

**TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
MONDAY, AUGUST 10, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

The Agenda for this Meeting was posted Wednesday, August 5, 2015 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.

**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, Mary Jo Murphy, Larry Julik-Heine

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Mary Tomnitz – Clerk/Treasurer, Barbara Nelson – EDC, Amy Frischmon – Wild Mountain

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MOTION BY RIVARD/MURPHY TO APPROVE THE AGENDA, AS AMENDED, FOR THE AUGUST 10, 2015 TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA**

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/RIVARD TO APPROVE/ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS: STAFF REPORTS; COMMISSION/BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/ REPORTS; APPOINTING NEW HPC MEMBER; RESOLUTION 15-08-02 AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL SIGNATORY ON CITY ACCOUNTS; AMERICA'S BEST COMMUNITIES MATCHING GRANT CONTRIBUTION; APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL; AND CORRESPONDENCE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**TO VACATE BY PETITION A PORTION OF BASIL STREET**

The Mayor opened the Public Hearing at 7:05 p.m. and requested the *Notice of Public Hearing* be read into the record:

*Notice is hereby given that a Public Hearing will be held by the City Council of Taylors Falls at City Hall on Monday, August 10, 2015 beginning at 7:05 p.m. to consider the petition of Ronald Youngman and Mary McGovern to vacate a portion of Basil Street in order to correct an encroachment for the property at 307 Walnut Street, PID #20.00245.00. All interested persons are invited to attend said hearing and be heard on this matter.*

The Public Hearing was to consider a petition from Ronald Youngman and Mary McGovern to vacate a portion of Basil Street. At the June City Council meeting Resolution 15-06-02 was approved acknowledging the encroachment of a deck at 307 Walnut Street and allowed for continuation of the encroachment as Basil Street is unimproved and likely would never be. Purchasers Ronald and Mary were not quite satisfied with this and would like the deed cleaned up. City Attorney recommended that the City grant a partial vacation on the portion of the street right-of-way underlying the encroachment including setbacks, because the alternative, tearing off the deck, seems punitive. This is a standard practice when City's are faced with this type of dilemma.

The street vacation does not affect any other property owners. Mayor Buchite called for public comments in favor of the proposed street vacation, comments opposed to the proposed street vacation, and those comments neutral to the proposed street vacation. Hearing none,

MOTION BY MURPHY/JULIK-HEINE TO CLOSE THE BASIL STREET VACATION PUBLIC HEARING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. The hearing concluded at 7:07 p.m.

*Council deliberation on the street vacation occurred later in these minutes.*

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 25 & 30, 2015 CLERK – TREASURER CITY COUNCIL INTERVIEW MINUTES.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

NONE

**STAFF REPORTS & REQUESTS**

**ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT**

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE JULY 2015 FINANCIAL REPORTS PRESENTED BY COORDINATOR/ZONING ADMINISTRATOR ADAM BERKLUND.

**CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT**

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA SERGEANT SHANE CARROLL'S JULY 2015 CHISAGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

**PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT**

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA PUBLIC WORKS SUPERINTENDENT MIKE KRIZ'S JULY 2015 PUBLIC WORKS REPORT.

**CITY ATTORNEY**

THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPTED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE JULY 2015 BILLING STATEMENTS FROM THE CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE OF KELLY AND LEMMONS, P.A.

**COMMISSION, BOARD OR COMMITTEE MINUTES/REPORTS**

NONE

**OLD BUSINESS**

**CONSIDER RACK CARDS AND PHONE SCRIPT FOR BUSINESS PARK**

Chair Barbara Nelson from the EDC was in attendance to describe a phone script and rack cards promoting the business park. Commissioner Vitalis developed the phone script and rack cards, but there are still some things to complete such as an email. Some changes were made to the phone script to include 10 one acre lots, and to not include waiving WAC and SAC fees and to scratch the first sentence and have it read *The Economic Development Commission of Taylors Falls appreciates your interest in our "Taylors Falls wants YOU"*.

Rack cards were also discussed to use the template from the HRA/EDA, with an additional design and signing. It was determined to purchase 250 cards at a cost of \$60.00

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO APPROVE REQUEST TO PAY KAY LAMBERT FROM DESIGN IN THE LIGHT \$262.50 FOR DESIGN OF THE BILLBOARD AND \$210.00 FOR DESIGN OF THE RACK CARDS AND TO PURCHASE 250 RACK CARDS AT A COST OF \$60 CONDITIONAL UPON CHANGES TO VERBIAGE OF THE RACK CARDS TO BE PAID FROM THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND (230).

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**NEW BUSINESS**

**CONSIDER ADOPTING RESOLUTION 15-08-01 APPROVING A STREET VACATION**

Mayor Buchite explained the reasoning for the public hearing was to correct a deck that was built long ago on the City's Basil Street Right-of-Way. The portion of Basil Street to be vacated is on the bluff, so it will never be improved. Also the section of Basil Street to the north of Walnut Street has already been vacated.

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 15-08-01 VACATING A PORTION OF BASIL STREET (AS DESCRIBED IN THE RESOLUTION).

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY WITH COUNCILMAN RIVARD ABSTAINING.

**CONSIDER 2015 DEER HERD MANAGEMENT HUNT**

City Staff is waiting on an email from the DNR to give us an idea of the size of the herd. It was decided to table the item until we receive that email and bring it back to the September meeting.

MOTION BY TANGEN/JULIK-HEINE TO TABLE ITEM AND VISIT AGAIN AT THE SEPTEMBER MEETING.

**CONSIDER CHISAGO LAKES CHAMBER – AMERICA'S BEST COMMUNITIES – MATCHING GRANT CONTRIBUTION**

Amy Frischmon brought Council up to speed on the America's Best Communities grant program. Chisago Lakes Chamber has been voted into the quarter finals for a chance to be awarded \$3 million dollars for upgrading broadband, economic development, tourism, arts and culture, and enhancing the quality of life.

The Chisago Lakes Area is excited to be named a top 50 Quarter Finalist in the America's Best Community Competition, and the only community in Minnesota selected. This is the first stage of a 3 year competition with 3 million dollars presented to the final winner. The goal is to create a Community Revitalization Plan focused on economic development. The first stage is a \$50,000 contribution to create a community strategic plan, (Frontier Communications \$35,000 and KPMG \$15,000). The Chisago Lakes Area is also required to raise \$15,000 in matching community funds.

The Chisago Lakes Chamber partnered with Chisago Lakes Chamber partnered with Chisago County HRA/EDA and applied on behalf of the region encompassing the Chisago Lake Area School District. This includes Chisago City, Lindstrom, Center City, Shafer, Taylors Falls and surrounding Townships. Information for the grant was gathered from area Business Visits, the FutureWalk Initiative, Broadband Initiative, Chisago Lakes Schools Strategic plan, Chisago County and Individual City Plans.

There were many similar on-going conversations happening and four priorities stood out. If we focus on our similarities and improve on these four things the ripple effect would lead to a better Chisago Lakes Area on many different levels. Teams made up of community members, businesses and city/county officials have been meeting to focus on each of the following:

1. Broadband
2. Economic Development
3. Tourism, Arts and Culture
4. Quality of Life

Chisago Lakes Chamber is requesting help with the \$15,000 in matching community funds. ABC is looking at three priorities COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, LONG TERM VISION AND STRATEGY and SHORT TERM TACTICS. They are asking for assistance across the community to raise the \$15,000 in hopes that will help show strong community engagement. Funds must be received or identified in writing by August 1<sup>st</sup> to be in compliance with the competition guidelines.

MOTION BY MURPHY/JULIK-HEING TO APPROVE THE REQUEST OF A MATCHING COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION OF FUNDS FOR THE CHISAGO LAKES CHAMBER, AMERICA'S BEST COMMUNITIES GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,000 TO BE PAID FROM RESERVE FUND ( ).

FURTHER MOVED TO AUTHORIZE MAYOR BUCHITE'S SIGNATURE ON THE WINNER AGREEMENT.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**CONSIDER HPC RECOMMENDATION FOR NEW MEMBER**

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE RECOMMENDATION BY THE TAYLORS FALLS HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION AND APPOINT TROY AANONSON TO THE COMMISSION.

**CONSIDER RESOLUTION 15-08-02 AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL SIGNATORY ON CITY ACCOUNTS**

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTION 15-08-02 AUTHORIZING NEW CLERK/TREASURER MARY TOMNITZ TO CITY FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS AT CENTRAL BANK IN ST. CROIX FALLS, WISCONSIN.

**APPROVAL OF CLAIMS & PAYROLL**

THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE PAYMENT OF CHECK NUMBERS 26473 – 26496 TALLING \$21,137.79 IN EXPENDITURES, AND CHECK NUMBERS 6680 – 6685 TALLING \$4,080.18 FOR JULY PAYROLL.

**LIAISON OR COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

**Larry Julik-Heine** reported the PRC met two weeks ago, and discussed the split-rail fence at Cherry Hill park. Stated he along with Staff met with MNDOT to get brought up to speed on the Hwy 8 project slated for 2016. MNDOT would like to come to a Council Meeting to bring the City up to speed, and would like to hold a public meeting in January.

**Mary Murphy** stated the EDC would not be meeting this month due to conflicts with vacation. She is working with the Fire Department and Sheriff's department to begin discussing the 2016 budget.

Murphy also reported that Lindsey Clark would be organizing the Kiddie Parade for 6:00 p.m. Friday. Murphy will be requesting a donation from Walmart for cookies after.

**Ross Rivard** reported that the Planning Commission will meet tomorrow night to continue on the Solar Ordinance. The maintenance crew finally got the sewer line televised and found the manhole they were looking for. It is expected to return next month with estimates to dig up the located manhole. The trees have been removed at the Downtown Commercial property.

**John Tangen** reported the HPC would be meeting this week and will be looking at the Solar Ordinance as it pertains to historic properties.

**Mayor Mike Buchite** and Vice Mayor had a teleconference about a one acre Community Solar Garden. It would come at no cost to the City, and could be located out by the sewer ponds. Benefits to Taylors Falls, would reduce our electric rates about a month of electricity for free.

National Night Out was last week and over 200 people turned out. Could have been the best turnout we've ever had and Mayor Buchite wanted to thank everyone for that.


**CORRESPONDENCE**

THE CITY COUNCIL ACKNOWLEDGED BY CONSENT AGENDA THE CORRESPONDENCE PROVIDED IN THE AUGUST 10, 2015 CITY COUNCIL MEETING PACKET.

**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION BY JULIK-HEINE/MURPHY TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE TAYLORS FALLS CITY COUNCIL HELD THIS AUGUST 10, 2015. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Being no further business to come before the Council, the Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

  
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Michael D. Buchite, Mayor

  
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Adam Berklund, Coordinator-ZA

**APPROVED:** MARCH 14, 2016