

**WALKER CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
WALKER FIRE HALL MEETING ROOM  
Monday July 12, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Walhof**

- Mayor Walhof called the regular scheduled meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
- Council members present: Fjelstul, Finney, Walhof
- Council members absent: Wilkening, Worth
- Others present during portions of the meeting included:

Terri Bjorklund, Administrator  
John Valen, City Attorney  
Edy Asell, Zoning Administrator  
Paul Fairbanks  
Larry Anderson  
Joe Arndt  
Lloyd Peterson  
Ken Bresley  
Dean Morrill  
Joe Sherman  
Skip Duchesneau  
Cindy Wannarka

Travis Baker, Police Officer  
Sylvia Bakker, City Employee  
Gail Levenson, Cass County EDC  
Claudette Holly  
Jonathon Knowles  
Elsie Nelson  
Pat Kastning  
Joel Dresel  
Terry Holly  
Steve Bilben  
Warren Anderson

**CONSENT AGENDA – Mayor Walhof**

M/S Fjelstul, Finney to approve the Consent Agenda Items 1 thru 8 as follows:

1. Approve Walker City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of June 7, 2010.
2. Approve Cash Balances as of May 28, 2010.
3. Approve Claim #43224 to Claim #43276, and Claim #43278 to Claim #43353, in the amount of \$317,864.87.
4. Approve payment of Work Order Numbers #54994 thru #54999 in the amount of \$4,729.46 to Swanson's Repair for repairs and testing completed on the Fire Department Trucks.
5. Review and file Walker Planning Commission Meeting Minutes of June 28, 2010.
6. Review and file Walker Police Department's Monthly Report.
7. Review and file Initiative Foundation letter dated July 2, 2010.
8. Review and file Leech Lake Area Chamber Thank-You.
9. Joel Dresel, SEH and Ken Bresley Airport Parallel Taxiway Update.

Motion passed: 4-0

### **SCHEDULED CITIZEN PRESENTATIONS – Mayor Walhof**

- Joel Dresel and Ken Bresley, SEH – Airport Update on Parallel Taxiway. Taxiway is complete except for a few signs that have to be installed.
- Pat Kastning, Thank You Presentation for the help the LLWT received from City Staff and Mayor this year.
- Leech Lake Fishing Task Force comments on the Draft Leech Lake Fisheries Management Plan for 2011 thru 2015.
- Gail Levenson, SCDP Policies, and request for Program Income Plan.
- Pat Kastning, Walker Area Community Center Board request for local sales and use tax. John Valen, City Attorney research the information the WACC has received from the State Legislature and take the issue up on the third Thursday of this month at a Regular Scheduled Council Meeting.

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

- I just want to say Thank You to the Staff and Council for bearing with me while I'm recovering from surgery, there are a couple of things that did not get done for this month's packet, and I am working diligently to get them caught up and on next month's agenda.
- We received a letter from Deed, the Minnesota Department of Deed saying that they have now completed and closed the Grant Application for the Chase Redevelopment Program, so we now have that off our desks.
- We also received a letter today from Derrick Thomas, ISO regarding the Fire Department Classification, which Scott Bruns, Fire Chief and I have already discussed and we are working on getting them the information about the training they need to retain our classification.

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

1. Steve Bilben & Skip Duchesneau – Bike Trail Update.
2. **M/S** Fjelstul, Wilkening to approve Resolution 22-2010, a Resolution accepting the resignation of Council Member Pamela Worth, and declaring a vacancy on the Walker City Council.

Roll Call: Ayes: Finney, Fjelstul, Wilkening, Walhof Nays: None

Motion passed: 4-0

3. **M/S** Finney, Wilkening to approve Resolution 23-2010, a Resolution appointing Scott Bruns to fill the vacancy on the Walker City Council.

Roll Call: Ayes: Finney, Fjelstul, Wilkening, Walhof Nays: None

Motion passed: 4-0

Administrator Terri Bjorklund - Swearing in of Council Member Bruns.

4. **M/S** Fjelstul, Wilkening to approve the 2011 Budget Request in the amount of \$350.00 to the Initiative Foundation.

Motion passed: 5-0

5. **M/S** Fjelstul, Wilkening to approve the transfer of \$2,000.00 from the General Fund to the Legion Tax Abatement Account, and \$519.00 from the General Account to the Industrial Park Project Account, and \$195.33 from the Walker Connection Trail Savings Account to the Checking Account.

Motion passed: 5-0

6. **M/S** Fjelstul, Finney to table request from the Walker Area Community Center's Board of Director's request to take the necessary steps to have a ballot question for a (.5%) local sales and use tax placed on the November 2 ballot, serving the Walker Precincts, and address the issue at the Council Meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month.

Motion passed: 5-0

7. **M/S** Finney, Wilkening to approve Resolution 24-2010 a Resolution denying approval of the Leech Lake Fisheries Management Plan for 2011 thru 2015.

Roll Call: Ayes: Fjelstul, Finney, Bruns, Wilkening, Walhof Nays: None

Motion passed: 5-0

8. **M/S** Fjelstul, Finney to approve Resolution 25-2010, a Resolution approving the Leech Lake Advisory Committee's "Report to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resource's".

Roll Call: Ayes: Fjelstul, Finney, Bruns, Wilkening, Walhof Nays: None

Motion passed: 5-0

9. **M/S** Fjelstul, Finney to appoint the Leech Lake Fishing Task Force's recommendation that the following people represent the City with the Department of Natural Resources. Brad Walhof, City – Gary Wilkening, City – Larry Anderson, LLAC – Terry Holly, LLAC, Brad Michaud, LLAC – Joe Sherman, LLAC – Jim Bedell, LLAC – Larry Jacobson, LLAC.

Motion passed: 5-0

10. **M/S** Fjelstul, Wilkening to approve Vera Stewart, and Shirley Ziegler as election Judges.

Motion passed: 5-0

11. Sign Committee Update.

**M/S** Finney, Bruns to appoint Citizens belonging to non-profit organizations to work with the Leech Lake Chamber Sign Committee.

Motion passed: 5-0

12. **M/S** Fjelstul, Finney to approve the Walker Fire Department's request to close 5<sup>th</sup> Street on August 6<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. to 1:30 a.m. for the Fireman's Ball, pending County approval, and contingent upon receiving Liquor Liability Insurance.

Motion passed: 4-0 Council Member Bruns Abstained.

13. **M/S** Fjelstul, Finney to approve a 1 to 4 day Temporary Liquor License for the Walker Fire Department for August 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010, waiving the \$75.00 fee, and contingent upon receiving their Liquor Liability Insurance.

Motion passed: 3-0 Council Member Bruns and Wilkening Abstained.

#### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/LIQUOR STORE – Councilmember Wilkening**

1. **M/S** Wilkening, Fjelstul to approve Walker Planning Commissions/Board of Adjustments Meeting Minutes of April 26, 2010

Motion passed: 5-0

2. **M/S** Wilkening, Fjelstul to approve Walker Planning Commissions recommendation that the sign Ordinance be amended to meet the previous Ordinance in which no temporary off-premise signs were allowed. There would be no temporary 3 day off-premise sign permits. Temporary off-site messages

would be allowed at the permanent Community Reader Board sign currently managed by the Chamber of Commerce.

Motion failed: 4-1 Ayes: Wilkening Naves: Finney, Fjelstul, Bruns, Walhof

**M/S** Fjelstul, Finney to leave the moratorium in place until the point when we get an electronic sign actually established and running, and then reconsider the issue of going to No Off-Site Signs.

Motion passed: 5-0

3. **M/S** Wilkening, Bruns to approve Resolution 21-2010, a Resolution approving the Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development Small Cities Development Program (SCDP) Program Income Plan.

Motion passed: 5-0

4. **M/S** Fjelstul, Wilkening to approve Resolution 26-2010, a resolution approving improvements to the alley between Birchwood Ave. and Park Ave.

### **LIBRARY – Mayor Walhof**

1. Discussion on the Ulteig Letter, and the Library Building.

**M/S** Wilkening, Finney to expend not more than \$7,500.00 to complete the soil borings on the Library property.

Motion passed: 5-0

**M/S** Fjelstul, Bruns to have Guy Sharp, Building Inspector, inspect the Library Building to make sure it is structurally sound to be continuing the use of operation.

Motion passed: 5-0

### **PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY/ PARKS/CEMETERY– Councilmember Finney**

1. **M/S** Finney, Fjelstul to approve Engineer's Estimate to repair the road to the baseball, Water and TV Tower at a cost not to exceed \$5,700.00.

Motion passed: 5-0

2. **M/S** Finney, Wilkening to approve Resolution 26-2010 a resolution approving the improvements to the alley between Birchwood and Park Ave and waiving the requirements of written findings by the Planning Commission.

Motion passed: 5-0

3. **M/S** Finney, to approve request from Neil Lange, Public Works Director to purchase and install a Public Works Department Sign at the City Shop Site, at a cost of \$829.39 from Mineer Signs.

Motion failed for lack of second.

4. **M/S** Finney, Fjelstul to approve request from Neil Lange Public Works Director to purchase new blades for the Flail mowers on Unit 505 at a cost of \$251.34, plus tax and shipping.

Motion passed: 5-0

5. **M/S** Finney, Wilkening to approve request from Neil Lange, Public Works Director to accept proposal from Generator Power Systems for the installation of required plug to verify correct operation at the lift station, at a cost of \$1,087.50, plus tax.

Motion passed: 5-0

6. **M/S** Finney, Fjelstul to approve request from Neil Lange, Public Works Director's to accept proposal from Terry Cyr to replace the outside storage door at the Clinic, at a cost of \$1,250.00.

Motion passed: 5-0

7. **M/S** Finney, Fjelstul to approve Resolution 20-2010, a Resolution authorizing Governmental Units to be a party to Minnesota Water Agency Response Network (MnWARN).

Roll Call: Ayes: Fjelstul, Finney, Bruns, Wilkening, Walhof Nays: None

Motion passed: 5-0

8. **M/S** Finney, Fjelstul to approve request from Neil Lange, Public Works Director's request to purchase a gas monitor required by OSHA for entering confined spaces, at a cost of \$1,476.00, plus tax.

Motion passed: 5-0

9. **M/S** Finney, Fjelstul to approve request from Neil Lange, Public Works Director to purchase a line locator, at a cost of \$3,730.00, plus tax.

Motion passed: 5-0

10. **M/S** Finney, Wilkening to approve request from Neil Lange, Public Works Director to take the Backhoe to Nortrax in Grand Rapids and have it repaired, using Shingobee Townships Truck and Trailer.

Motion passed: 5-0

#### **OTHER BUSINESS – Mayor Walhof**

- Advised the Council that in the Comprehensive Plan that was just completed, we noted we wanted to meet with the Leech Lake Tribal Council once a year and I spoke with the Chairman and the Secretary Treasurer and they are interested in holding a joint meeting this fall, with the Walker City Council, and they have talked about the possibility of sitting up a noon meeting at Northern Lights Casino. So with the Councils permission I will move forward in trying to sit that meeting up, which would be the first time in the history of the City of Walker and the Tribe. I would also like to prepare for this meeting so we are able to discuss things of mutual interest, cause I know that the Fire Department has some items, so Scott if you would take the lead on that, and if the appropriate information and people there for when we set that date, and then if there is anything else the Council would like to discuss, to bring it forward so that we can develop some kind of agenda that would be good too.

Council member Wilkening and the Council discussed have working sessions, that would be open to the public.

Council member Fjelstul stated, well we really have two major issues to discuss, one of them being the Library and what we are going to do there after we get some information, and the other being the Industrial Park, we've got to make some decisions on what to do there, and that's what prompted our discussion in the first place. Too have some open meeting so we can get some public input on what to do there.

- Discussion ensued as to when to have the meeting.
- Reminder of meeting on the third Thursday on the sales tax, which will be this Thursday.

**ADJOURNMENT – Mayor Walhof**

Mayor Walhof adjourned the Regular Scheduled Meeting at 9:00 p.m.

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Bradley Walhof, Mayor

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