

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON  
AUGUST 14, 2008, 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 Mayor Jeremy Riddle and Councilors Paul Whitcomb, Dick Dobson, Victoria Hallin, and Lee Steinbrecher. Staff present was Mark Karnowski, Steve Jackson, Jay Blake, Joe Backlund, Nancy Campbell, Bob Gerold, and Ann Bien. Also present were 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:

Under Miscellaneous:

- B. Phosphorus Removal Trade Update

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 29, 2008**

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JULY 29, 2008, AS WRITTEN. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES – 5; NAYS – 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. Permits and Licenses**

- 1. MN Deer Hunters Assn. East Central MN Chapter – Raffle Permit for 09-06-08 at Princeton Hockey Arena

**B. Personnel: None**

**C. Donations/Designations: None**

STEINBRECHER MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES – 5; NAYS – 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**OPEN FORUM**

No one was present with comments.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS: None**

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

**A. EDA**

- 1. **Draft Minutes of July 17, 2008**  
The above minutes were reviewed.

**B. Airport Advisory Board**

- 1. **Minutes of July 14, 2008**  
The above minutes were reviewed.

**C. Fire Advisory Board**

- 1. **Minutes of July 1, 2008**  
The above minutes were reviewed.

**D. Park and Recreation Advisory Board**

**1. Minutes of July 28, 2008**

The above minutes were reviewed.

**E. Planning Commission**

**1. Minutes of June 16 and Draft Minutes of July 21, 2008**

The above minutes were reviewed.

**PETITIONS, REQUESTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**A. Request from Chamber of Commerce to Close Parking Lot and 1<sup>st</sup> Street**

The Princeton Area Chamber of Commerce requested the closing of the south half of the Riverside Mall parking lot and 1<sup>st</sup> Street from Rum River Drive to 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue for their annual "Chili Festival" on Saturday, September 27, 2008. Karnowski reported the Fire Chief was concerned with closing the street since many members use 1<sup>st</sup> Street to respond to the Fire Hall and the department uses 1<sup>st</sup> Street to go out. However, they could go to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street North or South to respond to fire calls. Police Chief Payne has said there would have enough officers and volunteers on duty to direct traffic and keep citizens out of the way if a fire call should come in. Karnowski thought it could be tried for one year.

Steinbrecher explained this is the Chamber's third annual Chili Festival. There were 250 participants the first year and 500 last year. He explained part of the reason for closing 1<sup>st</sup> Street is that there are 10 fire departments invited to attend the contest and there would not be enough room in the area used last year. There are also more family activities scheduled this year. He explained the former area is also restricted because Sherburne Bank is open in the morning. He stated 1<sup>st</sup> Street seemed to be the most reasonable area and one purpose of the event is to bring people to the downtown area.

WHITCOMB MOVED TO APPROVE TO APPROVE THE CLOSING OF THE SOUTH HALF OF RIVERSIDE MALL PARKING LOT AND 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET BETWEEN RUM RIVER DRIVE AND 4<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE ON SEPTEMBER 27<sup>TH</sup> FROM APPROXIMATELY 10 AM. UNTIL 5 P.M. FOR THE ANNUAL CHILI FESTIVAL. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES – 5; NAYS – 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**B. Complaint about Neighbors Running a Business in Residential District**

Patricia Broten, 102 Woodland Drive, was present to express concerns with the residents at 1212 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue North and 1105 12<sup>th</sup> Street North. Complaints from her and her neighbors include parking up to 3 vehicles with trailers attached with junk on them on both sides of the street; loud, foul language; noise from power tools and manual labor on vehicles; local daily traffic cannot safely maneuver around the parked vehicles; traffic hazard for kids riding their bicycles on the public streets; pets allowed to run at large; vehicle parts found in neighbors' yards; vehicle fluids running into the streets; broken glass in the street, piles of tires; fear of rats; vehicle fires; and a business being conducted in a residential district. She stated they think the residents should be required to abide by the City's ordinances. Letters from Marge and Cliff Clemons and Betty and Bill Hallbeck were also presented.

City Attorney Damien Toven stated he is aware of the situation as it is currently an on-going investigation and evidence is being collected by City staff and the Police Department. He urged the residents to not put themselves in danger, but keep a diary and take photos of their

complaints. He advised them to report dog issues and language/noise complaints to the Police Department when they happen.

**C. Request from Judi Hallbeck to Expand Golf Cart Route**

Karnowski reviewed the letter from Judi Hallbeck requesting the golf cart route be expanded to include a way to get to Coborn's. He stated staff has talked about extending the sidewalk to Coborn's for pedestrians and are looking for funding.

Riddle asked about State law already allowing golf carts on public streets. He was told State Statute deals with allowing this type of vehicle on public streets, but the City would have to adopt an ordinance allowing it.

Steinbrecher stated he personally does not think golf carts on Rum River Drive would be a good idea. Whitcomb stated he concerned with congestion on Rum River Drive during peak traffic periods. Dobson stated he understands Hallbeck's concern, but was hesitant to put a slow moving vehicle with a top speed of 15 mph in with regular traffic.

Karnowski suggested staff review the request and see if a viable option could be determined. The Council agreed,

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**A. Delivery of Liquor Ordinance**

Karnowski reviewed that two new liquor stores have opened in the Princeton area within the last year. Apparently at least one of them is considering home delivery of alcohol which means delivery could occur within the city. He stated he checked with the head of the Minnesota State Department of Public Safety - Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division and asked if the statutory 1-mile protection zone for alcohol sales within a city with municipal liquor was interpreted to include a prohibition against delivery services. He stated he also asked the State if the provision of the rule that states "No off-sale retailer shall sell, ship, or deliver alcoholic beverages to purchasers in (a)...municipality...where the sale... is prohibited by law." would be interpreted to mean that, since a non-municipal liquor store is prohibited in a municipal liquor city, that delivery within a municipal liquor city is prohibited. He stated he was advised that the Division had contacted the State's Attorney General's office for a clarification on alcohol sales but had not yet heard back. He was advised that any city has the authority to regulate, including prohibit, the delivery of alcohol within the municipality.

Karnowski stated he was not so concerned with the competition aspect, but was concerned with youth access to alcohol; particularly since the Council recently adopted a social hosting ordinance to prevent underage drinking.

Steinbrecher asked if this regulates delivery by a private citizen to another private citizen. City Attorney Schieffer stated he has already redrafted a section to define off-sale retail liquor establishments, stating the ordinance will not address individuals delivering to others.

Liquor Manager Campbell stated she has had phone calls asking if Princeton Wine and Spirits delivers and the caller sounds intoxicated already, although she does not know if the caller is underage. She stated they have had people coming into the store with minors to buy for them and they do not sell it to the adult under that circumstance.

Dobson stated he would like to get the message across to citizens that we are looking out for the youth and not trying to hinder enterprise.

Staff will present a redraft at next regular meeting.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **A. Settlement Agreement with Gale and Dennis Hatch**

Schieffer reported a Settlement Agreement for an easement has been accepted by Gale D and Dennis M. Hatch. He explained acquiring this easement is part of the project to extend water and sewer westerly.

STEINBRECHER MOVED TO APPROVE THE SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH GALE D. HATCH AND DENNIS M. HATCH FOR \$1,329.00. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### **B. Sandwich Board Sign Ordinance Amendment Update**

Karnowski stated he and Blake are scheduled to attend the September Chamber of Commerce meeting regarding sandwich boards. Blake has already talked to the Visionary Committee. They will come back to the Council at the end of September with their findings.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **A. State Demographer's Estimates**

Karnowski reported the City's estimated population for 2007 has dropped by 18 to 4,517, while the number of households has increased by 7 to 1,960.

### **MISCELLANEOUS**

#### **A. 2008 CGMC Summer Conference Wrap-Up**

Karnowski reported he and Councilwoman Hallin attended the Coalition of Greater MN Cities conference in Mankato. He stated they were told the Senate and Governor have come to an agreement that although there will be a levy limit, local government aid would not be touched.

#### **B. Phosphorus Removal Trade Update**

Karnowski reported he received e-mail from the Met Council advising they have approved the proposed phosphorus trading agreement with Princeton.

### **BILL LIST – \$456,135.82**

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE MANUAL CHECKS NUMBERING 59199-59204 FOR A TOTAL OF \$215,136.61 AND THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE LIQUOR BILL LIST AND GENERAL CITY BILL LIST, WHICH WILL BE CHECKS NUMBERING 59205-59304, FOR A TOTAL OF \$240,999.21 AS SHOWN ON THE BILL LIST. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

August 14, 2008  
Page 5

There being no further business, HALLIN MOVED TO ADJOURN AT 7:50 P.M. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Bien, Deputy City Clerk

ATTEST:

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Jeremy Riddle, Mayor