

**WALKER CITY COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES  
Business Subsidy Policies  
Monday September 8, 2008 6:30 p.m.  
Walker Fire Hall Meeting Room, 701 Elm Street**

**CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Walhof**

- Mayor Walhof called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 p.m.
- Council members present: Fjelstul, Finney, Worth, Wilkening, Walhof
- Council members absent: None
- Others present during portions of the meeting included:

Terri Bjorklund, Administrator  
Joanne Mitchell, City Employee  
Roger Burley, Spencer Ross Post 134

Sylvia Bakker, City Employee  
Wayne Tennis, Police Chief

The Walker City Council will receive comments and concerns pertaining to the proposed adoption of the City's subsidy policies for subsidies under the JOBZ program and business subsidies in general (collectively, the "Business Subsidy Policies") under Minnesota Statutes, Sections 116J.993 through 116J.995. At this time I will turn it over to our City Administrator.

Due to the request and approval of Tax Abatement for the Walker American Legion and legislative changes we need to update the Business Subsidy Agreement currently approved by the Council. We have worked with Elhers and Associates to accomplish this.

The biggest area of change to our agreement is that we currently have one policy geared toward the JOBZ program & NON-JOBZ Subsidy. We now have two separate agreements and the format of the document has changed to allow for easier reference and amendment.

As a result of this change the City of Walker would have a Policy for Non-Business subsidies and a policy for Subsidies under the JOBZ program the Criteria has remained basically the same.

The only Legislative change that is reflected is in 2.2 of Exhibit A that there is now an exemption for wage and job goals in that no public hearing is required to set wage and job at Zero for subsidies that are less than 150,000, and that change in the legislator actually pertains to the Legion Abatement Agreement, because we agreed to work with them based on the good that they do for the Community as opposed to JOBZS at 110% of the permanent minimum rate standard. They would not be able to provide that type of

wage to their staff and retain operations, so we are able to go on later on in our regular meeting and approve an agreement for abatement with them, without having had a Public Hearing regarding the zero in the JOBZS. At this time I will entertain any questions you may have regarding the Business Subsidy Agreement.

Mayor Walhof asked if there were any comments from the audience?

Upon receiving no comments the following took place.

**ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Walhof**

Mayor Walhof adjourned the Public Hearing for the proposed adoption of the City’s Subsidy Policies for subsidies under the JOBZ program and business subsidies in general (collectively, the “Business Subsidy Policies”) under Minnesota Statutes, Sections 116J.993 through 116J.995 at 6:34 p.m.

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Bradley J. Walhof, Mayor

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