

**WALKER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WALKER FIRE HALL MEETING ROOM
Monday December 1, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Walhof

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

Terri Bjorklund, Administrator
Wayne Tennis, Police Chief
Will Hoyt, Landecker & Assoc.
Edy Asell, Zoning Administrator
John Johnson, Resident
Mary Andrus, Resident
Lloyd Peterson, Senior Citizen Center
Roger Burley, Legion Post
Skip Duchesneau

Sylvia Bakker, City Employee
John Valen, City Attorney
Dean Morrill, Pilot Independent
Carrie Johnson, Resident
Steve Bilben, Bike Trail Committee
Willard Arends, Resident
Travis Baker, Police Officer
Curt Vining
Bryan Schlicht

CONSENT AGENDA – Mayor Walhof

M/S Finney, Wilkening to approve the Consent Agenda Items 1 thru 15 as follows:

1. Approve Walker City Council Regular Meeting Minutes of November 3, 2008.
2. Approve Walker City Council Continuation Meeting Minutes of November 6, 2008.
3. Approve Walker City Council Continuation Meeting Minutes of November 12, 2008.
4. Approve Claim #40708 thru Claim #40732, Claim #40734 thru Claim #40820, in the amount of \$234,521.66.
5. Approve Cash Balance Report for the month ending October 31, 2008.
6. Approve payment of Invoice #48277, #48270, #48271, #48273, #48272 and #48278 in the amount of \$5,009.47, for annual maintenance and repairs of the Fire Trucks.
7. Approve payment of Invoice in the amount of \$3,215.00 to Briggs & Morgan for work on the Legion Tax Abatement and amendment to the Business Subsidy Policy.
8. Approve payment of Partial Payment Voucher #3, Municipal Parking Project #082012, in the amount of \$1,478.93 to Anderson Brothers Construction for work completed on the project.
9. Approve payment of Invoice #8497 in the amount of \$2,800.00 to Landecker & Associates for Engineering Services on the Municipal Parking Lot Project.

10. Approve payment of Final Pay Voucher in the amount of \$17,744.08 to Tri-City Paving for work completed on the Runway Extension Project.
11. Review and file Walker Police Departments Monthly Report.
12. Review and file Ambulance Department's Account's Receivable Report.
13. Review and file Cass County Economic Development Corporations October 2008 Activity Report.
14. Addition of Roger Burley, presentation under Scheduled Citizen Presentations.
15. Addition of # 8 under Public Works, action if needed on Sled Dog Race.

Motion passed: 4-0

SCHEDULED CITIZEN PRESENTATIONS – Mayor Walhof

- Steve Bilben, Bike Trail Committee explained to the Council the proposal for the bike trail route through the City, and how it won't cost the City anything, there were just asking for the City's blessing on the proposed route.
- Roger Burley, representing the Walker American Legion explained to the Council how they have been working to get the Sled Dog races from Bemidji down to this area on January 1st & February 2nd, 2009, and asked the City to work with them and support this endeavor. The City might have to put some additional snow on a couple of streets in certain spots to get the sled dogs down unto the lake, and block off a couple of streets temporary. They are anticipating around 150 sled dog teams, and it would really be a boost to the economy at that time of year.

CITY STAFF COMMENTS/CONCERNS – Administrator Terri Bjorklund

No Business

PERSONNEL, BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION – Councilmember Fjelstul

1. M/S Fjelstul, Finney to approve Resolution 38-2008, a resolution accepting donations made to the City of Walker from May thru November 2008.

Roll Call: Ayes: Finney, Fjelstul, Wilkening, Walhof Nyes: None Absent: Worth

Motion passed: 4-0

2. M/S Fjelstul, Wilkening to approve the following Budget Moves. (See Exhibit A).

Motion passed: 4-0

3. M/S Fjelstul, Finney to approve the following Liquor/Wine/3.2 Licenses.

3.2 On-Sale

Village Square
Jimmy's Family Restaurant

Wine

Village Square
Jimmy's Family Restaurant

3.2 Off-Sale

Jimmy's Family Restaurant
Orton's BP
Mineer's Inc.

Liquor On-Sale

Café Zona Rosa
The Wharf
Benson's
Chase on the Lake

Club License

Spencer Ross Post 134
Tianna Country Club

Sunday

Café Zona Rosa
The Wharf
Benson's
Spencer Ross Post 134
Tianna Country Club
Chase on the Lake

Motion passed: 3-0 Council member Wilkening abstained.

4. **M/S** Fjelstul, Wilkening to approve Pawn Broker's License for Royce's Gun & Pawn.

Motion passed: 4-0

5. **M/S** Fjelstul, Finney to approve the Fire Department's annual 2008 payroll in the amount of \$16,749.00.

Motion passed: 4-0

6. **M/S** Fjelstul, Wilkening to approve Resolution 37-2008, a resolution to establish reimbursement for mileage by City Officials and City Employee's.

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

Motion passed: 4-0

7. **M/S** Fjelstul, Finney to approve payment of approximately \$235.00 for EMT-B refresher course for Jessie LeBlanc.

Motion passed: 4-0

8. **M/S** Fjelstul, Finney to approve the Personnel Committee's recommendation for employee pay increases for the 2009 fiscal year. 3 or 4 employees are getting 4% increases and everybody else is getting a 3% increase.

Motion passed: 4-0

9. **M/S** Fjelstul, Finney to approve the Budget & Finance's Departments recommendation to change the employee evaluations from November to August for budgeting purposes.

Motion passed: 4-0

10. **M/S** Fjelstul, Wilkening to approve request from Terri Bjorklund, City Administrator to have the City Ordinance's codified at a cost of \$2,350.00 to \$2,850.00, plus \$335.00 for the S1 updates to folio-version code by American Legal Publishing.

Motion passed: 4-0

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/LIQUOR STORE – Council member Wilkening

1. **M/S** Fjelstul, Wilkening to review and file Walker Planning Commissions Regular Meeting Minutes of November 17, 2008.

Motion passed: 4-0

2. **M/S** Wilkening, Finney to approve the Walker Planning Commissions recommendation to amend LU 2008-01, CUP Parking requirement for 400 Cleveland Blvd. W to require a total of two off-street parking spaces, based on the following findings:

1. The ordinance requires 1.25 parking stalls per unit.

2. Construction of additional off-street parking would result in the loss of at least one on-street parking space, resulting in no net gain.
3. Construction of off-street parking in the available area would have an adverse impact on the residential character of the neighborhood in the Transitional Commercial Zone.

Motion passed: 4-0

3. **M/S** Wilkening, Finney to approve Walker Planning Commissions recommendation to amend LU 2008-10, landscaping plan for the proposed Senior Center at 508 Eighth Street South, to include screening as defined by ordinance along the southern property/structure line affected by construction, as shown on the site plan dated November 17th, 2008.

Motion passed: 4-0

4. Reviewed and filed the Zoning Administrator's Land Use Report.
5. **M/S** Wilkening, Finney to approve offering a purchase agreement to Reggie Thiel for an even-up trade of the Old City Hall Building for the Old Mini Golf Course Property. 42:44 minutes of Audio CD

Motion passed: 4-0

PARKS & RECREATION/LIBRARY – Councilmember Finney

1. **M/S** Finney, Fjelstul to review and file Walker Park Board Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2008.

Motion passed: 4-0

2. **M/S** Finney, Fjelstul to approve payment of Kitchigamie Regional Library's 2008 Levy Invoice in the amount of \$5,035.00.

Motion passed: 4-0

3. **M/S** Finney, Wilkening to approve the request from the Bike Trail Committee to work with them to extend the trail through town, at no cost to the City.

Motion passed: 4-0

PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY/ CEMETERY– Councilmember Finney

1. **M/S** Finney, Fjelstul to approve the Public Works Committee's recommendation for a change in the City's Municipal Parking Landscaping Plan to geo-textile fabric, and covered with rock, project to be completed by the Public works Department in the spring of 2009.

Motion passed: 4-0

2. **M/S** Finney, Wilkening to approve request by Douglas McDonald to accept the Original amount of a deferred assessment in the amount of \$1,867.10 on parcel #96-349-0360, which is a non-build-able lot.

Motion passed: 4-0

3. **M/S** Finney, Wilkening to approve having Will Hoyt, of Landecker's & Associates draft a remediation system discharge permit for West Central Environmental Consultants, setting acceptable standards for discharge to the City's Sewer Ponds for the former BJ's Service, MPCA leak #10668. All costs

incurred by the City to be charged to West Central Environmental Consultants, including water/sewer charges.

Motion passed: 4-0

4. **M/S** Finney, Wilkening to approve Public Works Committee's recommendation to increase the Water Rates from a basic flat rate of \$16.00 to a basic flat rate of \$17.00, and cost per thousand (over three thousand gallons) from \$4.00 per thousand to \$5.00 per thousand effective for the January 2009 billing cycle.

Motion Failed: 4-0

M/S Fjelstul, Finney to approve Public Works Committee's recommendation to increase the Water Rates from a basic flat rate of \$16.00 to a basic flat rate of \$16.50, and cost per thousand (over three thousand gallons) from \$4.00 per thousand to \$4.50 per thousand effective for the January 2009 billing cycle.
1:10:13 of Audio CD

Ayes: Fjelstul, Finney Nyes: Wilkening, Walhof Motion failed: 2-2

M/S Wilkening, Fjelstul to table this raising of rates until Department Head's have meet, and Pat Finney has reviewed any possibility of savings or extra as far as that process of accountability has been reviewed, and to come back to the January meeting with a baseline of how far in debt we went, and what our progress is, and then discuss raising the rates.

Motion passed: 4-0

5. **M/S** Finney, Wilkening to approve waiving the City's portion of the Building Permit for the Elevated Storage Tank Project, estimated to be \$859.00.

Motion passed: 4-0

6. **M/S** Finney, Wilkening to approve Kimley-Horn value engineering deducts dated November 12, 2008 by preparation of Change Order # 1 with Young Excavating, Inc. (a deduct not less than \$14,400.00), and to approve preparation of Change Order #1 with Maguire Iron, Inc. (a deduct not less than \$19,000.00), and further to require contract language that notifies contractors that State Grant Funds are the only source of payment (no local funds) therefore any costs in the excess of the original contract amount may result in a reduced scope of work including suspension of work in progress. Discussion: 1:24:19 Audio CD

Motion passed: 4-0

7. **M/S** Finney, Fjelstul to approve entering into the First Amendment to the Development Agreement with Hospitality Investor's LLC.

Motion passed: 4-0

8. **M/S** Finney, Wilkening to approve supporting the sled dog races, to be held Jan 31st & Feb 1st, and work with the Legion Club to ensure the street has enough snow for the dogs to get across, and down to the lake.

OTHER BUSINESS – Mayor Walhof

- Mary Olson will be holding a Town Hall Meeting at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday December 2, 2008 at City Hall.
- The Next Regular Meeting of the Walker City Council will be held December 18, 2008, at 7:00 p.m. at the Walker Fire Hall Meeting Room, 701 Elm Street.

CONTINUATION – Mayor Walhof

Mayor Walhof adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m.

Bradley J. Walhof, Mayor

Attest: _____
Terri Bjorklund, Administrator