

**WALKER CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
WALKER FIRE HALL MEETING ROOM  
Monday July 2, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Bruns**

- Mayor Bruns called the regular scheduled meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance
  - Council members present: Nelson, Moore, Bruns, McMurrin, Wilkening
  - Council members absent:
  - Others present during portions of the meeting included:

Terri Bjorklund, Administrator	Wayne Tennis, Police Chief
Meghan Compton, City Employee	Neil Lange, Public Works Director
Dean Morrill, Pilot Independent	John Valen, City Attorney
Ken Bresley, Airport Commissioner	Dan & Michelle Ihrke
Cindy Wannarka, Chamber	Jack Arnold
Aaron Pfeiffer	

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**M/S Moore/Wilkening** to approve the Consent Agenda Items 1 thru 18 as follows, waving the reading

1. Approve Walker City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of June 4, 2012.
2. Approve Cash Balance Report as of May 31, 2012.
3. Review and file Walker Police Department Monthly Report.
4. Review and file Cass County Economic Development Corporation report.
5. Review and file Cass County's May/June Tax Settlement.
6. Review and file letter dated June 15, 2012 from US Department of Transportation regarding an allocation of funds to construct the terminal building at the Walker Municipal Airport.
7. Review and a file permit from Minnesota Pollution Control Agency regarding the Walker Wastewater Treatment Facility.
8. Review and file letter dated June 15, 2012 from Initiative Foundation thanking the city of Walker for a donation received.
9. Review and file draft Walker Planning Commission's/Board of Adjustments meeting minutes of June 25, 2012.
10. Review and file May 2012 monthly zoning report.
11. Approve payment of Partial Payment Estimate No. 2 from Aspen Construction Company in the amount of \$78,778.51 for the Underground Utility & Street Improvements – Sixth Street.
12. Approve payment of invoice 30200 from Ulteig for Professional services through May 31, 2012 in the amount of \$1,629.09.
13. Approve payment of invoice 30387 from Ulteig for Front Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Street and 6<sup>th</sup> Street Utility and Street Reconstruction in the amount of \$99,878.36.

14. Approve payment of invoice 025-44474 from Tyler Technologies for subscription fees in the amount of \$8,784.00.
15. Review and file draft of Cemetery Board Minutes from June 19, 2012.
16. Review and file County propane tank bids.
17. Addition of #10 under Personnel, Budget and Finance: Consider approval to enter into a contract for services with Cass County Economic Development to update Deed grant application for Industrial Park Infrastructure.
18. Addition of #10 under Library, Parks and Airport: Consider request of the Park Board to accept the donation of picnic tables for the park on the condition that they may be used by civic organizations when needed in other locations.  
Motion passed (5-0)

**SCHEDULED CITIZEN PRESENTATIONS – Mayor Bruns**

- Rich Hansen & Nancy Freeman – Girls Night Out – neither could be present
  - Time frame worked well and they look forward to the next event – per Rich Hansen
  - Nancy Freeman – was approaching the street & Wayne told them they had to take them down. Mayor Bruns will contact Nancy regarding the issue.
- Jack Arnold – Property Nuisance
  - Is not trying to resist this, but with health issues he was not able to clean it up.
- Ken Bresley – Airport A/D building
  - July 3-26 to advertise the project, on July 26<sup>th</sup> we'll receive bids and then the council will approve the bid and will submit to the state in August. Net will be \$153k from the state. His request is to allow the bid process to go forward.

**CITY STAFF COMMENTS – Administrator Terri Bjorklund**

- News release, Beltrami Electric Coop is selected to receive a grant to help infrastructure improvement in Walker. No interest loan for the infrastructure to the Industrial Park. It was in 2010 when we were granted the deed grant portion of this. Gail Leverson originally wrote the grant, and it is recommended she update the grant and submit it.

**PERSONNEL, BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION – Councilmember Nelson**

1. **M/S Nelson/Moore** Consider approval of Claim #46633 to Claim #46682, Claim #46685 to Claim #46710, Claim #46712 to Claim #46786, and bank drafts in the amount of \$449,916.58.  
Motion passed (5-0)
2. Discussion and direction on Arnold property.  
Documentation started April 1, 2012 and Kelly is recommending action be taking. The ordinance says we can hire someone to clean it up and then assess the property.  
**M/S Nelson/McMurrin** moves to take action  
Arnold – It has progressively improved in the past two months

Moore – do you want our help with this project?

Arnold – No

Wilkening – are you moving it, or disposing of it?

Arnold – I've had to dispose of it

Wilkening – Is 30 days enough time?

Arnold – yes

Wilkening – Wayne, does 30 days work for you?

Moore – Would you like the help of a service organization, if they are willing?

Nelson – will consider withdrawing the motion, but in a month everything is cleaned up.

Motion failed (0-5)

**M/S Wilkening/McMurrin**, to give Jack Arnold until July 31, 2012 to clean up the property, if not, the city will go in and clean it up.

Motion passed (5-0)

3. **M/S Nelson/Wilkening** Consider approval of request from the Accounting Department to pay the City of Walker's 2012 portion of the Tower Avenue Special Assessment in the amount of \$19,531.52. This is a budgeted item.

Motion passed (5-0)

4. **M/S Nelson/Moore** Consider approval of request from the Accounting Department to transfer \$1,101.94 from the general account to the Legion abatement account for the 8/1/12 payment due.

Motion passed (5-0)

5. **M/S Nelson/McMurrin** Consider approval of Personnel committee's recommendation to give the same insurance benefit negotiated with the police union to all staff, an additional \$58.78 to be paid by the city.

Moore – is this per-employee?

Bruns – all non-union employees

Motion passed (5-0)

6. **M/S Nelson/Moore** Consider approval of a 1-4 day Temporary Liquor License for the Walker Rotary and request to waive the \$75.00 temporary liquor license fees on July 23<sup>rd</sup> at Walker city park during MS TRAM.

McMurrin – they're going to have liquor down there while they're camping?

Cindy – There will be a beer wagon, entertainment and over 800 people in the area.

Moore – the fee if they are not waived, who would pay those?

Cindy – I'm guessing the Chamber would

McMurrin – Are you charging for the beer?

Cindy – yes, \$2 for a 12 oz beer.

Wilkening – are vendors coming?

Cindy – a school group is coming down and selling things, but we did not ask any outside vendors. We started with the businesses, but everyone is short staffed this year so we reached out to school and church groups.

Motion passed (4-1) Naye: McMurrin

7. **M/S Nelson/Wilkening** Consider approval of a 1-4 day Temporary Liquor License for the Walker Rotary, and request to waive the \$75.00 temporary liquor license fees on August 4<sup>th</sup> at Walker city park during Walker Bay Days.

Motion passed (4-1) Naye: McMurrin

8. **M/S Nelson/Moore** Consider approval of a 1-4 day Temporary Liquor License for the Walker Rotary, and request to waive the \$75.00 temporary liquor license fees on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at Walker city park during MN BAM.  
Cindy – that is a smaller group coming in, and she is hoping they don't follow through with wanting the beer wagon.  
Motion passed (4-1) Naye: McMurrin
9. **M/S Nelson/Wilkening** Consider approval of Resolution 30-2012 to set wages and appoint Primary and General Election judges for the elections of August 10, 2012 and November 2, 2012.  
Nelson – the salary will be \$12 per hour for the head judges, it was incorrectly noted on the resolution.  
Roll Call: Ayes: Nelson, Moore, Bruns, Wilkening      Nayas:              None Abstain:  
McMurrin  
Motion passed (4-0)
10. **M/S Nelson/Moore** Consider approval to enter into a contract for services with Cass County Economic Development to update Deed grant application for Industrial Park infrastructure.  
Motion passed (5-0)

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & LIQUOR STORE – Councilmember Moore**

1. **M/S Moore/Wilkening** Consider approval of Walker Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments Meeting Minutes of May 21, 2012.  
Motion passed (5-0)
2. **M/S Moore/Wilkening** Consider approval of Resolution 31-2012 to vacate a portion of the alley in Block 16, Original Plat of Walker.  
Wilkening – we are basically fulfilling an obligation in a lease agreement we signed that never took place. The bank brought it to the attention of the city, went through Planning & zoning. It was agreed to, but never done.  
Bjorklund – will benefit public interest because \_\_\_\_\_, if we could add an item or two there.
  1. Going on with this, cleaned up and created value in the public for city beautification.
 Roll Call: Ayes: Nelson, Moore, McMurrin, Wilkening, Bruns Nayas:  
Motion passed (5-0)
3. **M/S Moore/Wilkening** Consider approval of the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning committee for the City Administrator to discuss with Cass County that the possibility of Cass County administering their dirt moving ordinance in the City of Walker.  
Nelson – Is this relating to Shorelands?  
Wilkening – that's where it gets complicated.  
Motion passed (5-0)
4. **M/S Moore/Nelson** Consider approval of the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning committee to move the discussion for a sign promoting the Industrial Park and its businesses on Hwy 371 to the Economic Development committee.  
Motion passed (5-0)

5. **M/S Moore/Wilkening** Consider approval of ordinance 2012-07 the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning committee for the parcel IDs 96-002-2201, 96-135-0001, 96-135-3201, 96-135-4101, 96-135-3301, 96-135-3003, 96-134-4403, 96-002-2202 and 96-003-1102 be zoned as public and parcel ID 96-135-3001 up for sale by the State of MN to be zoned as low density residential.  
 Nelson – we talked about zoning these things and then the Mayor talked to the county.  
 Bruns – according to our attorney, if we don't zone it, and someone asks for a building permit, we cannot deny them because we have not zoned it. In order to have some control, we need to zone it.  
 Nelson – We can go back and change it?  
 Bruns - yes  
 Roll Call: Ayes: Nelson, Moore, McMurrin, Wilkening, Bruns Nays:  
 Motion passed (5-0)

**LIBRARY, PARKS & AIRPORT – Councilmember McMurrin**

1. **M/S McMurrin/Moore** Review and file Walker Park Board meeting minutes of June 26, 2012.  
 Motion passed (5-0)
2. **M/S McMurrin/Nelson** Consider approval of the Park Board's recommendation to move forward with the tear down of the burner base.  
 Wilkening – I think we should find another use for it, rather than knock it down.  
 Motion passed (4-1) Naye: Wilkening
3. **M/S McMurrin/Moore** Consider approval to hire Young Excavating, Inc. for removal of concrete foundation in Walker City Park and black dirt & seed in the amount of \$3,600.  
 Motion passed (4-1) Naye: Wilkening
4. **M/S McMurrin/Moore** Consider approval Park Board's recommendation for the City to setup an account to accept donations for the building of a gazebo.  
 Wilkening – is it to go in place of the burner base?  
 McMurrin – yes  
 Nelson – I'm wondering about the process, if you collect money, what is the plan?  
 McMurrin – we've considered it, a plan is done  
 Nelson – I don't feel comfortable collecting the money. How do we re-distribute the money if we don't follow through with the project?  
 Bjorklund – that would be one of the main reason for the city to be the fiscal agent for the project. We have to get all donations approved by the council. If the project were not approved, we'd have the ability to return the funds.  
 Nelson – is the city willing to take that on?  
 Bjorklund – we've done it for many organizations throughout the years  
 Motion failed (0-5)  
**M/S Wilkening/Moore** Direct the park board to develop a plan with location for a gazebo to be placed at city park.  
 Motion passed (5-0)

5. **M/S McMurrin/Moore** Consider approval of the Park Board's recommendation to consider the building of a skate park & Ice rink on the old mini-golf property in place of trading it to the Forestry.  
 Wilkening – the only part I'm concerned with is the 'in place of trading it to the forestry', it is possible we could do all of the above  
 Nelson – the money for the trails was not going to be approved. They're looking at \$460k grant  
 Bresley – it's legacy money (Nelson - not approved for trails), two major hang ups on the trail thing, the tunnel under the road (\$290k-460k just for the tunnel), the other is the bridge down by Shingobee. (\$250k-600k on the bridge). Right now, we didn't get a dime. The only other source is legacy money.  
 Nelson – there isn't a plan right now.  
 Wilkening – we've been working on this for 5 years. I'd hate to throw it away for this.  
 Bruns – I'm in agreement with Gary, because I'd hate to screw up any agreement we had with the forestry. They had plans drawn up on what it was going to look like down there. I'd be afraid to change that without consulting the forestry.  
 McMurrin – the park board wants the council to consider it  
 Wilkening – I'd like the park board to work towards this  
 Bruns – if we approve this motion, we're allowing them to start building this  
 Moore – I feel we should keep this in our notes and find out what exactly we are committed to the forestry service.  
 Motion failed (0-5)
6. Discussion on the Park Board's request to allow the Board to expend Park funds as the board sees fit without the Council approval.  
 Nelson – Are you picking a dollar amount? Or what is the thought process  
 McMurrin – the park board feels they should be give \$x amount of dollars per year to spend without the council.  
 Bruns – When the budget is set, they are welcome to have input.  
 Motion fails
7. **M/S McMurrin/Moore** Consider approval of plans and specifications for Arrival/Departure Building.  
 Motion passed (5-0)
8. **M/S McMurrin/Nelson** Consider approval to advertise for bids for the Arrival/Departure building and set bid opening for July 26, 2012 at 2 p.m. at Walker City Hall.  
 Motion passed (5-0)
9. **M/S McMurrin/Moore** Consider approval to distribute the 2012 Walker Library Survey.  
 Nelson – how will you distribute it?  
 Bjorklund – through the water bill, in order to move forward with a potential grant, this is one of the steps we'd need to have completed for the grant paperwork.  
 Nelson – how are we going to reach the people in the townships?  
 Bjorklund – we'll have Carrie distribute them as well as word of mouth.  
 Wilkening – I'd like to see where their residence is (townships, seasonal, etc.)  
 Motion passed (5-0)

10. M/S McMurrin/Nelson Consider request of the recommendation of the Park Board to accept the donation of picnic tables for the park on the condition that they may be used by civic organization when needed in other locations, based on a policy drafted by the Park Board that allows the Park Board to administer use of the tables and bring the policy back to council for approval.
- Moore – I don't feel the benches should be moved out of the park. They are donated to the park, they need to stay there.
- Nelson – I feel the opposite, it's a community park. As long as they are used for another community event, they are donated, I know people/groups that have donated.
- Moore – how do we police that?
- Nelson – you don't have to police that.
- Nelson – we are a small community, if we are having a party at the school, we should have the ability to use the tables.
- Moore- Neil, who moves them for Ethnic Fest?
- Neil – the City of Walker
- McMurrin – I don't believe we should have city employees transporting them. They should also have to come to the park board for the request in case we have something else going on in the park that day.
- Nelson – if we have someone donate it, and we tell them they can't use it, they will no longer make donations
- McMurrin – a donation is a donation, we need to remember that
- Bruns – we need to monitor it, and they need to ask the park board. We need control.
- Motion passed (5-0)

**PUBLIC WORKS, SAFETY & CEMETERY – Councilmember Wilkening**

Mayor Bruns left the building and Wilkening was acting Mayor for item 1.

1. **M/S Wilkening/Nelson** Consider approval of Neil Lange, Public Works Director's request to approve Walker Sealcoat Company's quote for crack filling and seal coating the pavement at the Ambulance garage in the amount of \$1,170.00. – Wilkening acting Mayor  
Motion passed (4-0) Absent/Abstain: Bruns
2. **M/S Wilkening/Moore** Consider approval of Neil Lange, Public Works Director's request to approve quote from T&C Excavating and Ferguson Waterworks for the repair of sinking hydrant on Tianna Dr. The T&C Excavating quote is for \$3,540.00 and the parts from Ferguson are \$857.72.  
Motion passed (5-0)
3. **M/S Wilkening/Nelson** Consider approval of Neil Lange, Public Works Director's request to approve a contract from City Sanitary Services for the pick-up and trash removal from Public containers. The proposal is based on a three year contract for a total of \$16,000 a year.  
Moore – As long as the public works guys have enough other work to do  
Bruns – that's a totally different issue, we can't negotiate a contract based on performance  
Wilkening – roughly \$5,000  
It's a three year proposal, whenever you allow it, we'll go three years

City Sanitary – we’re excluding Ethic Fest, Fourth of July, etc. I didn’t do City Hall. He dumps right from our service, two weeks a month.

Motion passed (5-0)

4. **M/S Nelson/McMurrin** Consider request for street closure from Reed’s on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. to Sunday, August 19<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m., contingent upon the proof of insurance, with the city listed as an additional insurer 30 days prior to the event.

McMurrin – I think we should approve it, but this will be the last time if they don’t get us the application in 90 prior. amending sounds fine

Moore – I’m in agreement, we sit on these committees, we make these policies, then they don’t respect those policies. They have to follow the rules.

Nelson accepts amendment as long as it says 30 days prior.

Motion passed (4-1) Naves: Wilkening

**OTHER BUSINESS – Mayor Bruns**

- Arnold – Park of Lake May Beach – erosion. Would suggest putting a stop sign on the other two roads, maybe just during swimming season. Bruns – that’s something you can talk to Neil about.

**ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Bruns Nelson/Moore**

Mayor Bruns adjourned the Regular Scheduled Meeting at 7:26 p.m.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Scott Bruns, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Terri Bjorklund, Administrator