

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
AUGUST 13, 2009, 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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Mayor Riddle called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present were Councilors Paul Whitcomb, Victoria Hallin and Dick Dobson. Councilor Lee Steinbrecher was absent. Staff present was Mark Karnowski, Steve Jackson, Jay Blake, Bob Gerold and Brian Payne. Also present: City Attorneys Dick Schieffer and Damien Toven.

**AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS**

It was the consensus of the Council to add the following items to the agenda:

**10. Unfinished Business**

- B. Trunk Sewer Easement Payments**

It was also noted that there was new additional information on the proposed Ice Arena funding and the proposed Administrative Fine Ordinance amendment.

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 23, 2009 AND THE  
AUGUST 4, 2009 STUDY SESSION.**

WHITCOMB MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 23, 2009 AND THE AUGUST 4, 2009 STUDY SESSION AS WRITTEN. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (4 AYES, 0 NAYS).

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Permits and Licenses**

- 1. Approve St. Edward's Catholic Church 3.2 beer license (for their 9/20/09 Festival)

**B. Personnel**

- 1. Liquor Store – approve Jackie Bragg resignation (effective 7/31/09)

**C. Donations/Designations:**

- 1. Accept \$1,000 donation for Mark Park Summer Baseball from the Princeton VFW Auxiliary.

WHITCOMB MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA INCLUDING RESOLUTION #09-33 ACCEPTING THE VFW AUXILIARY CONTRIBUTION. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (4 AYES, 0 NAYS).

**OPEN FORUM** – no speakers

**PUBLIC HEARINGS** – Ice Arena Financing Hearing

Mayor Riddle opened the public hearing.

Community Development Director Jay Blake introduced Mike Kaps (a representative from the Village Bank of East Bethel) who explained the proposal for the city to issue a \$2.2 million Recreational Facility Revenue Note for the expansion of the Princeton Youth Hockey Association's (PYHA) facility to house a second sheet of ice. He noted that the PYHA needs to raise \$250,000 before opening the expanded facility. The funding proposal is for a 25 year note that will have an adjustable rate (adjusted every 3 years). That rate will range between 4-6% and the monthly PYHA payment will be about \$12,860.

Dan Schroeder, representing the PYHA, advised the Council that the PYHA wanted the newly expanded building to be a community facility and said that other activities and facilities may be

added in the future.

Councilor Hallin asked about a skateboard park and Schroeder said that was a possibility and that the PYHA was open to suggestions.

Steve Jackson advised the Council that the proposal before them was similar to other earlier city issues. He likened the city's involvement as being a "conduit" but that the city will not be involved in the payment methodology nor will the city have responsibility. He said that issuing the bonds will not impact the city's credit rating or bonding authority or rating – even if the PYHA defaults on the annual payment.

Dobson said that he likes the fact that the Ice Arena is expanding. Hallin agreed.

There were no comments offered from the public.

DOBSON MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

WHITCOMB MOVED TO ADOPT COUNCIL RESOLUTION 09-34, A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A RECREATIONAL FACILITY REVENUE NONE, SERIES 2009 AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF DOCUMENTS RELATING THERETO (PRINCETON YOUTH HOCKEY ASSOCIATION PROJECT). DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (4 AYES, 0 NAYS).

#### **REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMITTEES**

- A. Visionary Committee Minutes of July 13, July 27 and July 31, 2009**
- B. Park Board Minutes of July 27, 2009**
- C. EDA Board Minutes of July 16, 2009**
- D. Fire Advisory Board Minutes of August 4, 2009**
- E. Airport Advisory Board Minutes of August 3, 2009**

#### **PETITIONS, REQUESTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS**

##### **A. Concerned Citizen Letter**

The Council reviewed a memo and letter from a "concerned citizen" that chastised the city for allowing a property owner to build a residence in a commercial building on 320½ Street. The Administrator advised that he was frustrated in that he was unable to advise the letter writer that the property in question is not located within the city. He further noted that the city appreciates being advised of activity that might possibly be in violation of the city ordinances and it is most helpful if reporting parties contact the city while the activity is going on – rather than after. He also noted that the identity of a "whistle blower" is confidential information.

#### **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

##### **A. Ordinance #635 Administrative Fine Amendment - First Reading**

The Council reviewed the revised ordinance amendment that would bring the city code book into compliance with the recently adopted statute on administrative fines issued for certain traffic violations.

Attorney Schieffer gave the Council some background information on the rationale behind the new statutory language including the provision that a person receiving an administrative fine could appeal the issuance to a neutral third party. There was some discussion about the city's ability to charge a fee for requesting such an appeal.

Karnowski indicated that he was at a recent League of Cities meeting where the opinion was expressed that the city could charge a filing fee. It was decided to have Attorney Schieffer re-search the filing fee issue before the Council took final action on the proposal.

DOBSON MOVED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE #635 AS A FIRST READING. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (4 AYES, 0 NAYS).

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **A. NSP Program Update**

Community Development Director Jay Blake introduced a proposed amendment to the city's program that would eliminate the provision that restricted the city's purchase of a foreclosed property to paying 85% of the assessed value to 99% of the assessed value as recommended by the MHFA (program sponsor).

WHITCOMB MOVED TO ADOPT THE CHANGE AS RECOMMENDED. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

Blake went on to update the Council on the progress of the program including that the city had obtained 2 parcels and that neither of them are worth rehabbing. He is working on obtaining a property that can be rehabbed and hopes to have that completed within 90 days. He's also pursuing 4 or 5 more properties under the program. He noted that it appears that foreclosures are dropping in the area.

#### **B. Trunk Sewer Line Easement Payments**

The Council reviewed the two final payment requests for the easements necessary to extend city sewer service west of 21<sup>st</sup> Avenue and advised that Attorney Schieffer was recommending approval because none of the property owners involved appealed the panel's determination.

HALLIN MOVED TO PAY THE FOLLOWING:

- A. \$480 TOTAL TO SCOTT JAMES SCHMIDT, PAULA J. SCHMIDT, PAUL C. WALKER, PAULA G. WALKER AND MATTHEW S. WALKER FOR A PERMANENT EASEMENT, AND
- B. \$4,720.20 TO ROBERT M. AND SHEARON D. PONTIOUS FOR PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY EASEMENTS, AND
- C. \$8,170.04 TO MICHAEL F. AND TONI J. WILLIAMS

DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (4 AYES, 0 NAYS).

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. LMC Regional Meeting**

The Council reviewed a memo advising that one of the League of Minnesota Cities regional meetings would be held in Princeton on October 1 at the Party House. More information will be made available in the future.

### **B. Quarterly Financial Update**

Finance Director Steve Jackson updated the City Council on the financial health of the city for the recently ended second quarter. He noted that the only anomaly in the General Fund was the high expenditures in the Public Works Department. He explained the reason was the pay-off for former Public Works Director Tom Mismash.

Jackson noted that the reduction in revenues in the Sewer Fund was due primarily to the reduction in new construction starts which has impacted the SAC charge revenues. He also noted that the income in the Liquor fund is down as are the corresponding expenditures. Both are, in the opinion of Jackson, indications of the slowed current economy.

### **C. Starting Time of 8-27-09 City Council Meeting**

The Council was advised that Jackson recommended that the August 27<sup>th</sup> meeting begin an hour earlier (at 6 PM) to allow time to discuss the proposed 2010 budget and levy.

HALLIN MOVED TO BEGIN THE AUGUST 27, 2010 COUNCIL MEETING AT 6 P.M. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (4 AYES, 0 NAYS).

### **D. Parking Space Striper Bid Consideration**

Public Works Director Bob Gerold advised the Council that he had located a new paint striper for the city's use off the State Bid Contract. He noted that the proposed purchase is in the 2009 CIP budget.

RIDDLE MOVED TO AUTHORIZE THE PURCHASE OF A 2008 EZ-LINER MODEL 4500 PAINT SPRAYER FOR \$5,010. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (4 AYES, 0 NAYS).

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Karnowski advised the Council that the woman (RoxAnn Hayes) who, a the July 23, 2009 Council meeting, requested an additional handicapped parking space on First Street (west of Rum River Drive) had contacted the city to advise that she may be locating her business and to hold off addressing her request.

### **BILL LIST – \$171,076.35**

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE BILL LIST WHICH INCLUDES THE MANUAL CHECKS AS LISTED ON THE MANUAL VOUCHER BILL LIST FOR A TOTAL OF \$90,484.20 AND THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE LIQUOR BILL LIST AND GENERAL CITY BILL LIST WHICH WILL BE CHECKS 61112 TO 61198 FOR A TOTAL OF \$171,076.35. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (4 AYES, 0 NAYS).

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business:

DOBSON MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION.  
THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS) AT 7:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark H. Karnowski,  
City Administrator

ATTEST:

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Jeremy Riddle, Mayor