

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, JULY 13, 2015 – 6:30 P.M.**

MINUTES

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, July 8, 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.

The Taylors Falls City Council began its regular meeting on Monday, July 13, 2015 in closed session at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers at City Hall, 637 First Street, Taylors Falls, Minnesota.

CALL TO ORDER

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Tangen

OTHERS PRESENT: Adam Berklund – Coordinator/ZA

Mayor Buchite explained Council Member John Tangen was absent, but he had talked to him, and to keep him in your prayers.

APPOINT SECRETARY

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO APPOINT MARY MURPHY AS SECRETARY FOR THE CLOSED SESSION PORTION OF THIS MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Mayor stated the Council would enter closed session for the purpose of a special performance review of Adam Berklund, Coordinator – Zoning Administrator.

MOTION BY MURPHY/JULIK-HEINE TO ENTER INTO CLOSED SESSION. AYES: ALL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The Council entered closed session at 6:32 p.m.

RETURN TO OPEN MEETING

The Mayor declared that the Council ended its closed meeting at 6:58 p.m.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION. AYES: ALL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

PERSONS PRESENT AT RETURN TO OPEN MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Buchite, Ross Rivard, Larry Julik-Heine, Mary Jo Murphy

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Adam Berklund, Coordinator – Zoning Administrator

SUMMARY OF CLOSED MEETING

The Mayor declared the Council evaluated the job performance of Adam Berklund, Coordinator – Zoning Administrator in its closed meeting. The closed meeting tape was sealed by the Mayor and placed in the locked employee file cabinet.

OPEN MEETING CALL TO ORDER

The Taylors Falls City Council continued their regular meeting on Monday, July 13, 2015 at 6:40 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 637 First Street, Taylors Falls, Minnesota.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Buchite, Ross Rivard, Mary Jo Murphy, Larry Julik-Heine

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Tangen

OTHERS PRESENT: Adam Berklund – Coordinator/ZA, Paul Ringnell – Chisago County Press, Reid Gacke – Ledger Press, Bob Barrett – State Representative, Steve Heth – City Engineer, Julie Hildebrand, Barb Anderson, Vicki Sanvick, Arlo Sanvick.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Agenda was amended moving #1 – **Consider Hiring Clerk – Treasurer** to Consent Agenda and to include #13 – **Consider City Coordinator – Zoning Administrator Hourly Wage Adjustment**.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED, FOR THE JULY 13, 2015 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION BY RIVARD/MURPHY TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: STAFF REPORTS; COMMISSION/BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS; CONSIDER HIRING CLERK – TREASURER; CONSIDER SIGNATURES ON MNDNR’S LOCAL TRAILS CONNECTION GRANT CONTRACT; CONSIDER DONATION TO THE INITIATIVE FOUNDATION; CONSIDER 2015 HISTORIC PRESERVATION CONFERENCE AND REIMBURSEMENT GRANT; CONSIDER PUBLIC WORKS PART-TIMER; CONSIDER SIGNATURES ON BUSINESS PARK BILLBOARD CONTRACT; 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

Bob Barrett, Minnesota House of Representative District 32B

Local Representative Bob Barrett was in attendance to give Council a Legislative update. Taylors Falls will receive one-time Small Cities Transportation revenue of \$15,000 for road improvements. There was \$12 million appropriated to small cities in Minnesota. Legislators agreed that it was needed, but did not agree on where it came from.

Representative Barrett explained that he sits on three committees; tax committee, higher education and rural economic development boards. This year the state will be spending 130 million on elder care with more than usual coming to our area.

Barrett explained that there is about \$900 million sitting at the bottom line of the state’s account with the possibility of \$500 million more. They are looking into eliminating state tax for businesses in small towns/small businesses and eliminating ½ commercial & industrial tax.

A big reason for Barrett’s presence was to discuss the legislation that was passed for the Taylors Falls Business Park. He commended Mayor Mike with all his hard work i.e. testifying at the State Capitol for Border Cities for many years. He announced that the City was allocated \$100,000 for Jobs & Economic Development/Redevelopment.

Mayor Buchite stated that this money will be used as tax incentives for the first four lots of the Business Park, and informed Barrett of the new billboard that will go up near Walmart in St. Croix Falls promoting our “Taylors Falls Wants You!” campaign.

STAFF REPORTS & REQUESTS
ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE JUNE 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 JUNE 2015 CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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

CITY ATTORNEY

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

COMMISSION, BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS
TAYLORS FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE TAYLORS FALLS LIBRARY BOARD MEETING HELD ON MAY 27, 2015.

PLANNING COMMISSION

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE TAYLORS FALLS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION MEETINGS HELD ON MAY 12, 2015.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDER FUTURE WALK PROJECT

Julie Hildebrand was in attendance to present Future Walk Chisago to the Taylors Falls City Council. Future Walk Chisago is interested in holding a public input session with the residents of Taylors Falls. A "Future Walk", unlike our community's comprehensive plan that outlines the goals of our own community, Future Walk builds on our combined strengths and assesses, from Taylors Falls to Chisago City, and a plan for the next generation.

They will be collecting information through input-listening sessions. In a one hour session a local volunteer moderator will help guide us in finding out what makes this area the best place to live and what your vision is for us 35 years from now. The Future Walk committee will gather the information and then act on our communities' shared goals.

So far Future Walk has listened to over 500 residents in listening sessions at a variety of venues – city officials in neighboring cities, fire departments, Lions Clubs, Parmley, Fairview, high school students, teachers and more. Their goal, is to reach 5% of the school district population and are more than half way to their goal of 1,000.

A listening session is set for August, 26 at 6:30 pm at the Taylors Falls Memorial Community Center. Mayor Buchite and Council Members unanimously supported the Future Walk and

will encourage Commission members to attend. A potential quorum posting will be put up at City Hall.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN AT THIS TIME

CONSIDER RECEIVED BIDS FROM WEST STREET PAVING PROJECT

City Engineer Steve Heth was in attendance to discuss his letter for Bid Results for the West Street Reconstruction. Bids were due Thursday July, 9 2015. Two bids were received which ranged from \$152,580 from Prefer Paving to \$193,974 from Knife River, both of whom do a lot of work in this area. While examining completeness of bids the low bid was missing the required 5% bid bond. Counsel by City Attorney recommended to reject both bids. Heth was disappointed in not only the missing 5% but that only two bids were received.

Per bid specs, construction was to be complete by the start of school. If the City were to re-bid the project we would be looking at a start date of September 1st, if we received any more bids. Heth's suggestion would be to re-bid in January or February at a time where we might get better prices, and avoid any conflicts with school being in session. Council unanimously agreed.

MOTION BY MURPHY/JULIK-HEINE TO REJECT ALL BIDS FOR THE WEST STREET RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT PER CITY ENGINEER STEVE HETH'S RECOMMENDATION.

FURTHER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE ADVERTISING FOR BIDS IN JANUARY 2015.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER PROPOSAL TO VIDEO SEWER LINE

Council Liaison to Public Works Ross Rivard stated that every year the City lines a sewer line. This year the line from River Street to the lift station is in desperate need of lining. Unfortunately the line has an unknown manhole somewhere in between. In order to properly bid this job, it should be cleaned and televised.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO ACCEPT PROPOSAL FROM VISU SEWER TO VIDEO/CLEAN SEWER LINE FROM RIVER STREET TO LIFT STATION AT A COST OF \$3,100 TO BE PAID FROM SEWER FUND (602).

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSIDER PROPOSAL FOR TREE CLEARING AT DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

There are 21 dead trees on the City's Downtown Commercial property that were infested with Pine Bore Beetles. When asked what can be done with them, Arbor Tree Service owner and resident Don Lawrence stated they needed to be cut down to prevent the spread of beetles. They are in a condition that poses a hazard spread and trees falling. A proposal of \$2,525 was received to clear trees and grind stumps.

MOTION BY MURPHY/RIVARD TO APPROVE PROPOSAL FROM ARBOR TREE SERVICE TO REMOVE 21 DEAD TREES FROM THE DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL PROPERTY AT A COST OF \$2,525 PLUS TAX TO BE PAID FROM THE TREE REMOVAL FUND (545) AND CONTINGENCY FUND (900).

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSIDER LOWERING FLOURIDE LEVELS

On April 27, 2015, the United States Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) finalized new guidance which recommends a single national fluoride level of 0.7 mg/L at community public water supplies.

Municipal Public Water Supply (PWS) owners interested in maintaining a lower optimal fluoride concentration in drinking water, at an average of 0.7 mg/L within the range of 0.5 to 0.9 mg/L, can request a discretionary variance to Rule 4720.0030 by submitting a variance request form. By signing and returning the form Taylors Falls has the chance to lower our concentrate. Resulting in lower health concerns and help the City financially.

MOTION BY MURPHY/RIVARD TO AUTHORIZE SIGNATURES ON MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S VARIANCE REQUEST TO MINNESOTA RULE 4720.0030 TO LOWER FLOURIDE LEVELS.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSIDER DATES FOR BUDGET WORKSHOPS

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO SET THE FOLLOWING DATES AS COUNCIL WORKSHOPS TO COMPLETE THE 2015 BUDGET.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

August 5th >Preliminary Discussion: General Discussion on Capital Improvements, New Revenues, New Expenditures, Attorney Expenses, Street Improvements, Review of 2016 Debt. Service Payments.

August 12th >Employee Benefits (Pay Raises, Insurance Benefits, Personnel Policy Changes, Etc.).

August 19th >Review of Budgets for Fire, Administration, Buildings, Commissions, Public Works, Water & Sewer.

August 26th >First Draft of Proposed 2016 Budget.

September 2nd >Final Draft of Proposed 2016 Budget.

September 14th >Council Meeting; Council Approve (or Call for Special Meeting).

CONSIDER VACATION REQUEST BY COORDINATOR – ZONING ADMINISTRATOR
THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE VACATION REQUEST FROM COORDINATOR – ZONING ADMINISTRATOR ADAM BERKLUND FOR AUGUST 3 – AUGUST 10 FOR A TOTAL OF 40 HOURS.

CONSIDER PAYMENT OF UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA, RE: BOOK BINDING

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA PAYMENT TO THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA FOR BOOK BINDING AT A COST OF \$1,487.50 TO BE PAID FROM LIBRARY FUND (211).

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE PAYMENT OF CHECK NUMBERS 26417- 26472 TOTTALLING \$136,223.09 IN EXPENDITURES, AND CHECK NUMBERS 6665 - 6674 TOTTALLING \$10,027.12 FOR JUNE PAYROLL.

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Larry Julik-Heine reported that Friends of Taylors Falls Parks will be holding Wannigan Days Bingo at 6:30 p.m. Friday at the Community Center. St. Joe's Eats will begin 11:00 a.m. Saturday until gone.

There will be a Highway 8 project meeting Wednesday the 17th which Public Works Superintendent and Coordinator - Zoning Administrator will attend. Also the Chisago County Soil Water Conservation District has approached him about another gully restoration project near West and Walnut Streets and anticipates requesting a monetary investment in this project. They have done several thousands of dollars in projects throughout the City in the past three years.

Mary Murphy stated she is excited with the work EDC members have done to begin advertising the City's business park, though their next meeting has been postponed a week. Negotiations have begun for the 2016-2017 Sheriff Department contract. The County is proposing an increase in pay and increase in hours worked.

Murphy also reported that Lindsey Clark would be organizing the Kiddie Parade for 6:00 p.m. Friday. Murphy will be requesting a donation from Walmart for cookies after.

Ross Rivard reported that flower baskets have been put up and look great. Planning Commission members are continuing their review of Chapter 2 Zoning Ordinance, but will take a break from that to discuss a Solar Ordinance.

Part Timer Dan Swanson started today and will be watering and mowing. He stated that Public Works Bill Neska does a great job training the summer help.

Mayor Mike Buchite stated that the City has received about two dozen applications for the Clerk - Treasurer position. Of these 5 - 6 look good with a few having Clerk - Treasurer experience. Applications will be received until Thursday June 18th at 4:30 p.m. Special meetings will be posted for interviews and he encouraged Council Members to come up with questions.

CORRESPONDENCE

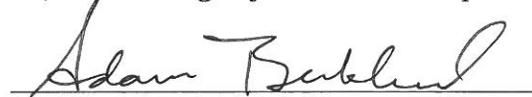
THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED IN THE JUNE 8, 2015 CITY COUNCIL MEETING PACKET.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL HELD THIS JUNE 8, 2015. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.


Michael D. Buchite, Mayor


Adam Berklund, Coordinator-ZA

APPROVED: JULY 13, 2015