

**WALKER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WALKER FIRE HALL MEETING ROOM
MONDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER –Mayor Scott Bruns

- Mayor Scott Bruns called the regular scheduled meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance
 - Council members present: Bruns, McMurrin, Nelson and Wilkening
 - Council members absent: Moore
 - Others present during portions of the meeting included:

Dean Morrill, Pilot Independent
Jed Shaw, Self
Jim Senenfelder, Self
Pamela Smith, City Employee

Terri Bjorklund, City Administrator
Travis Baker, Police
Neil Lange, City Employee
Wayne Tennis, Police

CONSENT AGENDA

M/S Wilkening/Nelson to approve the Consent Agenda Items 1 thru 13 as follows, waving the reading.

1. Approve Walker City Council regular meeting minutes of November 3rd, 2014.
2. Approve Continuation Meeting minutes of November 10th, 2014.
3. Review and file Draft of Walker Park Board Meeting Minutes of November 25th, 2014.
4. Review and file Draft Walker Planning Commissions/Board of Adjustments Meeting of November 24th, 2014.
5. Review and file October 2014 Zoning Administrator report.
6. Review and file Walker Police Department Monthly Report.
7. Review and file Walker Area Joint Fire Department Meeting Minutes of October 9th, 2014 and September 11th, 2014.
8. Review and file Cass County Economic Development report.
9. Approve Cash Balance Report as of October 31st, 2014.
10. Review and file letter from League of Minnesota Cities regarding 2014-2015 Coverage Changes, Rates and Dividends.
11. Review and file letter from Gail Leverson, Cass County EDC, noting that the NJPA grant request was not approved.
12. Review and file Land Use Calendar application deadlines and meeting dates for 2015.
13. Review and file Thank you from the Chamber of Commerce for help with the Capitol Christmas Tree Event.
Motion passed (4-0)

SCHEDULED CITIZEN PRESENTATIONS –Mayor Scott Bruns

None.

STAFF COMMENTS – Administrator Terri Bjorklund

Bjorklund reminds the council that Thursday December 18th, 2014 will be the second council meeting to wrap up final business items for the end of the year.

TRUTH IN TAXATION

- Discussion of 2015 Budget and open meeting for the public to comment regarding 2015 proposed budget.
No public comments or questions were heard.

PERSONNEL, BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION – Councilmember Nelson

1. **M/S** Nelson/Wilkening to approve of Claim #50401 to Claim #50496 including Voided Check Numbers 50422 and 50423 and bank drafts in the amount of \$151,638.65.
Motion passed (4-0)
2. **M/S** Nelson/McMurrin to approve of Resolution 29-2014, a Resolution adopting the final 2015 Budget with a 0% change to the Levy.
Roll Call: Ayes: Nelson, Bruns, McMurrin and Wilkening Nays: None
Motion passed (4-0)
3. **M/S** Nelson/McMurrin to approve of Resolution 30-2014, a Resolution adopting the final tax levy and certifying it to Cass County.
Roll Call: Ayes: Nelson, Bruns, McMurrin and Wilkening Nays: None
Motion passed (4-0)
4. **M/S** Nelson/Wilkening to approve of Resolution 31-2014, a Resolution making appointments for authorized signers for the City of Walker.
Roll Call: Ayes: Nelson, Bruns, McMurrin and Wilkening Nays: None
Motion passed (4-0)
5. **M/S** Nelson/Wilkening to approve of Ordinance 2014-05, an Ordinance repealing Chapter 36: Fees, Ordinance 2013-03, adopted 12-02-2013 and titled “LICENSES, PERMITS, RENTALS, LEASES AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES”, and adopting Ordinance 2014-05 amendment to Chapter 36: Fees and Authorizing the Summary Publication of the Ordinance Change.
Wilkening discusses Nelson’s point during the public hearing regarding covering what costs the city incurs during a winter burial and states that the City is not here to make money on this and needs to make sure that we cover the costs.
Nelson questions how you would differentiate when an infant becomes a child and then an adult. He clarifies with Lange that the same expenses occur regardless.
Roll Call: Ayes: Nelson Nays: Bruns, McMurrin and Wilkening
Motion fails (1-3)
M/S Nelson/McMurrin to approve of the recommended change to the fee schedule for Winter Open/Close burials for adults and infants at an increase of \$100.00 for each regardless of adult or infant.
Roll Call: Ayes: Nelson, Bruns, McMurrin and Wilkening Nays: None
Motion passed (4-0)

M/S Nelson/Wilkening to approve of Ordinance 2014-05, an Ordinance repealing Chapter 36: Fees, Ordinance 2013-03, adopted 12-02-2013 and titled “LICENSES, PERMITS, RENTALS, LEASES AND MUNICIPAL SERVICES”, and adopting Ordinance 2014-05 amendment to Chapter 36: Fees and Authorizing the Summary Publication of the Ordinance Change.

Roll Call: Ayes: Nelson, Bruns, McMurrin and Wilkening Nays: None
Motion passed (4-0)

6. **M/S Nelson/McMurrin** to approve of the following Licenses for the City of Walker.

On-Sale

Chase On the Lake, LLC
Tianna Country Club, Inc.
Spencer Ross Post 134
Benson’s Emporium, Inc.
Lucky Moose Bar & Grill
Café Zona Rosa
Bayside Bar & Grill

Sunday

Chase On the Lake, LLC
Tianna Country Club, Inc.
Spencer Ross Post 134
Benson’s Emporium, Inc.
Lucky Moose Bar & Grill
Café Zona Rosa
Bayside Bar & Grill

On-Sale Tap Room

GCubed Enterprises, Inc.

Wine

Village Square
Jimmy’s Family Restaurant
Blue Canoe B & B, LLC

3.2 On-Sale

Jimmy’s Family Restaurant
Village Square
Blue Canoe B & B, LLC

3.2 Off-Sale

Jimmy’s Family Restaurant
Super One Foods
Orton’s Walker BP

Pawn Broker

Walker Motor Company

Motion passed (4-0)

7. **M/S Nelson/Wilkening** to approve Consent to Assignment of the City of Walker-Innovis Health, LLC Lease.

Motion passed (4-0)

8. **M/S Nelson/Wilkening** to approve of the Walker City Council Meeting Procedures.

To place online-to start to give as a guide to incoming new council members or meeting for a lot of people attending

Motion passed (4-0)

9. **M/S Nelson/McMurrin** to approve of resignation from Joe Kessler, part-time liquor store clerk.

Motion passed (4-0)

10. **M/S Nelson/McMurrin** to approve to send Jed Shaw and Jim Senenfelder to the League of Minnesota Cities Training for Newly Elected Officials January 9th and 10th, 2015 at a cost of \$315.00 for the conference, \$119.76 for hotel, mileage and meeting cost per person.

Bruns states that when he went the first year it was in Grand Rapids and the biggest thing that he got out of it was the importance of taking care of your Cities infrastructure. Grand Rapids had constructed a larger airport and that brought in a lot of business for Grand Rapids. Bruns notes that this is good training to attend for the first time.

Motion passed (4-0)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & LIQUOR STORE – Mayor Bruns

1. **M/S Bruns/Nelson** to approve of Walker Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments Meeting Minutes of October 27th, 2014.

Motion passed (4-0)

2. **M/S Bruns/Wilkening** to approve of resignation from Jane Ekholm, Walker Planning Commission Board and thank her for her years of service.

Motion passed (4-0)

LIBRARY, PARKS & AIRPORT – Councilmember McMurrin

1. **M/S McMurrin/Wilkening** to approve of the Walker Park Board Minutes of October 28th, 2014.

Motion passed (4-0)

2. **M/S McMurrin/Nelson** to approve of the recommendation of the Walker Park Board to approve the application from Jerry Demar's to use the Upper Park Pavilion for a family reunion on August 1st, 2015 from Noon to 6:00 p.m.

Nelson questions if they have to put up a reserve sign.

Bjorklund states that the original request was to use the Park at 9:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m., on that day the Park upper pavilion is also used for a race. The Park Board will approve it if the time is moved from 9:00 a.m. to be changed as a Noon start time.

Motion passed (4-0)

3. **M/S McMurrin/Wilkening** to approve of the recommendation of the Walker Park Board to approve the application from the Walker Police Department to use the Park on Tuesday August 4th, 2015 for National Night Out.

Motion passed (4-0)

4. **M/S McMurrin/Nelson** to approve of the recommendation of the Walker Park Board to not approve the application from Adventure Cycling Association to use the Park for overnight camping for a bike tour from Tuesday August 4th, 2015 to Thursday August 6th, 2015.

Nelson questions the rationale for the recommendation to not approve this application.

McMurrin states because they are for profit.

Nelson questioned whether or not the City established a policy for this or if it continues to be a case by case.

McMurrin-Yes, case by case.

Bruns stated they have had larger nonprofit bike groups come through and use the Park.

Motion passed (4-0)

5. **M/S McMurrin/Nelson** to approve of the request from Shingobee Connection Task Force for requested funding for Phase I, repairing the existing bike racks and Phase II, building new bike racks in the amount of \$4,000.00 Walker Park Board is recommending approval to pay for Phase I at a cost of \$2,000.

Wilkening states that this is not what we talked about; the addition of new bike racks on 5th street, but rather the repair of existing ones.

Wilkening question why this is not done all at once.

McMurrin-Because that is what they requested. Phase I and Phase II. They requested two phases.

Nelson confirms his understanding is they are going to repair the existing ones; the ones with the wooden base on them, but they also wanted to make some new ones. We talked about adding additional racks around town.

Bjorklund reads from the letter of request from Shingobee Connection Task Force quoting from the letter, 'Phase I repair existing bike racks, Phase II consider building new bike racks.'

Motion passed (4-0)

6. **M/S McMurrin/Wilkening** to approve of the request from Walker Park Board to advertise for interested citizens to fill 3 seats on the Walker Park Board.

Nelson confirms that is for three people from public.

Motion passed (4-0)

7. **M/S McMurrin/Wilkening** to approve of the Master Park Plan.

Wilkening states that he likes the plan and how they broke down cost, now it would be a matter of getting legacy funding.

McMurrin states that their main focus would be the actual Park.

The board discusses the pathways in the park plan and the size of the pathways being six feet verses eight feet. Bjorklund states that in order to apply for any DNR grants you have to meet the eight foot requirements.

McMurrin states that in order to move on or apply for any grants they need to show Council approval. Nothing in this plan is set in stone.

Bruns expressed that he was not excited about the library in the Park Plan.

Nelson-Just because it is the Master Plan it is not the way it's going to look.

Wilkening reminds the board that just a starting point. Bruns questioned whether or not that this could be agreed upon by removing the Library from the Park plan.

Nelson stated than you would have to start picking the entire plan apart, the pavilions, shelters and bathrooms.

Wilkening-We've spent hundreds of thousands on an airport where very few of us go, if you look at what we're really making money, you're making your money at the Park not the Airport.

McMurrin agrees with Wilkening stating that she believes that our Park is underutilized at this point. And looking at the plan, it would be utilized nicely, whether we do it all or not, we have to start somewhere.

Ayes: Nelson, McMurrin and Wilkening Nays: Bruns

Motion passed (3-1)

8. **M/S McMurrin/Wilkening** to approve of the request from Walker Park Board to move the warming house to the south side of the tunnel and creating an Ice Rink for 2014/2015 winter season.

McMurrin states that this request was brought up at the Park Board meeting to bring to Council and she understands that it is going to be too late to do that this year.

Nelson and Bruns disagree with moving it down to that location noting that there is no parking, lighting and water is a distance away.

Wilkening reminds the board that they have already made a reasonable commitment to the Community Center this season and it would be wrong to not fund that, however, it would be wise to let them know that we are considering this and that monies may not be available next year from the City.

Ayes: None Nays: Nelson, Bruns, Wilkening and McMurrin

Motion failed.

9. **M/S Wilkening/Nelson** to approve of the request from the Walker Area Community Center for a donation in the amount of \$3,500.00 and for the cost of the water to establish and maintain the ice rink for the 2014-2015 season.

The board discusses the possibility of putting it on the lake. Bjorklund states that the City has a greater responsibility of posting especially in the spring when it is no longer viable ice.

Nelson-Who's going to run it, maintain it? I don't see the need to duplicate services we are already providing.

Chief Tennis adds that the Chase already has a skating rink on the lake with a warming house and lights.

Motion passed (4-0)

10. **M/S McMurrin/Wilkening** to approve of the Airport Capital Improvement Project List for submission to MNDOT.

Motion passed (4-0)

PUBLIC WORKS, SAFETY & CEMETERY – Councilmember Wilkening

1. **M/S Wilkening/McMurrin** to approve of request from the Public Works to add the Prevention of, and Frozen Water & Sewer Lines Policy to the Policy Handbook.

Motion passed (4-0)

2. **M/S Wilkening/McMurrin** to approve of the recommendation of Public Works Committee to close the water fund savings account at American National Bank and deposit the \$71,025.45 into the water fund checking account at First National Bank of Walker.

Wilkening-We have that big expenditure at the water plant and that money had to come from somewhere and it came from checking and this is a fund balance from savings, so this is to keep the books strait.

Motion passed (4-0)

OTHER BUSINESS –Mayor Bruns

- City Offices, DMV will close at 3pm on December 24th and Walker Bay Spirits will close at 4pm.
- City Offices, DMV and Walker Bay Spirits will be closed Thursday December 25th, 2014 in observance of Christmas, and Thursday January 1st, 2014 in observance of New Year's Day.
- The next regularly scheduled City Council meeting is December 18th, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT-Mayor Bruns

M/S Wilkening/Nelson to approve of adjourning the Regular Scheduled Meeting at 6:37 p.m.
Motion passed (4-0)

Scott Bruns, Mayor

Attest: _____
Terri Bjorklund, Administrator