

**WALKER CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
WALKER FIRE HALL MEETING ROOM  
MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER –Mayor Shaw**

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

Terri Bjorklund, City Administrator  
Pamela Smith, City Employee  
Travis Baker, Police  
Cindy Wannarka, Chamber  
Neil Lange, Public Works Director  
Eddy Kendrick, Self  
Randall Morrison, Self  
Sarah Forbrook, Self  
Marlee Morrison, Self  
Mark Vondenkamp, Self

John Valen, City Attorney  
Wayne Tennis, Chief of Police  
Dean Morrill, Pilot Independent  
Fred Rogers, Self  
Joe Arndt, Self  
Madison Kendrick, Self  
Aubrey Morrison, Self  
Corah Meschke, Self  
Jan Vondenkamp, Self

**CONSENT AGENDA-Mayor Shaw**

M/S Moore/McMurrin to approve the Consent Agenda Items 1 thru 11 as follows, waving the reading.

1. Approve Walker City Council regular meeting minutes of February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
2. Approve Walker City Council continuation and public hearing meeting minutes of February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017.
3. Review and file draft of Walker Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments regular meeting minutes of February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
4. Review and file January 2017 Zoning Administrator report.
5. Review and file Walker Police Department Monthly Report.
6. Review and file Public Works Committee minutes of March 2, 2017.
7. Approve Cash Balance Report as of January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017.
8. Review and file Walker Area Joint Fire Department Minutes of February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
9. Review and file letter from the U.S. Census Bureau regarding the preparation for the 2020 Census of Governments.
10. Review and file 2016 Cass County Sheriff's Office 2016 Annual Report.
11. Approve the addition of number 4 to Economic Development regarding sending the drafted letter to Cass County Administrator Josh Stevens.  
Motion passed (4-0)

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

- The City Council wishes to recognize the poster contest winners from the MRWA 4<sup>th</sup> Grade poster contest.
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Aubrey Morrison
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Corah Meschke
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Madison Kendrick

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

None.

## **PERSONNEL, BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION – Mayor Shaw**

1. **M/S Shaw/Moore** to approve of Claim #53426 to Claim #53531 including Voided Check Numbers 53443 and 53444 and bank drafts in the amount of \$180,859.53  
Motion passed (4-0)
2. **M/S Shaw/Wilkening** to approve not to waive the statutory Tort limits established by MN Statute 466.04  
Motion passed (4-0)
3. **M/S Shaw/Wilkening** to approve to enter into a MIF grant contract agreement CDAP-16-0064-H-FY17 between the City of Walker and Pressing Midnight, LLC.  
Motion passed (4-0)
4. **M/S Shaw/Moore** to approve of the following MIF agreements between Pressing Midnight, LLC and the City of Walker and for the Mayor and City Administrator to execute these agreements when they receive State authorization:
  - Loan Agreement
  - Promissory Note
  - Guaranty Agreement
  - Security AgreementMotion passed (4-0)
5. **M/S Shaw/Wilkening** to approve of the request of the Accounting Department of the following transfers as of 1-20-2017.
  - \$8,524.18 from the Sewer Fund 602 to the 2016 PFA Sewer Debt Principal fund 306.
  - \$5,593.37 from the Water Fund 601 to the 2016 PFA Water Debt Principal fund 305.Motion passed (4-0)
6. **M/S Shaw/McMurrin** to approve of Portage Brewing, LLC's small brewer off-sale license, on-sale brewers tap room license and on-sale Sunday tap room license; contingent upon receiving a valid Brewers License from the State of Minnesota.  
Motion passed (4-0)
7. Discussion regarding the State Legislator passing a Sunday Liquor Sales effective July 1, 2017 and whether to consider changing the hours of operation of the City of Walker's Municipal Liquor Store Hours of Operation.  
McMurrin stated that she feels that they have to or they will lose customers. The Board discusses the hours that they could be opened.  
Bjorklund clarified that the House version of the bill states the hours are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and the Senate version of the bill is 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. She noted that the

Ordinance will read that we will follow State Statute, because we do not know which one it will be.

8. **M/S Shaw/McMurrin** to approve of Ordinance 2017-02, an Ordinance amending Hours of Operation under Article V. Municipal Liquor Store.  
Roll Call: Ayes: McMurrin, Moore, Shaw, Wilkening Nays: None  
Absent: Senenfelder  
Motion passed (4-0)
9. **M/S Shaw/McMurrin** to approve of Resolution 12-2017, a resolution authorizing a summary publication of Ordinance 2017-02, amending Hours of Operation under Article V. Municipal Liquor Store.  
Roll Call: Ayes: McMurrin, Moore, Shaw, Wilkening Nays: None  
Absent: Senenfelder  
Motion passed (4-0)
10. **M/S Shaw/Wilkening** to approve of Resolution 10-2017, a resolution certifying past due Walker Water Works Account to the 2018 tax roll.  
Roll Call: Ayes: McMurrin, Moore, Shaw, Wilkening Nays: None  
Absent: Senenfelder  
Motion passed (4-0)
11. **M/S Shaw/Moore** to approve of Resolution 11-2017, a resolution accepting donations made to the City of Walker thru fiscal year 2017.  
Roll Call: Ayes: McMurrin, Moore, Shaw, Wilkening Nays: None  
Absent: Senenfelder  
Motion passed (4-0)

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

Library Board did not meet in February 2017 due to lack of quorum.

1. **M/S McMurrin/Wilkening** to approve of Walker Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments Meeting Minutes of January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.  
Motion passed (4-0)
2. **M/S McMurrin/Wilkening** to approve of the recommendation of the Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments to have the City Administrator send a letter to Cass County informing the Land Department that the City will not be purchasing the tax forfeited land identified as Parcel #96-378-0130.  
Motion passed (4-0)
3. **M/S McMurrin/Moore** to approve to hire Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. to be the airport engineer for a five year period; the City received five SOQ's for consideration. Wilkening added that one thing that he liked about Karvakko Engineering was the idea to help build an airport authority that would extend out to other tax bases and believes it is a good plan and should bring it forward to the engineer that we selected. Bjorklund stated they only drawback about Karvakko, is that they are such a small firm, they would have went to another firm to get the master plan done and that is the most expensive and largest project that we have.  
Motion passed (4-0)

**PARKS /AMBULANCE BOARD/ARTS AND CULTURAL COMMISSION–  
Councilmember Moore**

Park Advisory Board did not meet in February 2017 due to lack of quorum.

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

1. **M/S Wilkening/McMurrin** to approve of recommendation of the Public Works Committee to approve the quote from Design Electrical Contractors Inc. in the amount of \$11,182 for the upgrade of two signal lights to LED.  
Motion passed (4-0)
2. **M/S Wilkening/Moore** to approve of the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to approve the quote from Electric Pump in the amount of \$27,563 plus freight for the purchase of a replacement pump at the upper lift station.  
Wilkening added that this scheduled budgeted replacement for this year.  
Motion passed (4-0)
3. **M/S Wilkening/McMurrin** to approve of the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to work with Rogers Two Way Radio to program the City Truck Radios with a frequency to allow for communication with Cass County in case of a major emergency.  
Motion passed (4-0)
4. **M/S Wilkening/McMurrin** to approve of the revised agreement from Cass County regarding the Ah-Gwah-Ching road maintenance. (Public Works Committee recommends not executing the revised agreement)  
Wilkening stated that this is recommended to not execute the revised agreement. He explained that they have an opportunity to get on a three year cycle for splitting costs on the Ah-Gwah-Ching Road. That road is not ours next year or the year after. It was our recommendation to wait and see what the development plan is with the County.  
Motion fails (0-4)
5. **M/S Wilkening/Moore** to approve of the recommendation of the Public Works Committee of the following street closures for Ethnic Fest- Friday September 9th through Saturday September 10th, 2017 with the conditions there will be no staking of tents or other holes in the Streets or ROW and \$100.00 per hole fine will be imposed if found.
  - 4<sup>th</sup> Street Minnesota to alley behind Bensons
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Street Minnesota to alley behind Heritage Square
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Street Minnesota to Front Street.(Closed from 8:00 p.m. September 9<sup>th</sup> thru 10:00 p.m. September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017)  
Motion passed (4-0)
6. **M/S Wilkening/McMurrin** to approve of the recommendation of the Public Works Committee of the purchase and installation of two new warning sirens from Frontline Warning Systems in the amount of \$55,560.  
The bulk of the money will come from TIF funds and it will be benefiting Townships, Cass County and the City of Walker residents.  
Motion passed (4-0)

Shaw questioned the public if there was anything else to come before the Council this evening.

Bjorklund stated that addition of number 4 under Economic Development has not been done.

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

4. M/S McMurrin/Moore to approve to send letter to Cass County Administrator Josh Stevens offering support and cooperation from the City with any future exploration of renovations or growth of the Cass County offices in the City of Walker.  
Motion passed (4-0)

Cindy Wannarka extends her thanks to both Mayor Shaw and Councilor Wilkening for going to the capitol last week with less than a 24 hour notice, that that helped stopped the bill. Wilkening stated that it was a community event; the calls that were made helped to pave the way for Jed and myself to walk in and have a very fruitful discussion. Fred Rogers adds that he was at the capitol on Tuesday lobbying for Arts funding and met with Matt Bliss and stated Mr. Bliss denied anything about it at that time. Rogers adds that our portion of the County has the highest percentage of artists living in Northern Minnesota. I will be giving Char a report. Mayor Shaw thanks Fred Rogers for going to the capitol.

Dean Morrill stated that representative Bliss will be in Walker on the 17<sup>th</sup>. Cindy added that that date may change due to Mr. Bliss already being booked for something else on that date. She states that he is still coming to Walker, just on a different day.

Wilkening stated that representative Bliss was very receptive of the whole process. He was not fully aware of what he was putting out for whom.

Joe Arndt questioned further clarification in regards to the discussion of number 7 under personnel, budget & administration; Sunday Liquor Sales. He questioned if the City was going to pass that or adopt the hours. Bjorklund explained that that is what was adopted tonight. What we will have to do now is do a Sunday off-sale license and then decide on the fee but we do not have to have this in place until the first weekend in July. Vondenkamp questioned if they were tied to the hours of the municipal store. Bjorklund stated that the Ordinances are tied to the State Statute. Whatever the State Statute is; is law for everybody. She reminds them that as a City they cannot be less restrictive than State Statute, only more restrictive.

**OTHER BUSINESS –Mayor Jed Shaw**

The meeting was closed at 6:21 p.m. under the attorney-client exception to the open meeting law in order for the city to have confidential communications with its legal counsel regarding litigation strategy.

The closed portion of the meeting was closed and the regular meeting reopened at 6:39p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT-Mayor Jed Shaw**

Mayor Shaw adjourned the regularly scheduled Meeting at 6:40p.m.

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

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