

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2008 – 7:00 P.M.**

MINUTES

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, August 6, 2008 at City Hall. The agenda was also posted at the Post Office and on the City's web site. Copies were e-mailed to residents requesting such, and the Press was notified.

The Taylors Falls City Council met for a regular meeting on Monday, August 11, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 637 First Street, Taylors Falls, Minnesota.

CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Mike Buchite.

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Buchite, Ross Rivard, John Tangen, Zara Kinnunen

MEMBERS ABSENT: Larry Julik-Heine

OTHERS PRESENT: Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Jayna Yeske, Matt Goldstein, and Bob Porter from the Chisago County Press

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Agenda was amended to include under New Business, Consent Agenda: **Consider Payment to Wild River Contracting.**

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/RIVARD TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS AMENDED FOR THE AUGUST 11, 2008 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION BY TANGEN/RIVARD TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS; COMMISSION, BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS; STAFF REPORTS; CONSIDER LIGHTING FESTIVAL DONATION; CONSIDER PAYMENT TO WILD RIVER CONTRACTING; APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL; CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS HELD ON JULY 14 & 28, 2008.

PUBLIC FORUM

None.

REPORT ON PREVIOUS PUBLIC FORUM REQUESTS

None.

STAFF REPORTS & REQUESTS

CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA CORPORAL SHANE CARROLL'S JULY 2008 CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REPORT.

ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE JULY 2008 FINANCIAL REPORTS PRESENTED BY CLERK-TREASURER JO EVERSON.

PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA ZONING ADMINISTRATOR-COORDINATOR LARRY PHILLIP'S JULY 2008 PLANNING AND ZONING REPORT.

CITY ATTORNEY

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE CORRESPONDENCE AND BILLING STATEMENT FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE OF KELLY AND LEMMONS, P.A.

COMMISSION, BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS

LIBRARY

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE TAYLORS FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEETINGS HELD ON JUNE 25 AND JULY 30, 2008.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

CONSIDER PURCHASE OF DETOUR SIGNS FOR HIGHWAY 8 PROJECT

At the July 28, 2008 City Council Meeting, Representative Jeremy Kalin informed the City of the Highway 8 project to begin on August 11th and expressed frustration that there appeared to be a lack of communication between parties notifying the City of the proposed project. This prompted a meeting between the City, MnDOT, Chisago County and a few concerned business owners to discuss alternate routes/official detours, for the project. There are hopes that MnDOT will be willing to absorb some of the costs for the City to obtain "Alternate Detour to Taylors Falls" engineered signs. The City will also ask the Chamber of Commerce if they would be willing to absorb some of the costs for the signs as the signs were purchased to direct traffic through the downtown business area.

MnDOT proposed to work seven (7) days per week versus the normal five (5) days per week to decrease the project time, understanding that this is a very busy, if not peak, time for the downtown businesses.

Many Council Members expressed concern received from business owners regarding congestion and safety hazards from the re-routed traffic. Corporal Shane Carroll is aware of the concerns and understands that additional traffic control may need to be implemented during the course of the project.

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/TANGEN TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF SIGNAGE FROM HIGHWAY TECHNOLOGIES PROVIDING AN "ALTERNATIVE DETOUR TO TAYLORS FALLS" FOR THE UPCOMING HIGHWAY 8 MNDOT PROJECT, AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$2,100.00, TO BE PAID FROM THE COUNCIL CONTINGENCY BUDGET ACCOUNT (41110-900). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER REQUEST TO WAIVE WAC/SAC FEE

Matt Goldstein, owner of 549 Bench Street, formed an LLC and purchased the property in 2004 with the intention of either building a small addition to the existing building or redeveloping the property. Since that time, after extensive marketing and development efforts, the property has remained vacant due mostly due to the lack of water and sewer service. The cost of development plans has made it difficult to afford the improvement as he has used personal funds to remain current on the mortgage, insurance, utilities, taxes, City fees, lawn care, snow removal, and related costs to remain in good standing with the community and service providers. Over time, marketing plans have been shared with the City, Chamber of Commerce and have been widely available on various real estate websites. Mr. Goldstein asked for the City to consider waiving the \$3,977.00 water availability charge and sewer availability charge (WAC/SAC).

The consensus of the Council was that while they are sympathetic of Mr. Goldstein's situation, the City cannot waive the WAC/SAC fees for one prospective business owner as it would set precedence for future and/or other business owners.

MOTION BY RIVARD/TANGEN TO DENY THE REQUEST FROM MATT GOLDSTEIN, OWNER (VILLAGE SWEETSHOP) OF 549 BENCH STREET, TO WAIVE THE WATER AVAILABILITY CHARGE AND SEWER AVAILABILITY CHARGE FEES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER RESOLUTION 08-08-01 APPOINTING ELECTION JUDGES

MOTION BY TANGEN/RIVARD TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 08-08-01, AS PRESENTED, APPOINTING THE 2008 ELECTION JUDGES FOR THE CITY OF TAYLORS FALLS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (copy attached).

CONSIDER PAYMENT OF MINNESOTA PIPE & EQUIPMENT INVOICE

This agenda item was added to the agenda by the Public Works liaisons because the invoice exceeds the \$1,000.00 spending limit and to encourage discussion as to why the bill was such a large amount.

The invoice was coded by City Staff to the water main break at Mulberry Street and Highway 95. One (1) of the purchased valves was to be returned to the City of St Croix Falls; one (1) was used at the actual main break; and the final valve would be put into storage in the event that another main break would occur in the City.

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/TANGEN TO AUTHORIZE PAYMENT TO MINNESOTA PIPE & EQUIPMENT, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,261.93, FOR THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) VALVES, ONE (1) TO BE REIMBURSED TO THE CITY OF ST CROIX FALLS, ONE (1) THAT WAS USED FOR THE CEMETERY AND 95 MAIN BREAK, WITH THE THIRD TO BE RETAINED FOR FUTURE EMERGENCY PURPOSES, TO BE PAID FROM THE WATER FUND (601). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSIDER LIGHTING FESTIVAL DONATION

THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT AGENDA A \$500.00 DONATION TO THE LIGHTING FESTIVAL COMMITTEE TO BE PAID FROM THE CHARITABLE GAMBLING FUND (803).

CONSIDER PAYMENT OF WILD RIVER CONTRACTING INVOICE

THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZED BY CONSENT AGENDA PAYMENT OF WILD RIVER CONTRACTING INVOICE #444 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,395.00 FOR PAYMENT OF A WATER MAIN REPAIR AT THE CORNER OF COUNTY RD 16 AND BENCH STREET, TO BE PAID FROM THE WATER FUND (601).

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA PAYMENT OF CHECK NUMBERS 21788 - 21837 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$78,087.77 FOR CLAIMS AND DISBURSEMENTS; AND CHECK NUMBERS 5314 - 5328 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$13,745.02 FOR JULY PAYROLL.

CORRESPONDENCE

THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED BY CONSENT AGENDA CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE AUGUST 11, 2008 COUNCIL PACKET:

1. NOTICE FROM CENTER CITY, RE: WELLHEAD PROTECTION PLAN
2. LETTER TO BUSINESS OWNERS, RE: HWY 8 PROJECT
3. LETTER FROM MNDOT, OFFICE OF ENERGY SECURITY, RE: NOTICE OF PERMIT DECISION (CHISAGO PROJECT)
4. STAFF CORRESPONDENCE & EMAIL'S

LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Mayor Mike Buchite reported, on behalf of Council Member Julik-Heine, that the PRC is scheduled to meet on August 20th; the Heritage Park overlook materials are on order with hopes that the deck is completed by the Leaf Spectacular; footings for the gazebo at Cherry Hill Park have been poured with the building to be started soon; the Park and Trails Master Plan proposes to link the parks together as a biking, walking, running trail.

- ❖ There will be a special Council Workshop with City Attorney Patrick Kelly, HRA/EDA representative Chris Eng and City Council on Tuesday, August 19th, 2008, to discuss the MnDOT property funding availability and to view the preliminary drawings of the project with bids to go out by August 25th and footings to be poured before frost.
- ❖ Buchite, along with Vice-Mayor Rivard, are in the process of adopting a resolution between the City of Shafer, Center City and Taylors Falls determining future City boundaries to alleviate disagreements and to promote logical and orderly growth. The Cities acknowledge that annexations are going to happen in the future and that the resolution will provide guidance and help maintain good relations between the Cities.
- ❖ National Night Out was Tuesday, August 5th with an estimated 100 people in attendance. The Life Link III helicopter was made available for children to sit in and there was music, entertainment and food provided.
- ❖ City Attorney Patrick Kelly has been selected by his peers as a “2008 Super Lawyer”.

John Tangen reported that the EDC is to meet on the 14th if there is a quorum and that they and the Fire Department will be submitting their 2009 budgets.

Ross Rivard reported that the PC met to further discuss extraterritorial planning and that the Public Works Department is continuing with their summer projects.

Zara Kinnunen reported that the HPC is scheduled to meet on August 12th.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/TANGEN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE AUGUST 11, 2008 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

Jayna Yeske, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer

APPROVED: SEPTEMBER 8, 2008