

**WALKER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WALKER FIRE HALL MEETING ROOM
Monday June 7, 2004 7:00 p.m.**

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Walhof

- Mayor Walhof called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- Council members present: Finney, Reed, Bruns, Bresley, Walhof
- Council members absent:
- Others present during portions of the meeting included:

Stephen Michel, Administrator
John Valen, City Attorney
Cindy Walhof, Self
Randy Bentley, Self
Audrey Chelberg, Library Board
Shirley Mallory, Self
Lois Orton, Self
Joe Plummer, Attorney for Prescott

Sylvia Bakker, City Employee
Carrie Musselman, Lib. Director
Teri Bjorklund, Liquor Store
Rosie Ochs, Self
Bob Mallory, Self
Chick Knight, Coalwell Banker
Chaz Ratz, Police Officer

CONSENT AGENDA – Mayor Walhof

M/S Bresley, Bruns to approve consent agenda items 1 through 7 as follows, with the addition of two items to the agenda.

1. Approve Walker Public Hearing Minutes of May 3, 2004.
2. Approve Walker City Council Minutes of May 3, 2004.
3. Approve May 2004 disbursements.
4. Approve Cash Balance Report as of May 31, 2004.
5. Review and file letter dated May 27, 2004, from Beth Kluthe, Minnesota Department of Health, approving the City of Walker/Walker Ranger Stations Wellhead Protection Plan.
6. Approve payment to Walker American Legion in the amount of \$1,034.20 for the flagpole for City Hall.
7. Addition of two items, one under the Park and Recreation agenda, and second item under Personnel/Budget/Administration.

Motion passed: 5-0

SCHEDULED CITIZEN PRESENTATIONS:

- Chick Knight presented the concept of placing For Sale signs, with messages at the entrance to the City on a lot owned by Dan Piprud, near Country Inn.

M/S Finney, Bruns to refer request to the Planning Commission at their next regularly scheduled meeting, June 28, 2004 @ 5:15 p.m.

Motion passed: 5-0

CITY STAFF COMMENTS/CONCERNS – Administrator Steve Michel

- Steve Michel, City Administrator introduced Carrie Musselman, the new Director of Walker Library.
- Reviewed and filed invitation to Minnesota Rural Partners, Central Lakes College and the Region 5 Development Commissions 2nd Annual Rural Resources Roundup on June 22, 2004.
- Reviewed and filed memo from Region 5 Development Commission, seeking nominations for a representative.
- Reviewed and filed memo from Minnesota Department of Transportation.
- Reviewed and filed Night watch newsletter.
- Steve Michel, City Administrator, updated the Council on the move into City Hall, and the positive comments we have heard.
- Terri Bjorklund, Liquor Store Manager, updated the Council on the Liquor Store. Council member Truman Reed, added he has taken people on tours through the building, and has gotten all positive comments.

PERSONNEL, BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION–Councilmember Bresley

1. **M/S** Bruns, Reed to approve payment of Invoice 9981, in the amount of \$3,574.61 to Cascade Computers for the computers and software upgrades at Walker Bay Spirits.

Motion passed: 5-0

2. **M/S** Finney, Bresley to approve a 1 to 4 day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for the Walker Rotary Club, for the 4th of July.

Motion passed: 5-0

3. **M/S** Bruns, Finney to approve the purchase of a 2 yard dumpster from City Sanitary Service in the amount off \$406.77 for garbage from the City Hall/Liquor Store.

Motion passed: 5-0

4. **M/S** Finney, Bruns to approve the purchase of a 4 yard dumpster from City Sanitary Service in the amount of \$616.58 for cardboard for the City Hall/Liquor Store.

Motion passed: 5-0

5. **M/S** Bruns, Reed to approve Resolution 15-2004, decertifying TIF District 2-6 (Hardee's)

Roll Call: Ayes: Finney, Bresley, Reed, Bruns, Walhof Nyes: None

Motion passed: 5-0

6. **M/S** Bruns, Reed to approve contract with the State of Minnesota/Inver Hills Community College for (EHS) courses for up to seven (7) students, in an amount not to exceed \$8,697.50.

Motion passed: 5-0

7. **M/S** Finney, Bruns to approve quote from Northern Lakes Floral in the amount of \$459.64 for trees and greenery in front of the Ambulance Garage.

Motion passed: 5-0

8. **M/S** Bruns, Finney to approve payment of Invoice in the amount of \$1,500.00 to Cass County Auditor/Treasurer for TIF District Administrative fees for the year 2003.

Motion passed: 5-0

9. **M/S** Bruns, Finney to approve the City of Akeley/City of Walker Police Department co-operation Mutual Aid Agreement, contingent upon approval by the City of Akeley, with Council member Bresley, and City Administrator negotiating an agreement on behalf of the City.

Motion passed: 5-0

10. Reviewed and filed letter from Life Line Emergency Vehicles, and acknowledged reimbursement of \$4,700.00.
11. **M/S** Finney, Bresley to approve an increase from \$1,500.00 to \$2,000.00 per year of service for retiring Fire Department personnel.

Motion passed: 4-0 Council member Bruns abstained.

12. **M/S** Bruns, Finney to grant authorization to have the Mayor and City Administrator sign grant applications.

Motion passed: 5-0

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Councilmember Bruns

1. Review and file Walker Planning Commissions Public Hearing Minutes of May 24, 2004.
2. Review and file Walker Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of May 24, 2004.
3. **M/S** Finney, Reed to approve Walker Planning Commissions recommendation to grant a Conditional Use Permit for Stille Haven Hus, Inc., with the following conditions. Restricted to adult foster care and adult day programming.

Motion passed: 4-0 Council member Bresley abstained.

4. **M/S** Finney, Bruns to approve holding a Public Hearing on July 12, 2004, to hear citizen comments and concerns pertaining to changing the zoning ordinance to read that permitted uses in the Industrial Zone be changed to Conditional uses.

Motion passed: 4-0 Council member Bresley abstained.

PARKS & RECREATION/CEMETERY – Councilmember Finney

1. **M/S** Bresley, Bruns to approve Walker Rotary, Walker Lions Club, Walker Jaycees, and the American Legions request to use Walker City Park for the annual 4th of July Celebration.

Motion passed: 5-0

2. **M/S** Bruns, Bresley to approve Walker Park Board Minutes of May 26, 2004.
3. **M/S** Bresley, Bruns to approve payment of \$9,591.00 to Kitchigami Regional Library for 2004.

Motion passed: 5-0

4. Review and file Walker Evergreen Cemetery Board Meeting Minutes of May 10, 2004.
5. **M/S** Bresley, Bruns to approve Walker Evergreen Cemetery Board's recommendation to offer the sale of 3.89 acres of land to John Zacher, at the same price he paid for the property in the Industrial Park, with the monies to be put in the Evergreen Cemetery perpetual care fund.

Motion passed: 5-0

6. Review and file minutes from Walker Evergreen Cemetery Board meeting minutes of June 3, 2004.
7. **M/S** Bruns, Bresley to approve Walker Cemetery Boards recommendation to hire Al Bakker as an Independent Contractor for the Walker Evergreen Cemetery.

Motion passed: 5-0

8. **M/S** Reed, Finney to approve Kitchigami Regional Library's request to purchase two computers, printers, less replacement reserve at a cost of \$2,173.00, with reimbursement from the Walker Library Board, upon receiving a Resolution from Kitchigami Regional Library, that it won't affect the maintenance of effort for the City of Walker.

Motion passed: 5-0

9. **M/S** Bresley, Bruns to approve Walker Library Board minutes of May 18, 2004.

Motion passed: 5-0

10. **M/S** to approve Walker Library Board's recommendation to appoint Mary Cyr to replace Lisa Tuller, on the Walker Library Board

Motion passed: 5-0

11. Discussed the placement of a banner within the City, advertising Sand Lake Jam. To advice them to go through the permit application through the City's zoning ordinance, with the understanding they will not place signs on City Property.

PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY – Councilmember Reed

1. **M/S** Bresley, Bruns to approve the purchase of Bullet Proof Vests for the Police Officers at an approximate cost of \$3,000.00, if 50% will be reimbursed by the State.

Motion passed: 5-0

2. **M/S** Bresley, Finney to approve Widseth Smith Nolting recommendation to pay payment application No.#5 to Eagle Construction in the amount of \$50,288.00, for work completed on Phase III of the Conservation Building.

Motion passed: 5-0

3. Lighting at Liquor Store. No action taken
4. **M/S** Bruns, Bresley to approve payment of Invoice No. 880B078-404 in the amount of \$1,187.50 to Widseth Smith Nolting for Architectural Services

Motion passed: 5-0

5. **M/S** Bruns, Bresley to approve payment of Invoice # 100860 in the amount of \$2,485.00 to American Eagle Security Systems, Inc. for the security system at the City Hall/Liquor Store.

Motion passed: 5-0

6. **M/S** Bresley, Finney to approve payment of Invoice # 100860 in the amount of \$1,250.00 to American Eagle Security Systems, Inc. for the security system at the City Hall/Liquor Store.

Motion passed: 5-0

7. **M/S** Bresley, Finney to approve payment of Invoice # 12245 in the amount of \$3,853.83 to Wilkening Fireplace Company for the fireplace insert and installation at the Liquor Store.

Motion passed: 5-0

8. **M/S** Bruns, Bresley to approve payment of Work Order # 17584 to Emergency Apparatus in the amount of \$422.61 for work completed on Ambulance Unit 202.
Motion passed: 5-0
9. **M/S** Bruns, Finney to approve payment of Work Order # 18076 to Emergency Apparatus in the amount of \$625.98 for work completed on Ambulance Unit 201.
Motion passed: 5-0
10. **M/S** Bresley, Bruns to approve payment of Invoice in the amount of \$11,872.87 to Lampert's Cabinets, Inc. for the desks and file cabinets for the City Hall, contingent upon completion and modifications to the file cabinets as needed.
Motion passed: 5-0
11. **M/S** Bruns, Finney to approve payment of Invoice # 26528 in the amount of \$4,017.71 to Walker Pipe and Supply for the pumps for the Forestry Lift Station.
Motion passed: 5-0
12. **M/S** Bresley, Bruns to approve quote from Tree Farmers Sales Inc in the amount of \$1,345.00 for a John Deere LX6 Rotary cutter for the tractor at the Walker Airport.
Motion passed: 5-0
13. **M/S** Bresley, Finney to approve payment of Invoice # 1416 in the amount of \$1,278.00 to Walker Polaris and Power Equipment, LLC for a cart and blower for the Walker Evergreen Cemetery.
Motion passed: 5-0
14. **M/S** Bresley, Bruns to approve payment of Invoice # 042017 in the amount of \$722.00 to Landecker & Associates for Engineering & Surveying Service in the Industrial Park.
Motion passed: 5-0
15. **M/S** Bruns, Bresley to approve payment of Invoice # 042015 in the amount of \$186.00 to Landecker & associates for review of City Assessment Policy for the Forest Service Lift Station.
Motion passed: 5-0
16. Discussed Roadways & Storm water in the Industrial Park.
M/S Bruns, Finney to direct the Public Works Committee, to obtain quotes and costs for roads that we currently need to access the Rogen and Zacher property. Council member Bresley abstained.
Motion passed: 4-0
17. **M/S** Finney, Bresley to approve the sale of 5 acres of property in the Industrial Park to Rick Cole at a price of \$45,000.00, with the City to share the cost of surveying, at an approximate cost of \$800.00 to the City.
Motion passed: 5-0
18. **M/S** Bresley, Finney to direct the City Administrator to petition Beltrami Electric, to allow a portion of the Industrial Park to be served by MN Power.
Motion passed: 5-0
19. To acknowledge request to hold a Public Hearing at the July Council meeting, to consider request from Property owners who's buildings infringe on City Property to vacate a portion of Cleveland Blvd. And Railroad Avenue.
20. Discussed the opportunity to sell approximately 134 acres of City Property. No action taken.

21. **M/S** Bresley, Bruns to deny request from Randy Bentley to create a drainage ditch sloping onto City Property at the Airport to drain water to two holding ponds on his property.

Motion passed: 5-0

22. Discussed the problems created by people parking in the alley from 4th street down to the parking lot by the pond. To take the problem to the retail service committee, to see if it can be resolved. Steve to discuss with retail service personnel.

23. **M/S** Bresley, Bruns to deny request to negotiate with Jeff Kellogg and Christy Morris to play for the City Hall/Liquor Store Grand Opening with compensation applied to the water/sewer bill.

Motion passed: 5-0

24. **M/S** Bresley, Bruns to deny request from Jeff Kellogg to seal the retaining wall at the Library, with compensation applied to their water/sewer bill.

Motion passed: 5-0

OTHER BUSINESS – Mayor Walhof

- Mayor Walhof reported on the meeting held at Cass County pertaining to the Counties role in providing additional Health Care to the area. Mayor Walhof stated that there were representatives from Hackensack, Merit Care Clinic, Dakota Clinic, MN Dept of Health, and an advisor from Duluth.
- Reviewed Committee assignments, relative to the Liquor Store Litigation. Advised the Economic Development Committee to research the financial impact, to review the options to the City to recover profits if the Municipal Liquor Store should have to close, and the options available to the City to pay for the improvements to the building. If you could research these items, and bring a recommendation back to the council, and also a recommendation to the council, as to what kind of a notification we should do to current Liquor License holders within 1000 feet, of the present Cass County Facility.
- Reported City Hall would be closed on Monday July 5, 2004 in honor of the July 4th Holiday.
- Reported that the July, August, and September Council meetings will be held at the Walker Ambulance Garage, instead of the Walker Fire Hall meeting room.

CLOSED MEETING TO PUBLIC – Mayor Walhof

- At 10:12 p.m. Mayor Walhof announced that after a 5 minutes recess, the meeting would be closed to the Public for an Attorney/Client update on the Litigation against the City, pertaining to the Walker Liquor Store.

RECONVENED MEETING – Mayor Walhof

- At 11:02 p.m. Mayor Walhof re-opened the meeting to the Public.
- **M/S** Bresley, Bruns to approve the City's Attorney's continued defense of the City in the matter of the relocation of the City's Municipal Liquor Store, for the

sake of the citizens of Walker continued operation of the Municipal Liquor Store, and other Walker City business that may be impacted if the order stands.

ADJOURN – Mayor Walhof

Mayor Walhof adjourned the regular scheduled meeting at 11:04 p.m.

Bradley J. Walhof, Mayor

Attest: _____
Stephen J. Michel, Administrator