

**MINUTES OF A STUDY SESSION OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
JANUARY 7, 2010, 4:30 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Riddle called the meeting to order. Council members present were Mayor Jeremy Riddle and Councilors Paul Whitcomb, Dick Dobson, Lee Steinbrecher, and Victoria Hallin. Staff present was Mark Karnowski, Steve Jackson, Jay Blake, Brian Payne and Katie Hunter.

PRINCETON YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION SAC AND WAC FEES RESOLUTION #10-01

Mark Karnowski explained that the Princeton Youth Hockey Association (PYHC) is requesting Council consideration of a payment plan for payment of the WAC and SAC charges for the expansion of the hockey arena.

Jay Blake has noted that the only difference in the ice arena request versus other organizations' requests is that they are a non-profit community organization. Some points to consider is that Belle Haven made a similar request that was subsequently denied and the Daycare Center was accommodated by allowing a payment plan over three years and that business has not kept up with that agreed to payment plan.

The SAC and WAC are both based on seating capacity (1200 for this building). The total project cost was \$2.3 million.

Karnowski clarified that Resolution 10-01 notes that the wording of the resolution sets the time-frame for repayment for five (5) years at an interest rate of eight percent (8%). The city is allowed to add two percent (2%) to the interest rate of the primary funding mechanism.

While some might hold that an 8% interest rate would appear excessive, staff is recommending that amount in hopes that the rate will dissuade others in the future from pursuing a similar agreement. The staff position is that the use of this type of funding mechanism should be discouraged.

If you agree that the city should offer the PYHA a payment program for WAC and SAC charges, then adoption of the attached resolution would be in order. I'd discussed the issue with the PUC's general manager and he indicates the PUC (who is the beneficiary of the WAC charge) will go along with whatever the Council decides.

If the Council adopts a motion to approve the attached resolution, then a second motion to extend the temporary Certificate of Occupancy another 7 days to give the PYHA Board an opportunity to adopt the joint resolution would also be in order.

Steinbrecher questioned if the PUC has ran this resolution past their board. Karnowski said he has emailed both Dave Thompson with PUC and Dan Schroeder with the PYHA. Schroeder was not present but Abrahamson was and stated that he has been in discussions with Schroeder and the Board is aware of the proposal. The monthly board meeting for PYHA will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010.

STEINBRECHER MOTIONED TO ACCEPT RESOLUTION #10-01 CONTINGENT UPON THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AND THE HOCKEY BOARD REVIEWING THE STATED INFORMATION AT THEIR MEETING. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES – 5; NAYS – 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

DOBSON MOTIONED TO EXTEND THE TEMPORARY CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY ANOTHER SEVEN DAYS TO GIVE THE PYHA AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADOPT THE JOINT RESOLUTION. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES – 5; NAYS – 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD REAPPOINTMENT JEFF DOTSETH

Karnowski explained that Jeff Dotseth's reappointment was overseen in December. The Airport Board Liaison, Dobson commented that Mr. Dotseth; whom was present; has been an asset to the board and is very knowledgeable.

DOBSON MOTIONED TO REAPPOINT MR JEFF DOTSETH TO THE AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD FOR THE TERM OF THREE YEARS; THROUGH 12-31-2012. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES – 5; NAYS – 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION #10-02 WETLAND ACT

Karnowski explained that this resolution has to be signed and sent in to Sherburne County by the 15th of the month, so that is why it has been brought before the council at the Study Session. Cities have the option to administer the wetlands themselves or defer that administration to the county. Most cities defer to the county because it requires a lot of specific knowledge that city staff may not have. Steinbrecher questioned the costs and fees involved in administering the wetland responsibility to Sherburne County. Blake answered that those costs are passed on to a developer that requests the information.

HALLIN MOTIONED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #10-02 WETLAND ACT DESIGNATING THE ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES TO THE SHERBURNE COUNTY ZONING DEPARTMENT. STEINBRECHER SECONDED THE MOTION.

Riddle asked if Sherburne County administers all of the wetlands in our city. Mille Lacs County has separate contract of the same type. Hallin asked how long the contract was good for. Karnowski stated that the contract will remain in effect until terminated.

ON THE VOTE: AYES – 5; NAYS – 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ALCOHOL COMPLAINT CHECKS

Karnowski stated that the Public Health Department out of Elk River sent a letter informing the city that the three liquor establishments in the city limits of Princeton passed their Alcohol Compliance Checks (Coborn's, Pamida and Super America.)

LEGISLATIVE FORUM

Karnowski informed the council that the East Central Regional Development Commission and the East Central Solid Waste Commission are inviting the council to a legislative forum with Region 7E legislators. The event is set for 7:00 PM on Monday, January 25th on the lower level meeting room at the Kanabec County Government Center in Mora.

2010 PROJECT PRIORITY

Karnowski explained that he put together a list of projects that council should prioritize for 2010. On the list is:

Extend 21st Ave. south to Industrial Park
Clear up "Through the Fence" (Kruse's bldg) problem at Airport
Old Airport property title issues
Web Site improvement
The Dunn and TH95 Bridge replacements and roundabout
Wastewater Treatment Plant
Public Safety Building
Orderly Annexation Agreement w/Baldwin Township
Downtown Redevelopment
Airport Area Re-zoning
Clear Rum River for canoeing
Trail System development
Riverside Park Improvements
Remodel Civic Center Inflow and Infiltration Study
13th Ave/TH95 intersection
Extend sidewalk from downtown to Coborn's
2nd Bridge across Rum River
Riverside Park Amphitheater
Co-locate City Hall w/PUC
Merge PUC & Public Works field staffs
Housing Study
Extend Rum River Dr. west past airport
Cross Wind Runway

Karnowski explained that he has handed out a list like this for the past few years to make sure the city's priorities are where they should be in the order they should be.

There being no further business,
DOBSON MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 5:00 P.M. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE
VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Katie Hunter; City Clerk

ATTEST:

Jeremy Riddle, Mayor