

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2010 – 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, January 20, 2010 at City Hall, 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, January 25, 2010 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.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All those present at the meeting recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag.

**ROLL CALL**

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: Larry Julik-Heine

OTHERS PRESENT: City Clerk-Treasurer Jo Everson, Public Works Superintendent Mike Kriz, Rick Greene, and Brad Foss

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/TANGEN TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS PRESENTED, FOR THE JANUARY 25, 2010 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION BY TANGEN/RIVARD TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: CONSIDER WINE AND STRONG BEER LICENSE FOR HALVERSON INVESTMENT, INC.; CONSIDER RESOLUTION 10-01-07 AGREEING TO MAINTAIN TRAIL FACILITIES BUILT WITH GRANT FUNDING; CONSIDER 2010 ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACT; CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

**Rick Greene**, Chair of the Chisago County Board of Commissioners, updated the Council on recent information affecting Chisago County. County Board Meetings have been reduced to twice monthly, with the exception of special meetings. The LS Power issue continues to be contentious despite the fact there has actually been no formal application. The most recent issue to be resolved involves the disbursement of personal property taxes. According to Greene, the County was misled previously to believe that LS Power would be required to pay more than \$8 million dollars to the State for these taxes, when in fact the payment must be made to the County with only 20% disbursed to the State. Additionally, LS Power is persistent that the County approve a firm Developer's Agreement based upon only a concept plan. The County is insistant that the plans be reviewed and approved by the Public Utilities Commission prior to approval by the County. He agreed to keep the Council informed on any new developments.

Greene also reminded Council of the next 800 MHz Radio Upgrade Project meeting to be held in early February. At this time Chisago County is considering sharing a very costly tower with Isanti County.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**CONSIDER QUOTE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE DEPT PURCHASE OF COMPUTERS**

Council previously tabled the purchase of new computers for the Administrative Department until 2010. Quotes were obtained from Hewlett Packard & Dell Computers. While the Dell quote was the lower bid slightly (by \$109.22 each), the HP computers have more memory, longer warranty and larger monitors. Once purchased and received, current computers would be rotated to the Public Works Superintendent, the public computer in the Research Room, and the oldest retained for parts for the second computer in the Public Works Department.

MOTION BY RIVARD/KINNUNEN TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FROM TIESDEPOT TO PURCHASE THREE HEWLETT PACKARD DESKTOP COMPUTERS AND MONITORS AT A COST OF \$3,333.00, TO BE PAID FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT BUDGET (41400-580), ZONING & PLANNING DEPARTMENT BUDGET (41410-580), THE ADMINISTRATIVE CAPITAL PURCHASES FUND (408-580), AND \$100.00 FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT BUDGET (43100-580). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **CONSIDER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE SWEDISH IMMIGRANT TRAIL**

At a recent meeting, it was determined that a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) would be necessary between Taylors Falls, Chisago County and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources to outline the purpose and scope of the Swedish Immigrant Trail and to identify each party's responsibility. The Council reviewed the draft MOU at the December 28, 2009 meeting. The County has signed the document.

MOTION BY TANGEN/KINNUNEN TO APPROVE THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE SWEDISH IMMIGRANT TRAIL BETWEEN CHISAGO COUNTY, THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF PARKS & TRAILS, AND THE CITY OF TAYLORS FALLS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. (copy attached)

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

##### **CONSIDER PROPOSAL FROM YELLOW BIKE COMPANY**

Brad Foss, former Mayor of St. Croix Falls, Wisconsin, gave a presentation to the Council regarding his proposal to begin a bike program in St. Croix Falls and Taylors Falls. The Yellow Bike Company would provide four bike stations, two in St. Croix Falls and two in Taylors Falls. One station would be located at the Drive-In Restaurant, and another location to be determined by the City. The program would involve providing yellow bikes at no charge to the customer, with the intention they ride it around town and perhaps between the two towns, and return them to the designated docking stations. Taylors Falls would need to provide information for an "official trail" brochure that would be provided to the rider. Yellow Bike Company would provide the maintenance on the bikes, however, Taylors Falls would need to establish where that maintenance would occur in Taylors Falls. The kick off date is planned for June 5<sup>th</sup>.

City Clerk Jo Everson reported that the City's insurance underwriters had no concerns with such a program, although the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust would be providing the liability insurance and would provide comment on the program once it has been finalized. More specifically, that the Company provide sufficient maintenance on the bikes to reduce the possibility of claims against the City. Foss suggested that legal language be posted to notify the rider that one would "ride at their own risk".

Council Member John Tangen questioned the requirement and use of helmets, to which Foss indicated he would attempt to locate some that could be donated. Tangen also questioned what the consequences would be if the bikes were vandalized in any way. Because they become City property the same consequences would apply as if a picnic table were vandalized.

The Council was supportive of the proposal, and encouraged Foss to present his final plans for the program in April.

##### **CONSIDER PURCHASE OF SEWER JETTER**

Mike Kriz, Public Works Superintendent, requested authorization to purchase a trailer-mounted sewer

jetter. Kriz explained that the majority of the City's sewer lines were installed with clay lines which have cracks allowing roots to grow into the line. A rodder remedies this situation, which the City owns. However, newer lines are installed with plastic lines. While the root problem has been eliminated, if there is a blockage a rodder cannot be used because it will damage the plastic pipes. The only other option is a jetter. Currently the City's entire sewer line system is 50% plastic, and future plans are to continue the re-lining of all remaining clay lines. Therefore a jetter is absolutely necessary.

Kriz further explained that the jetter they are proposing to purchase has been refurbished by Flexible Pipe Tool Company and is in excellent condition. The \$17,100.00 cost is less than half the price of a new jetter, with a one year warranty.

Clerk-Treasurer Jo Everson recommended the purchase be made from the \$5,000.00 Sewer Fund Capital Purchases Budget Account (602-49450-500) and from the Sewer Fund Cash Reserves.

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/RIVARD TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF A TRAILER MOUNTED SRECO HI PRESSURE JETTER FROM FLEXIBLE PIPE TOOL COMPANY, AT A COST OF \$17,100.00, TO BE PAID FROM THE SEWER FUND (602). MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **CONSIDER KENNEL LICENSE FOR 354 BRIAR LANE**

Linda Menne, 354 Briar Lane, owns three German Shorthaired Pointer dogs. City Ordinance only allows two (2) dogs unless a kennel license is obtained. Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Jayna Yeske indicated that all requirements have been met and the City has received no comments in favor or opposed to the proposed kennel license.

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/RIVARD TO AUTHORIZE A KENNEL LICENSE TO BE ISSUED TO LINDA MENNE, 354 BRIAR LANE, FOR NO MORE THAN THREE (3) DOGS, WITH THE CONDITION THAT THE ANIMALS ARE UNDER CONTROL AT ALL TIMES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **CONSIDER WINE AND STRONG BEER LICENSE FOR HALVERSON INVESTMENT, INC.**

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE ISSUANCE OF A WINE LICENSE AND STRONG BEER LICENSE TO HALVERSON INVESTMENT INC., DBA TANGLED UP IN BLUE, AT 425 BENCH STREET, FOR THE PERIOD OF FEBRUARY 1, 2010 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2010.

#### **CONSIDER RESOLUTION 10-01-07 AGREEING TO MAINTAIN TRAIL FACILITIES**

THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTION 10-01-07 AGREEING TO MAINTAIN TRAIL FACILITIES BUILT WITH FEDERAL TRANSPORTATION ENHANCEMENT DOLLARS AND TO INDEMNIFY CHISAGO COUNTY FOR ANY ASSOCIATION WITH THE TAYLORS FALLS VALLEY TRAIL PROJECT. (attached)

#### **CONSIDER 2010 ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACT**

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE 2010 ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACT BY AND BETWEEN ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES AND THE CITY OF TAYLORS FALLS. (on file)

#### **LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

**John Tangen** reported that the City was awarded the grant from the Minnesota Historical Society for the education endeavor walking tour. The plans are to release the video during the Leaf Festival this fall. He also reported that the Fire Department will have their radios inspected to determine what the costs would be once the upgrade to the 800 MHz radio system is required.

**Zara Kinnunen** reported that Ken Moore was elected as the new Chair of the Economic Development Commission. The plans are for the EDC to update the Council on current and future projects at the February 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

**Mayor Mike Buchite** reported that he and Laird Mork, Chisago County Parks Director, testified at the State Capital to support the inclusion of the Swedish Immigrant Trail project linking Shafer to Taylors

Falls in the State's \$1.3 million dollar bonding proposal. Representative Jeremy Kalin sponsored the funding request, despite Governor Tim Pawlenty's assurance that he would veto any bonding request for trail construction.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED THE CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED IN THE JANUARY 25, 2010 COUNCIL PACKET:

1. CORRESPONDENCE FROM MNDOT, RE: PRIVATE DATA ACCESSED BY UNAUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL
2. NOTICE FROM MN PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, RE: APPLICATION FROM NSP TO INCREASE GAS RATES
3. STAFF CORRESPONDENCE & EMAIL'S

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY KINNUNEN/TANGEN TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE JANUARY 25, 2010 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

---

Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

---

Jo Everson, City Clerk-Treasurer

**APPROVED: FEBRUARY 8, 2010**