

**WALKER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WALKER FIRE HALL MEETING ROOM
MONDAY, AUGUST 3, 2015**

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: Haeefele, Senenfelder, Shaw, McMurrin and Wilkening
 - Council members absent:
 - Others present during portions of the meeting included:
Dean Morrill, Pilot Independent Terri Bjorklund, City Administrator
Neil Lange, City Employee Wayne Tennis, City Police
Pamela Smith, City Employee Marilyn Millard, Sawmill Cove Assn
Dennis Dammen, Sawmill Cove Assn. Larry Reis, Sawmill Cove Assn
Kristin Holly, Self Paige Tompkins, Karvakko Engineering

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S McMurrin/Wilkening to approve the Consent Agenda Items 1 thru 16 as follows, waving the reading.

1. Approve Walker City Council regular Meeting Minutes of July 6th, 2015.
2. Review and file draft of Cemetery Board Minutes of July 28th, 2015.
3. Review and file draft of Walker Park Board Meeting Minutes of July 28th, 2015.
4. Review and file draft of Public Works Committee Meeting minutes of July 22nd, 2015.
5. Review and file June 2015 Zoning Administrator report.
6. Review and file draft Walker Planning Commissions/Board of Adjustments Meeting Minutes of July 27th, 2015.
7. Review and file Walker Area Joint Fire Department Meeting Minutes of June 11th, 2015 and Agenda for July 9th, 2015.
8. Review and file Walker Police Department Monthly Report.
9. Approve Cash Balance Report as of June 30th, 2015.
10. Review and file Cass County's July 3rd Tax Settlement for 2015.
11. Review and file payment to Minnesota PFA for G.O. Bonds in the amount of \$182,218.22.
12. Review and file Memo from Ehlers regarding the 2014 TIF reports to OSA.
13. Review and file Minnesota Department of Revenue's Certified 2015 LGA for the City of Walker in the amount of \$69,751.00.
14. Review and file letter from ISO Building Codes department regarding the building code effectiveness grading schedule program.
15. Review and file Sanitary Survey report PWSID1110013 for the Walker Public Water System.
16. Review and file email from Joe Ingebrand Senior Loss Control Consultant regarding Public Works, Parks & Recreation General Liability Survey on July 14, 2015.
Motion passed (5-0)

SCHEDULED CITIZEN PRESENTATIONS –Mayor Shaw

None.

CITY STAFF COMMENTS – Administrator Terri Bjorklund

None.

PERSONNEL, BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION – Councilmember Senenfelder

1. **M/S Senenfelder/McMurrin** to approve of Claim #51302 to Claim #51310 and Claim #51313 to Claim #51413 including Voided Check Numbers 51301, 51311 and 51312 and bank drafts in the amount of \$371,809.07.
Motion passed (5-0)
2. **M/S Senenfelder /Wilkening** to approve of the request from the Accounting Department to transfer \$2,500.00 from the General account to the Project account for the June 10th, 2015 payment to Ulteig for the Southside Street and Utility Invoice.
Motion passed (5-0)
3. **M/S Senenfelder/McMurrin** to approve of a 1-4 day Temporary Liquor License for the Walker Area Joint Fire Department, on August 21st, 2015 at the Walker Fire Hall for their annual Fish Fry Fundraiser.
Motion passed (5-0)
4. **M/S Senenfelder/Shaw** to approve of Resolution 20-2015, a resolution accepting donations made to the City of Walker thru fiscal year 2015.
Roll Call: Ayes: Haefele, Senenfelder, Shaw, McMurrin, Wilkening Nays: None
Motion passed (5-0)
5. **M/S Senenfelder/Wilkening** to approve of the request of the Initiative Foundation to budget for \$500.00 contribution for 2016.
Motion passed (5-0)
6. **M/S Senenfelder/Shaw** to approve to send a staff member to the 2015 MDRA annual meeting in St. Cloud on September 18th, 2015 at a cost of \$30.00 plus mileage and wages.
Motion passed (5-0)
7. **M/S Senenfelder/McMurrin** to approve of the Kitchigami Regional Library System proposed 2016 Budget for Walker Library Branch of \$46,824.00 plus \$406.00 of Automation Repair and Replacement.
Motion passed (5-0)
8. **M/S Senenfelder/McMurrin** to approve of Julie Morris’s successful completion of the 6 month probationary period as a Part-time Liquor Store Clerk with the .25¢ per hour wage increase, effective 8/6/2015.
Motion passed (5-0)
9. **M/S Senenfelder/Haefele** to approve to send a staff member to the Driver’s License Training in Bemidji on September 22nd, 2015 and another staff member to the Driver’s License Training in Little Falls on October 5th, 2015 at a cost of wages and mileage.
Motion passed (5-0)
10. **M/S Senenfelder/McMurrin** to approve to accept the resignation of Dana Merten as a part time Liquor Store Clerk effective August 18, 2015
Motion passed (5-0)

11. **M/S Senenfelder/Shaw** to approve of the request of personnel to make two part time positions in the Liquor Store into a fulltime 32 Hour position which will include benefits and offer the position or Lindsey Fallgren at a rate of \$10.25 per Hour.
Motion passed (5-0)
12. **M/S Senenfelder/McMurrin** to approve to advertise and interview for a part-time fill in DMV Clerk at a rate of \$11.00 per hour and upon passing the state testing for Title Certification and Sales Tax the position an additional .75¢per hour.
Bjorklund adds that the intention for this staff member would work Monday, Wednesday and Friday, also able to rotate in for vacation and sick days.
Motion passed (5-0)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & LIQUOR STORE – Councilmember Haefele

1. **M/S Haefele/Wilkening** to approve of Walker Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments Meeting Minutes of June 29th, 2015.
Motion passed (5-0)
2. **M/S Haefele/Wilkening** to approve of Resolution 21-2015, a Resolution changing the Zoning Reclassification from Water Front Commercial to Traditional Residential, Traditional Residential to Parks and Recreation and to better define the CSAH Trail as Parks and Recreation.
Roll Call: Ayes: Haefele, Senenfelder, Shaw, McMurrin, Wilkening Nays: None
Motion passed (5-0)
3. **M/S Haefele/Wilkening** to approve of the recommendation of the Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments to approve LU-2015-06 Variance for PID 96-343-0110 to allow for a 10 foot setback of city street/front yard deviating from the 20 foot setback allowable; with the findings of facts and conditions:

Findings of Facts

- The applicant established the plight of the landowner is due to the location of the settling
- Pond when the condominium was built in 2004.
- The purpose of the variance is based upon an allowable use in the zone and is in harmony with the neighborhood.
- The variance will not alter the essential character of the locality.
- The variance is not for economic reasons alone.
- The variance would not allow or create a use not provided for in a zoning district.

Conditions

- Erosion control measures are used during building and until turf is established after project completion.
- Reestablish any disturbed turf after project.
- Remove and replace current driveway with an pervious surface in order to meet the current ordinance requirements of 50%
- The construction material to be similar to the current construction material of the current townhomes.

Toni Morrison stated that she was unable to attend the public hearing but did send a letter and hopes that will be taken into consideration.

Jim Vareberg showed the Council signatures of those that were not against it.

Mayor Shaw reads the letter that Toni Morrison submitted.

Vareberg describes what is being built and adds that he spoke with Kristin Holly's husband regarding this and the only opposition that he had was that it was too close to his house, so instead of going 10 feet they are going 15 feet, which will allow for more yard and more privacy. Vareberg adds that the driveway and water retention has already been addressed.

Vareberg clarifies that he is taking out a boxelder tree but the trees between him and Kristin Holly will remain.

McMurrin expresses why make Ordinances when the Council always is allowing for Variances-she stated that if it was a real hardship or it absolutely had to be done that that would be reason enough for a Variance. She notes that she is not against the building being built with in the required set-backs, however is against the Variance.

Haefele stated that Variances are on a case by case basis.

Ayes: Haefele, Senenfelder, Shaw, Wilkening Nays: McMurrin

Motion passed (4-1)

4. **M/S** Haefele/Wilkening to approve of the recommendation of the Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments of the newly revised landscaping plan for the Dollar General Store.

Motion passed (5-0)

LIBRARY, PARKS & AIRPORT – Councilmember McMurrin

1. **M/S** McMurrin/Wilkening to approve of the Park Board Minutes of June 23rd, 2015.
Motion passed (5-0)

2. Review and file letter Congressman Rick Nolan informing the Walker Municipal Airport as a recent recipient of a Federal aviation Administration grant.

3. **M/S** McMurrin/Senenfelder to approve of the recommendation of Park Board to approve the playground design for 2 ½ -5 year olds and to move forward with purchase and installation working with Northwood's Landscape, in the amount of \$49,000.00.

Holly approached the Council with several questions that included; did the City get more than one quote for the playground equipment and the installation, what the policy is for requesting donations and the possibility of not approving this motion at this time and requests they consider changing their motion to include meeting with the public in hopes of getting more input and more in-kind donations.

Ayes-McMurrin Nays-Haefele, Senenfelder, Shaw, Wilkening

Motion fails (1-4)

Mayor Shaw questions how unsafe the playground equipment is right now.

Senenfelder stated that there is nothing falling apart that is unsafe enough to have to worry about.

Wilkening states that if they are doing it this fall he would like to see it ASAP this spring and have it completed by June 1st.

Wilkening motioned to bring back to Park Board and to bring back a plan to be installed spring of 2016.

Mayor Shaw-and to determine what avenue if any the City has to solicit funds and maybe check with Valen whether our committees can individually do that.

Motion dies due to lack of second.

Bjorklund stated that before you can get quotes you need to put a design together so you can get the same thing. The first thing is to get the Park Board to meet, and write a proposal to state exactly what we are looking for in equipment, so when we get a bid it is all the same equipment.

Haefele makes a motion for the park board to put together a new proposal and open it up for bids and give the community a chance for input.

Motion dies due to lack of second.

M/S Shaw/Haefele approve to move this back to the Park Board to bring back at the next Council meeting and to give the public a chance to have some input on what we are doing.

Ayes: Haefele, Senenfelder, Shaw, Wilkening Nays: McMurrin

Motion passed (4-1)

PUBLIC WORKS, SAFETY & CEMETERY – Councilmember Wilkening

1. **M/S Wilkening/Shaw** to approve of the one-time payment to Leech Lake Township for the road paving project of Riffle Range Road in the amount of \$3,571.43.

Motion passed (5-0)

2. **M/S Wilkening/Shaw** to approve of the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to change the dates of the street closure for the Reeds Fall Classic from August 14-16, 2015 to August 28-30, 2015.

Motion passed (5-0)

OTHER BUSINESS –Mayor Jed Shaw

- City offices and the Department of Motor Vehicles will be closed Monday September 7th, 2015 in observance of Labor Day.
- National night out-August 4th at walker park
- Invitation from Circle of Time Committee for dedication on August 13th, 2015 at 6:00p.m.
- Discussion regarding the turn lane at the intersection of 10Th Street and Minnesota Avenue originally discussed but not acted upon in April of 2014 with the DOT Senenfelder discussed the intersection area at Hwy 371 and County Rd 12/10th Street and the confusion that intersection causes; and possibly working with MnDot for a solution.

M/S Wilkening/Haefele to approve for Senenfelder to meet with Mr. Pirkel to discuss a center turn lane at the center junction at Highway 371 up to Tianna Drive.

Motion passed (5-0)

McMurrin brings up the parking of trucks with boat trailers at the Library that are parked there for days. McMurrin suggests moving a two hour parking sign from the old liquor store to the Library.

McMurrin states that the Library has purged books and requests that the sale of the purged books be but towards the Library building fund.
M/S Wilkening/Senefelder to approve the sale of excess books and the money to be used for the Library building fund.
Motion passed (5-0)

ADJOURNMENT-Mayor Jed Shaw

Mayor Shaw adjourned the regularly scheduled Meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Jed Shaw, Mayor

Attest: _____
Terri Bjorklund, Administrator