

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE HIBBING CITY COUNCIL
February 17, 2010**

TIME AND PLACE: A regular meeting of the Hibbing City Council was held on Wednesday, February 17, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. at the Hibbing City Hall Council Chamber.

ATTENDANCE: Present at roll call: Mayor Richard Wolff, Clerk Patrick L. Garrity, Councilor Jack Lund, Councilor Tim Harkonen, and Councilor Patty Shafer. Also present were City Attorney Richard Sellman, Finance Director Sherri A. Renskers, City Engineer John P. Suihkonen, City Administrator Brian Redshaw, and Administrative\Council Assistant Sharon Ross. Absent were Councilor Frank Bigelow and Councilor Darby Sater.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Wolff called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVE MINUTES:

- Councilor Harkonen, supported by Councilor Lund moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Hibbing City Council of February 3, 2010. Motion CARRIED
- Councilor Lund, supported by Councilor Shafer moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole of February 9, 2010. Motion CARRIED

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilor Lund, supported by Councilor Harkonen, moved to approve the Consent Agenda Items #1 through #9, minus Item #4 as pulled for discussion. Motion CARRIED

1. Approve Accounts Payable dated:
 - o 02/12/2010, checks #133860 - #133974, in the amount of \$178,201.69
2. Approve City Payroll for Pay period ending 01/29/2010, checks #150625 - #150755, in the amount of \$336,425.07.
3. Authorize signature of H.R. Director on the Addendum to the Business Associate Agreement with Milliman, Inc.
4. Declare Sanitation Department's list of items as Surplus Property to be sold by auction.

Discussion Item #4: Councilor Shafer asked if declaring the surplus equipment for auction is that the best way to recover some funds for the City. Mayor Wolff responded that the items are placed on auction and E-bay at a minimum bid. Clerk Garrity inquired if these trucks could potentially be modified and used in a different department or if there enough useful life and used in a different way and additional information could be brought back to the next Council meeting.

5. Declare City Hall's list of items as Surplus Property to be sold by auction.

6. Declare Hibbing Public Library list of items as Surplus Property to be sold by auction.
7. Approve the Special Event Application of the Hibbing Community College for their 3rd Annual 5K Cardinal Fiesta Run/Walk to be held on Saturday, May 1, 2010.
8. Approve the Raffle Permit Request of the Iron Range Racing Association for a Raffle to benefit the American Cancer Society with a drawing to be held on August 14, 2010 at the Hibbing Raceway.
9. Set the next regular meeting for the City Council for Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber.

I. PUBLIC FORUM:

II. BIDS AND QUOTES:

1. **Parks & Recreation Department – Kraig Stolhammer, Parks & Recreation Foreman**

a. Kromer Ballfield Groomer

Councilor Shafer suggested that the City should have no further purchases of equipment until a discussion could be held at a committee of the whole meeting. Mr. Stolhammer commented that the current groomer is 16 years old and is currently parked up on blocks. Clerk Garrity asked to point out that the governor has proposed to cut \$1.3 million and we can't let the city deteriorate and asked to give us time we are in a tough situation. Mr. Stolhammer commented that the demo price is good for the purchase on a first come first served basis. This item will be brought back for review after City Administrator Redshaw meets with the Department Heads to decipher what capital purchases are absolutely critical.

Clerk Garrity, supported by Mayor Wolff moved to table the request to purchase the Kromer Ballfield Groomer at this time. Motion CARRIED

2. **City Engineer's Office – John P. Suihkonen, City Engineer**

a. Public Works Sewer Jet Truck

The current sewer jet truck has gone through many repairs and to keep it running there needs to be expensive repairs done. Mr. Suihkonen is asking to go out for bids and plan specifications and this is the most used vehicle in the Public Works Department.

Mayor Wolff supported by Clerk Garrity move to authorize the City Engineer to go out for bids for the Public Works Sewer Jet Truck. Motion CARRIED

3. **Hibbing Public Library – Ginny Richmond, Director**

a. **Library Computer Lease Quotes**

Two quotes were received for the library computer leases from Compudyne and MCD and the quotes were very close to each other. The library computers are in two sets of leases: one lease of 26 computers has expired January 31st and the other lease for 13 computers expires in November. One company willing to guarantee the same price in November as now quoted.

Councilor Shafer asked if there was any way to cut back on the number of machines or use laptops that are portable. Ms. Richmond noted that this would be a cut in service to the public if we cut back any of the computers.

Discussion held on possible options of charging the public for electronic services. Wireless internet service is available for the public to bring in their personal laptops and has been paid for by the Friends of the Library. One possibility could be to charge the public be charged for wireless based on a time limit.

Councilor Harkonen, supported by Clerk Garrity moved to award the bid to MCD for the Library Computer Lease.

Discussion: Tom Vidovic of Compudyne approached the Council to explain the bid submitted by Compudyne. They have the original lease and Compudyne has provided service even though the library lease has expired. He wanted to point out to the Council that the lease had expired in January so they will need to charge a rental fee for the month of February which under lease would have been \$37.50 per computer but if they didn't receive the bid it would be \$50.00 per month. Clerk Garrity stated that in fairness if the library owes Compudyne for the month of February that Compudyne will be paid.

Motion CARRIED

III. DEPARTMENT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. **Building & Housing – Pat Green, Building Official**

a) **Planning Commission Recommendation – Conditional Use Permit Petition of Bruce Eichorn/Eagle Eye Properties**

Eagle Eye Properties would like to renovate the property at 2413 First Avenue (Golden Crest Nursing Home) into an assisted living facility for up to a maximum of 20 residents.

Mayor Wolff, supported by Councilor Shafer move to approve the conditional use permit petition of Bruce Eichorn/Eagle Eye Properties. Motion CARRIED.

2. **Hibbing Public Library – Ginny Richmond, Director**

a) **Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant Update**

Ms. Richmond approached the Council to give an update on the grant process. They didn't receive as many grant applications as they thought so they changed criteria and opened the proposal deadline to March 3. Ms. Richmond is frustrated with the delay and the process and requests opinion from the Council. Mayor Wolff suggested to continue with the grant applications.

3. **City Engineer's Office – John P. Suihkonen, City Engineer**

a) **S.E.H. Contract, SWWTP Maintenance Project**

This item was brought before the Council on February 3rd and is on tonight's agenda requesting authorization of the Mayor and Clerk's signature.

Clerk Garrity, supported by Councilor Harkonen moved to authorize signature on the S.E.H. Contract for the South Wastewater Treatment Plant Maintenance Project.
Motion CARRIED

b) **Public Works Class 5 / County Contract**

We realize there are budget cuts and will be further cuts but participation in this contract would provide shorter hauls for gravel and if the council would authorize any dollar amount the City could be included in the contract. The County would like acknowledgement by February 19th. The City does have class 5 at the public works facility that should last until 2011. By approving \$10,000 – \$30,000 the City would be included in the contract. Clerk Garrity commented that this would be beneficial to the City and would save in travel time and would increase efficiency.

Clerk Garrity, supported by Councilor Lund moved to authorize \$20,000 to participate in the St. Louis County contract for the 2010 Class 5 Crushing Services.
Motion CARRIED

4. **City Administrator's Office – Brian Redshaw**

a) **Police Chief Testing Information**

At the February 3, 2010 Council meeting, a motion was made to not purchase a police chief written test and it failed and the interpretation was to then go out for test information. Two candidates remain for the chief position. There are two test options are available: one at \$4,000 and one is available with a separate prep course of \$155 and the test at \$110 plus shipping and handling. The test would be independently scored.

Clerk Garrity, supported by Councilor Shafer made a motion to order 2-3 tests and not to purchase the study guide and utilize the test with oral interviews. Motion CARRIED. Opposed: Councilor Harkonen

b) Renewal of Animal Control Officer Contract

The Animal Contract Officer contract with Alyssa Garcia is up for review and Mr. Redshaw is recommending that all original items in the agreement remain the same.

Councilor Harkonen, supported by Councilor Lund moved to renew the animal control officer contract between the City of Hibbing and Alyssa Garcia for one year. Motion CARRIED.

IV. OTHER

ADD: Accounts Payable check run dated 2/16/2010 for checks #133975 - #134015 in the amount of \$504,533.38.

Councilor Harkonen, support by Mayor Wolff moved to approve the accounts payable dated 02/156/2010, checks #133975 - #134015 in the amount of \$504,533.38. Motion CARRIED.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business brought before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Richard M. Wolff, Mayor

ATTEST: _____
Patrick L. Garrity, Clerk-Treasurer