

**WALKER CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
WALKER FIRE HALL MEETING ROOM  
MONDAY, OCTOBER 1<sup>ST</sup>, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER –Mayor Shaw**

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

Terri Bjorklund, City Administrator	Pamela Smith, City Employee
Dean Morrill, Pilot Independent	Wayne Tennis, Chief of Police
Michael Ridlon, Public Works Director	John Valen, City Attorney
William Ofstedahl, Self	Mona Glassman, Self
Laverne Kennedy, Self	Jon Stewart, Building Inspector
Travis Baker, Police	Mary Wetterlund, Self

**CONSENT AGENDA-Mayor Shaw**

M/S Moore/Senenfelder to approve the Consent Agenda Items 1 thru 10 as follows waving the reading.

1. Approve Walker City Council regular meeting minutes of September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
2. Review and file draft of Walker Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments regular meeting minutes of September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
3. Review and file August Zoning Administrator report.
4. Review and file draft of Walker Park Advisory Board minutes of September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
5. Review and file draft of Walker Public Library Board minutes of September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
6. Review and file Walker Police Department Monthly Report.
7. Review and file Walker Area Joint Fire Department Minutes of September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
8. Review and file Public Works Committee meeting minutes of September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
9. Approve Cash Balance Report as of August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.
10. Review and file thank you from the Leech Chamber of Commerce.  
Motion passed (5-0)

**PUBLIC HEARING–Mayor Shaw**

Mayor Shaw stated that the public hearing has been postponed; however, due to the fact that some have traveled from quite a distance away he will allow two minutes each to speak. Letters of objection were submitted to the Mayor and the City Clerk. Shaw adds if they would like a copy of the deferment that is something they may be eligible for. Mayor Shaw notes that the postponement of the hearing is due to local sales tax funds received; this would enable the City time to re-evaluate the assessment policy taking those funds into consideration. They will send out another public hearing notice. Wetterlund requested that the City send it in a City envelop and City Letterhead.

Bjorklund answered that they could do that. She added that Detroit Lakes is where our City Engineer is from and they are the ones that prepares and mails it out. She will make sure that it goes out with City Letterhead.

Bill Ofstedahl stated that he did receive a notice but received 2 days after the hearing.

Shaw announced that this portion of the meeting is ending and will be given notice when they will be holding it again apologizing for the inconvenience.

Mona requested a letter of all of the people that are being assessed for this project.

### **SCHEDULED CITIZEN PRESENTATIONS –Mayor Shaw**

Mayor Shaw announced that Jon would be giving the Council an update on 403 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Jon-It is moving along. They have been concentrating on the inside. They didn't get started on the outside until this week.

Jon stated that someone from the State of Minnesota was here last week and he asked him about when permits expire. And he stated that it must be a City Ordinance. He added that the permit is null and void if work hasn't commenced after 180 days or if work is suspended or abandoned for a period of 180 days at any time after work is commenced.

Jon-In the Council meeting they have until the end of October to finish this project. They applied for their permit October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017. To get to the point of completion there is going to have to be a lot of work done in a short amount of time. They did clean up the front. They have a long way to go and had emphasized the importance of moving along. Bjorklund reads the motion from August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018; it was motioned by Wilkening and Seconded by Moore to approve to give Blaine's the opportunity to complete project by the end of the permit period. Adhering to the current building permit with the proviso that you apply and also receive the second permit for the deck and at the end of the term of the first permit the house must be in habitable condition as set forth by both permits. That a certificate of occupancy is issued by the Building Inspector for 403 2<sup>nd</sup> Street prior to the expiration of the building permit dated October 10, 2018 that they are currently working under.

Terri stated that this was in the approved minutes and may need to go back and look at that we can amend them if we are incorrect.

Jon stated that it is moving along but they have a lot to do to show significant improvement in a short amount of time.

### **CITY STAFF COMMENTS – Administrator Terri Bjorklund**

Bike MN, August 2018 quarterly newsletter; featuring Mayor Jed Shaw on the front cover.

Bjorklund reviewed the cover of the Bike Minnesota newsletter that featured Mayor Shaw on the cover without a bike helmet. She stated that she attended the last Bike Minnesota meeting trying to get the City of Walker to be a bike friendly community within the State of Minnesota. She reviewed some of the events in the area; walk/bike fun training, bike fleet work, bike rodeo, bikes and brew. We are also talking about bike share that will help enable people in the community that don't have a bike and helmet to be able to have bikes to use in different events. The one thing that they say that is really missing from this piece is that bikers generally like to tent camp and there is nowhere in this area for anyone to overnight tent. She requested that if anyone can brainstorm a

thought process or an idea that we might be able to work on or a piece of land within the City that would be feasible to give access to downtown and access to the trails.

The Board clarified that our Ordinance currently does not allow for tent camping and would have to change that.

Shaw suggested looking at the County Ordinances for tent camping in terms of densities. Bjorklund stated that she had a conversation with Mary Johnson about the area around the lighthouse and that it was not kept up to par. Since then staff have shaped that area up and she is happy with what has taken place. Mary has requested permission to install a small memorial plaque inside the lighthouse. Terri added that the lighthouse was donated by Brian and Mary Johnson.

Wilkening requested that she submit something to the Park Board showing the plaque and placement in the lighthouse.

Bjorklund added that Mary has also requested that in the spring Mary would redo the landscaping around the lighthouse working with Barb Sherman and that would be the last thing she would donate towards the lighthouse upkeep.

#### **PERSONNEL, BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION –Councilmember Senenfelder**

1. **M/S** Senenfelder/McMurrin to approve of Claim #55675 to Claim #55779 including Voided Check Numbers 55698 and 55699 and bank drafts in the amount of \$318,807.69.

Motion passed (5-0)

2. **M/S** Senenfelder/Wilkening to approve of the request from the Accounting department for the following transfers;
  - Transfer \$530.77 from Fund 302 checking to Fund 305 and Fund 306 checking in equal amounts.
  - Cash in CD #10095058 in the amount of \$84,537.54 from Fund 302 and transfer to Fund 305 and Fund 306 checking in equal amounts.

Shaw questioned the transfers on this.

Bjorklund stated that the CD is Street Capital Funds and they are going into the water and sewer fund to pay part of the loan payment on the 2016 Southside project.

Motion passed (5-0)

3. **M/S** Senenfelder/Moore to approve of Resolution 28-2018, a resolution accepting donations made to the City of Walker thru fiscal year 2018.  
Roll Call: Ayes: McMurrin, Moore, Senenfelder, Shaw, Wilkening Nays: None  
Motion passed (5-0)
4. **M/S** Senenfelder/McMurrin to approve of Resolution 29-2018, a resolution certifying delinquent nuisance enforcement expenses for past due mowing/maintenance to the 2019 tax roll.  
Roll Call: Ayes: McMurrin, Moore, Senenfelder, Shaw, Wilkening Nays: None  
Motion passed (5-0)
5. **M/S** Senenfelder/Wilkening to approve to send Michael Ridlon to MRWA winterizing water system training on October 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at a cost of \$125.00.  
Motion passed (5-0)
6. Review and discussion on Agreement to Fund the Outdoor Skating Rink 2018/2019 Skating Season between Walker Area Community Center, City of Walker and the Walker Youth Hockey.

Senenfelder stated that the agreement as written is in the packet.  
Wilkening clarified that they are putting in a meter now.  
Senenfelder and Wilkening stated that they will save the City money.  
Moore questioned if they are putting in a limit in the donation.  
Senenfelder stated that matching funds would total \$6,000.  
Moore questioned if it included the amount they are paying Dewey.  
Senenfelder stated that it is all in the agreement.  
**M/S Senenfelder/Moore to enter into an agreement with the Outdoor Skating Rink  
2018/2019 Skating Season between Walker Area Community Center, City of Walker  
and the Walker Youth Hockey.**  
Motion passed (4-1)

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/LIQUOR STORE/AIRPORT/LIBRARY –  
Councilmember McMurrin**

1. **M/S McMurrin/Moore to approve of Walker Planning Commission/Board of  
Adjustments Meeting Minutes of August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018.**  
Motion passed (5-0)
2. **M/S McMurrin/Wilkening to approve of Walker Planning Commission/Board of  
Adjustments recommendation for adoption of the City of Walker Real Estate Policy.**  
Motion passed (5-0)

**PARKS /AMBULANCE BOARD–Councilmember Moore**

1. **M/S Moore/McMurrin to approve of the Walker Park Advisory Board meeting  
minutes of August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2018.**  
Motion passed (5-0)
2. Review and file information regarding the donor recognition request for the Rock  
Garden Pavilion.
3. Review and file Lower Park Pavilion Community Input.  
Wilkening-A lot of respondents said don't do anything at that lower area.  
He questioned what would happen if we considered an enclosed pavilion in the upper  
area of the park, adding that this would be three to five years from now. He describes  
something closer to the water plant and increase the green space and also adding a  
moderate kitchen and bathrooms. Or the open spot on the other side of the water plant  
could be where you put your big open tents and big events.  
Senenfelder stated that according to State Law is no building shall be within 200 feet  
of City Wellhead. He added that they had to get a variance from the State when the  
constructed the new playground even though it is an above ground temporary area.  
Senenfelder-One of the concerns from the public is if they built a pavilion in the  
lower area it would obstruct the view of the beach area when you are coming into  
town. The current structure is going to need some maintenance and in four or five  
years could be in the same condition as the last one they just tore down. The posts are  
in the ground just like the last one was and they are starting to show a lot of use and a  
lot of wear.  
Senenfelder indicated that one of his goals when he started working with the Park  
Board was to get flush toilets in the lower area.

Wilkening suggested constructing the bathroom at the lower part of the stairs by the brush area and that wouldn't impede the view.

Moore noted that before they can go any further with the restroom idea they need permission from the DNR.

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

1. M/S Wilkening/Moore to approve of the Public Works Committee developing the south side park area to include at a minimum: tent area/camping (camping for groups), ice skating rink, warming house, electric, lighting and once completed Public Works will turn the area back over to the Park Board, for use and maintenance of the improvements.

Moore questioned on why it would go to Public Works when there is a Park Committee and an Advisory Board that could work on that.

Senenfelder adds that if their Board wants to foot the bill that he is okay with that.

Moore states that the funds were withdrawn from the township for the skating rink.

And after speaking with both Nancy and Reno they said until the City gets things done and in writing and a plan.

Wilkening and McMurrin state that that is what they are doing.

Wilkening stated that the Public Works department meets monthly with the City Engineer and that he would like to see it get done.

Moore stated that the only reason that the skating rink was dropped is because Nancy pulled the funds.

Wilkening noted that what he is proposing is that they develop a site plan, get the electrical put in and get the process started.

Senenfelder-I'm not sure that it is a place for an ice-skating rink. It has limited access and it is walk in only.

Shaw stated that what Gary and himself are going to do is get that area functional and get it laid out in a way that they think would work and do research on the ice-skating rink.

Moore added that she would like minutes or updates from the joint power meetings or a verbal update so the rest of the Council knows what is going on at these meetings.

McMurrin -What they want is a taskforce and quit letting other people get involved.

Appoint people to the taskforce, get the plans drawn up and figure out the finances and then bring to the Council what the proposal is. Turtle Lake was going to pay for all of the electric and we waited all summer and never got anyone down there to do it.

Reno is requesting a total on what the electric is going to cost so he can bring it back to their board to see if they will still do it.

Moore added that they do their budget in March.

The Board clarifies that it is the chicken shack/south-side park area.

Motion passed (5-0)

**OTHER BUSINESS –Mayor Jed Shaw**

- The Public Works department will be flushing hydrants October 15<sup>th</sup> through October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 between 8:00 am and 3:30 pm.
- Fall Clean Up: Small brush and bagged leaves only will be picked up curbside on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. NO large tree limbs or tires will be accepted.

Moore added that she doesn't see Library Board minutes and questioned if they are not having Library Board meetings.

Bjorklund stated that when there is a quorum and they have a meeting the minutes are included.

Moore questioned if they are going to start working on safety for the Library building.

Bjorklund stated that we are working on a plan for a proposed new building and now that summer is over and we have a Public Works director I will get back on task with that.

Moore stated that her concern is the safety of the building and getting through the winter without the public or employees getting hurt.

Shaw questioned Jon if he has inspected the building.

Jon-I wrote a report on it this spring. I was asked about structural integrity and I am not an engineer; in my opinion it is not in imminent danger of collapse. It is in a stressed state and if continued it will get much worse. There is water running through the roof in the back corner.

Shaw questioned as far as safety wise?

Jon stated that he hasn't seen anything that he would consider a safety issue, adding that the floor is sloping fairly significant.

Moore questioned Jon regarding the black mold.

Jon stated that someone could come up and write a report on it if that is what they want to do.

Moore-I am concerned so we don't end up getting sued because somebody got sick.

Jon – I can't write up a report on mold you would need to have someone that is certified to do that.

Moore requests that she would like to see what he has on the Library.

Wilkening added that if they found black mold they would have to close the Library.

**ADJOURNMENT-Mayor Jed Shaw**

Mayor Shaw adjourned the regular scheduled meeting at 6:50pm

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jed Shaw, Mayor

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