



**City Council Meeting Minutes
Monday, January 26, 2015, 5:00 pm
Wells Community Center**

The Wells City Council convened on Monday, January 26, 2015 at 5:00 pm in the Council Chamber.

Mayor Gaines called the meeting to order with the following councilmembers present: David Braun, John Herman, Ashley Seedorf and Whitney Warmka. Also present: City Administrator Robin Leslie, Deputy City Clerk Megan Boeck, City Engineer Travis Winter and City Attorney David Frundt.

AGENDA

The agenda for the January 26, 2015 meeting was reviewed. Motion by Herman and second by Warmka to approve as presented. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Michelle Gottberg was present and informed the council about traffic concerns on 9th Street SW. Gottberg stated traffic has increased since the opening of the new school and speed limits are not being followed. Gottberg questioned councilmembers if they would consider either changing the entire residential area speed limit to 20 miles per hour or add additional signage.

Ms. Leslie stated additional street signs are already in the budget for that area and the plan is to implement them in the spring. The council can discuss these items in a future public works/public safety committee meeting.

CONSENT ITEMS

Minutes

Motion by Seedorf and second by Herman to approve January 12, 2015 minutes. Motion carried.

Payments

Motion by Herman and second by Braun to approve payments in the amount of \$88,533.72 as listed on pages 4-5 of the council packet. Motion carried.

Financial Statements

Motion by Seedorf and second by Herman to approve financial statements as listed on page 6 of the council packet. Motion carried.

Building Permits/Overtime/Comp Time Reports

Motion by Herman and second by Braun to accept Building Permits/Overtime/Comp Time Reports as listed on pages 7-9 of the council packet. Motion carried.

Board Reports/Minutes

Motion by Seedorf and second by Herman to accept Wells Ambulance December 2014 minutes and Wells Historical Society January 2015 minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Braun and second by Warmka to accept EDA July-December 2014 minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Herman and second by Braun to accept HRA July-December 2014 minutes. Motion carried.

Motion by Braun and second by Warmka to accept P&Z July-September 2014 minutes. Motion carried.

Staff Report

Ms. Leslie informed the Council on the following:

- 1) the Liquor Store Committee met last week and they will begin contacting contractors to get remodel estimates;
- 2) the SRTS project open house has been scheduled for February 5th at 5:00 pm;
- 3) new council members were given a tour and met city staff;
- 4) requested guidance on bonding amount indicating the amount for the original estimate was too low for what is currently available for used fire trucks. The council stated they would like to see numbers for \$550,000 and \$650,000 bonds;
- 5) a dangerous dog update was given. The Council stated they would not give Mr. Boyes any more time. The dog was to be picked up and held for legal amount of time and then if compliance was not made, the dog was to be euthanized;
- 6) USC directional signage- will talk with MNDOT;
- 7) Commercial Recycling- still working out system but should be underway next month;
- 8) Stated, along with City Attorney, annexation would be the better route to take to get the ITC site into compliance. The County Attorney agreed.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 2015-02 Conveying Property from the City to HRA- 218 3rd Ave SW and 500 1st Ave SE- Motion by Seedorf and second by Herman to approve Resolution 2015-02 Conveying Property from the City to the HRA. Motion carried.

Seedorf leaves at 5:50 pm.

Part-time Theatre Clerk Appointment- Tami Beto- Motion by Herman and second by Warmka to appoint Tami Beto to a part-time clerk position. Motion carried.

On Sale 3.2 Liquor License- Motion by Warmka and second by Braun to approve On Sale 3.2 Liquor License for Jakes Pizza. Motion carried.

City of Wells Section 125 Plan- Motion by Herman second by Warmka to amend the Section 125 Plan to allow healthcare premium payroll deductions to be tax free. Motion carried.

City of Wells Demolition Policy- Motion by Braun and second by Warmka to approve the City of Wells Demolition Policy. Motion carried.

2015 Council Goals & Priorities- Informational item. No action taken. Braun mentioned the following as goals and priorities: city surplus sale, file management, annexation issue, Hwy 109 and 22 visibility issues, liquor store remodel, nuisance properties and targeted code enforcement and utility grants for the North Industrial Park. Warmka mentioned the following as goals and priorities: community engagement, affordable housing, industrial park movement and finding a new EDA consultant.

Ms. Leslie stated the top goals she had for the Council were:

- 1) Frank Brothers Elevator demo;
- 2) Old school site planning;
- 3) SRTS project and additional funding options;
- 4) Blight removal for infill opportunities and redevelopment; and
- 5) CIP update for infrastructure and equipment.

The council agreed these were top priorities.

In addition, on the administrative side, goals for the City Administrator were:

- 1) Personnel policy manual update;

- 2) document and space management;
- 3) increasing government transparency and engagement- making more information available and improving website; and
- 4) City ordinance amendments-sidewalk/street and zoning chapters.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

Motion by Warmka and second by Herman to go into closed session. Motion carried.

CLOSED WORKSESSION (MN Stat 179 A.01-.25 Labor Negotiations)

Motion by Braun and second by Warmka to go into open session. Motion carried. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS (continued)

LELS 2015-2017 Contract- Motion by Warmka and second by Braun to approve LELS 2015-2017 contract. Motion carried.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Warmka- stated she learned a lot at the League of Minnesota Cities New Council Member Orientation and at the city tour. She stated it was great department heads were so passionate about their departments and the city work they do.

Braun- agreed about the city tour. He also asked about snow removal and sidewalks. Ms. Leslie stated problem areas are complaint-driven and that the city addresses the downtown areas first and would only address residential if we know about it.

Herman- none.

Gaines- none.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Braun and second by Herman to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Mayor Ronald Gaines

Deputy City Clerk Megan Boeck