICIAL TAYLORS FALLS HERITAGE PRESERVATION SITE. (attached)

**CONSIDER CHANGES TO EDC MEMBERSHIP**

THE CITY COUNIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE TAYLORS FALLS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION'S RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT JOHN COFFEY AS A REGULAR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEMBER, WHO'S TERM EXPIRES DECEMBER 31, 2013.

**CONSIDER BINGO REQUEST FROM FALLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE REQUEST FROM THE FALLS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE TO CONDUCT EXCLUDED BINGO ON SEPTEMBER 30, 2011 AT THE TAYLORS FALLS MEMORIAL COMMUNITY CENTER.

**LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

None.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED THE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE AUGUST 22, 2011 COUNCIL PACKET:

1. Letter from MnDNR, re: Local Trail Connections Grant Program
2. Staff Correspondence & Email's

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY MURPHY/TANGEN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE AUGUST 22, 2011 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

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Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

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Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer

**APPROVED:** SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

**RESOLUTION 11-08-07**

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

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE SNOW/BATES/MOBERG HOUSE AS AN  
OFFICIAL TAYLORS FALLS HERITAGE PRESERVATION SITE**

WHEREAS, 707 River Street (Snow/Bates/Moberg House) is located within the corporate limits of Taylors Falls, Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the Taylors Falls Heritage Preservation Commission has proposed to designate this site to be a Taylors Falls Heritage Preservation Site; and

WHEREAS, the Taylors Falls Heritage Preservation Commission did conduct a public hearing on August 9, 2011 to take public testimony regarding the proposed designation; and

WHEREAS, as a result of the hearing, the Commission did make the following findings of fact with regard to the designation of 707 River Street (Snow/Bates/Moberg House) as a Heritage Preservation Site:

1. BUILT IN EARLY 1860S, IT WAS A WOOD FRAME, STORY-AND-A-HALF VERSION OF THE GREEK REVIVAL STYLE TYPICAL OF MANY OF THE RESIDENCES IN THE YOUNG VILLAGE. THROUGH FREQUENT ADDITIONS AND MODIFICATIONS IT WAS SUBSEQUENTLY ENCASED WITHIN A MUCH LARGER STRUCTURAL UNIT, BY 1913, IT HAD ACHIEVED THE COLONIAL REVIVAL STYLE IT EXHIBITS TODAY.
2. ITS LARGE SIZE AND UNIQUE ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES GIVE THE STRUCTURE READILY IDENTIFIED LANDMARK STATUS AMONG RIVER STREET BUILDINGS.
3. THROUGHOUT ITS HISTORY MANY OF ITS RESIDENTS SUCH AS SMITH ELLISON, LAFLOYD BATES, ALFRED M. MOBERG AND LYMAN F. SNOW CONTRIBUTED GREATLY TO THE WELFARE AND CHARACTER OF THE COMMUNITY.
4. THE SNOW/BATES/MOBERG HOUSE MEETS THE CRITERIA IN THE TAYLORS FALLS PRESERVATION ORDINANCE FOR DESIGNATION AS A HERITAGE PRESERVATION SITE.
5. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY'S HERITAGE PRESERVATION ORDINANCE, THE PLANNING COMMISSION HAS REVIEWED AND COMMENTED ON THE NOMINATION IN ITS MEETING ON JULY 6, 2011, AS HAS THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY AS STATED IN ITS LETTER TO THE CITY DATED JUNE 13, 2011.

WHEREAS, the Heritage Preservation Commission did recommend the City Council to officially designate the site for historical reasons based upon these findings of fact;

SO THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Taylors Falls City Council, that it hereby officially designates 707 River Street (Snow/Bates/Moberg House) as an official Taylors Falls Heritage Preservation Site, legally described as:

*Lot 2, Block 3, City of Taylors Falls, Chisago County, State of Minnesota*

Adopted by the City Council on August 22, 2011

ATTEST:

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Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

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Jo Everson, Clerk-Treasurer