

MINUTES of the ST. CHARLES CITY COUNCIL
For Tuesday, November 24, 2015 held at 6:00 p.m. at
830 Whitewater Avenue
St. Charles, Minnesota

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councilmen:
David Kramer
Dave Braun
Orv Dahl
Wayne Getz
Mayor John Schaber

STAFF PRESENT:

Kristine Engstrand (City Accountant), Nick Koverman (City Administrator).

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE: Dan White, Cathy Groebner, Bill Spitzer, Craig Hilmer (St. Charles Press).

1. ESTABLISH QUORUM/CALL TO ORDER

Quorum was established with Mayor Schaber calling the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. APPROVAL of the AGENDA: Addition 12a.) City Hall/Library Closing 24th/25th.

Motion to approve the agenda: **Dave Braun**

No discussion.

Motion carried.

4. Notices and Communications. Admin. Koverman highlighted a recent article that showcased the partnership between the City and Project Fine with our Parks and Recreation programs.

5. Review of Financials. No questions.

6. SE MN Together. Bill Spitzer provided a brief presentation on the work being conducted by Southeast Minnesota Together, which is a grant funded partnership with SMIF, to explore the impacts to workforce as a result of Destination Medical Center. Spitzer provide some general feedback from two of the events that had been held and promoted the upcoming December 3 event in Winona.

7. Fort Culvert Agreement. Mayor Schaber highlighted that the Forts had received the proposed agreement as had been verbally discussed with Tom Fort at the previous meeting. In a phone call earlier with Mr. Fort, Admin. Koverman relayed that he had not had a chance to sit down with his father, but had hoped to do so. The Council discussed their options and Admin. Koverman recommended approval of the agreement by the Council as written so that when the Forts sign, the project can move quickly given the time of season and weather conditions. Clm. Dahl expressed that he felt the Council should wait until they hear from the Forts before approving the agreement. A motion was made to approve the agreement as presented.

Motion to approve: **David Kramer**

No further discussion.

Nay: **Orv Dahl**

Motion carried.

8. Gathje Trail Agreement. Mayor Schaber discussed the verbal agreement that staff had developed with Mr. Gathje and that the agreement was put into a letter for adoption. He asked if Council had any questions, hearing none he called for a motion to approve the letter. A motion to approve the letter was made.

Motion to approve: **Orv Dahl**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

9. 2016 Budget Discussion. Mayor Schaber highlighted the memo that was included in the packet for consideration. He relayed that the proposed increase and the budget reflected the 8.16 levy increase which is due to the EMS building levy. No other questions were asked. The Mayor asked for a motion to move forward with the budget to bring to Truth In Taxation at the next meeting. A motion was made to that effect.

Motion to approve: **Dave Braun**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

10. 2016 CEDA Contract. Mayor Schaber highlighted the contract with Community Economic Development Associates that provides the city's economic development services. The contract amount was to increase 2.5 percent over the previous year for a total of \$33,272. A motion was made to approve the renewal of the contract with CEDA. Clm. Braun asked about more marketing for I-90 to help sell the park. Clm. Getz explained that the EDA has been helping throughout the community and the I-90 park is one focus. Admin. Koverman added that it is also on the minds of the EDA as well and that additional conversations and opportunities have been discussed because of the I-90 investment and that it continues to be a long-term investment.

Motion to approve: **Wayne Getz**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

11. DESCASD Board Term. A 2-year board term from Clm. Getz was expiring at the end of the year and the Sanitary District requested the city select a candidate. It was motioned to appoint Clm. Getz as the representative. Clm. Getz accepted the nomination.

Motion to approve: **Dave Braun**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

12. Custodian Recommendation. Admin. Koverman brought forward the name of Jim Huth as the most qualified candidate to fill the position of custodian as the most qualified applicant. No further questions were asked. A motion to approve Jim Huth was made.

Motion to approve: **Wayne Getz**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

12a. City Hall/Library Closing. Mayor Schaber asked Council about closing City Hall and the Library both Christmas Eve day and Christmas Day. A motion to approve the closing was made.

Motion to approve: **David Kramer**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

13. Closed Session—Real Estate Strategy under Minn. Stat 13 D. 05 subd. 3 (c)

Motion to close at 6:24 p.m.: **Orv Dahl**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

The closed meeting was held at 6:29 p.m.

The closed portion ended at 6:35 p.m.

Motion to end closed portion: **Dave Braun**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

The regular meeting was opened at 6:38 p.m.

A motion was made to have staff pursue the property in question.

Motion to approve: **Orv Dahl**

No further discussion.

Motion carried.

UNSCHEDULED PUBLIC APPEARANCES

None

Motion to adjourn at 6:39 p.m.

Motion to approve: **Wayne Getz**

Motion declared carried.

John Schaber, Mayor

Attest: _____

Nick Koverman, City Administrator

