

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
MAY 24, 2007, 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

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 Dick Dobson, Victoria Hallin, Lee Steinbrecher, and Paul Whitcomb. Staff present was Mark Karnowski, Steve Jackson, Brian Payne, Tom Mismash, and Ann Bien. Also present was City Attorney Dick Schieffer .

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO ADD THE FOLLOWING ITEM TO THE AGENDA:

Under New Business:

- B. Boys and Girls Club of America

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 9, REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 10, AND STUDY SESSION OF MAY 14, 2007

WHITCOMB MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF MAY 9, THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 10, AND THE STUDY SESSION OF MAY 14, 2007, AS WRITTEN. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Permits and Licenses

- 1. Coborn's, Sale of Fireworks at 1100 7th Avenue South
- 2. Melrose Pyrotechnics, Inc., Fireworks Display on July 4 at Fairgrounds

B. Personnel

- 1. Public Works
 - a. Dylan Donner, Seasonal Help, \$9.00/hr. effective 05-14-07
 - b. Chance Suhsen, Splash Park Attendant, \$8.00/hr. effective 05-25-07
 - c. Stephanie Balzer, Splash Park Attendant, \$7.00/hr. effective 05-25-07

C. Donations/Designations

- 1. Princeton VFW Auxiliary No. 6843, \$500 for Fireman's Dance

HALLIN 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 for open forum.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMITTEES

A. Planning Commission

- 1. **Minutes of April 16, 2007**
The above minutes were reviewed.

B. Public Utilities Commission

- 1. **Minutes of March 26, 2007**
The above minutes were reviewed.

C. Airport Advisory Board

- 1. Draft minutes of May 14, 2007** (included in May 14th Council minutes – see above)
The above minutes were reviewed.

D. Park Board

- 1. Draft Minutes of May 21, 2007**
The above minutes were reviewed.

PETITIONS, REQUESTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Request from Jessica Riggs for Stop Sign

Karnowski reported the City received a request from Jessica Riggs for a stop sign at the intersection of 5th Avenue North and 6th Street. He suggested it be referred to the city engineer and Police Department to determine if there is any justification for such a sign, adding putting up stop sign is not always the answer for possible excessive speeds.

DOBSON MOVED TO REFER THE REQUEST TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND CITY ENGINEER. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION.

Police Chief Payne reported they have a speed reading device that they can set up. They get a computer printout showing how many vehicles have used the street and their speeds. In the past, they have found there are not as many speeders as thought. They will place it in this area.

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

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution #07-27- Safe and Sober Agreement

Riddle asked and Karnowski explained Safe and Sober has funds for additional patrol time which they reimburse the City. The City has participated in this program several years.

DOBSON MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #07-27, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT. STEINBRECHER SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Personnel Issues

- 1. Recommendation for Police Chief position**

Karnowski reported the Police Chief Interview Committee interviewed Sgt. Brian Payne and Officer Ryan VandenHeuvel for the position of Police Chief and is recommending the appointment of Brian Payne to Police Chief.

HALLIN MOVED TO APPOINT BRIAN PAYNE AS POLICE CHIEF. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

Riddle asked about salary recommendation. Karnowski stated Payne currently makes \$54,200 and the recommendation is to put him at step 5, \$62,356/year. Hallin asked if that would be the same for any other person. Karnowski explained his experience with and outside this department justifies this salary.

HALLIN MADE A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO PLACE PAYNE AT STEP 5, \$62,356/YEAR. DOBSON SECONDED THE FRIENDLY AMENDMENT.

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

2. Sergeant Vacancy

Karnowski asked how the Council wished to fill the sergeant vacancy, stating the Council had earlier indicated a department posting. He suggested a two week posting and suggested the Chief select the interview committee.

DOBSON MOVED TO APPROVE AN INTERNAL POSTING FOR SERGEANT FOR NO MORE THAN 2 WEEKS AND THE POLICE CHIEF BE AUTHORIZED TO SET UP THE INTERVIEW TEAM. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Riddle reported he has been looking at how other departments have their hierarchy. He stated it seems we may be short a sergeant or officer and suggested money be transferred to this type of position. He suggested the Council look further in this idea. Dobson stated usually if there are more than 8 officers, there are 2 sergeants. Dobson suggested it be looked at and considered during the budget process. Steinbrecher asked at what point a department needs an investigator. Payne reported they have an officer who currently also acts as an investigator, plus patrolling. He agreed another sergeant or investigator would benefit the department. Riddle offered himself and Dobson to work with staff. The Council agreed.

3. Steve Smith Update

Karnowski reported Steve Smith has filed a petition for a hearing with the State of Minnesota Department of Veterans' Affairs to determine whether his rights have been violated. That hearing is scheduled for July 12th at 9:30 a.m. in Minneapolis. Whitcomb asked how long a decision will take. Karnowski explained this is a different process than he selected before. In this case it will be determined by an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ). Schieffer stated District Court Judges have 90 days but he was unsure what time period an ALJ has.

B. Annandale/Maple Lake Update

Karnowski reported the Minnesota Supreme Court reversed the lower court's ruling regarding the State's issuance of WWTP (wastewater treatment plant) permits. He stated he, city engineer John Stodola (SEH), and Nancy Burke (the attorney handling our discussions with the MCEA, the Minnesota Citizens for Environmental Advocacy) will be meeting with the MPCA next Wednesday. He stated the MPCA will resume issuing WWTP permits for new phosphorus (P) discharges and certain "urgent" permits will get priority attention, which Princeton is considered. He stated that they are going to request the MPCA take the lead and facilitate the use of offsets by taking the same approach the court already approved in Annandale/Maple Lake. That is, the MPCA should allocate one point source (plant's) reduction in P against another plant's (ours). We advised that we would prefer no more than a 2 to 1 ratio and the ability to use any location within watershed leading to Lake Pepin since the Rum River is not impaired for effects of P.

C. 2nd Street South Bid Award

Karnowski reported five bids were received for the 2nd Street South/10th Avenue project. The engineer's estimate for the project was \$316,052.08 and the low bid came in at \$269,646.98. However, the low bidder, Andrews Excavating, did not meet the bid requirements. The City

Attorney advises there is justification for the Council to either reject all bids and start over, or reject the apparent low bid of Andrews Excavating. The PUC recommends rejecting the bid and approving the second low bid of \$275,679.44 from West Branch Construction. Karnowski stated Andrews has acknowledged he made errors in the bid and was okay with this decision.

STEINBRECHER MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION #07-28, A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING BID FOR 10TH AVENUE SOUTH AND 2ND STREET SOUTH UTILITY IMPROVEMENT AND APPURTENANT WORK. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

D. Sealcoat Bid Award

Mismash reported four bids were received for sealcoating, with the low bid of \$.727 coming from ASTECH Corp. He recommended that approval of that bid.

STEINBRECHER MOVED TO APPROVE THE BID FROM ASTECH CORPORATION FOR \$.727/SQ. YARD FOR SEALCOAT AGGREGATE AND \$3.43/GAL. FOR PRIME COAT. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

E. Public Works – Hiring of Summer Help

Mismash requested two additional summer help to help free up his GMII personnel, explaining there is a lot of street and storm water work to do this year. He recommended the hiring of Kris Macko at \$8.75/hr. and Devon Laiho at \$7.50/hr. both effective 05-29-07.

HALLIN MOVED TO HIRE KRIS MACKO AT \$8.75/HR. AND DEVON LAIHO AT \$7.50/HR. BOTH EFFECTIVE 05-29-07. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES – 5; NAYS – 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Legislative Update

Karnowski reported that although both houses of the legislature passed the Tax Conference Committee's report, the Governor has indicated he may veto the bill because it includes a provision that would restore the use of inflationary increases for the State's budget forecasts. If the bill is signed into law, Princeton's LGA would increase \$115,460, from \$771,267 to \$880,708 in 2008. However, if the Governor vetoes the bill and does not call special session, the City will lost \$6,000 in LGA for 2008. He encouraged the Council to send an e-mail to the Governor explaining its affect and supporting a special session to consider LGA if he vetoes the bill

B. Boys and Girls Club of America

Hallin reported the City has been recognized as a community ready for a Boys and Girls Club of America. She has already attended meetings with Boys and Girls Club of America representatives and discussions have been favorable. She stated that for the past 20 years, people have been talking about getting a club for youth and now may be the chance to get funding and organization in such a project. Dobson enforced the idea.

MISCELLANEOUS: None

BILL LIST – \$197,995.43

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE MANUAL CHECK NUMBERING 56739 FOR A TOTAL OF \$3,500.00 AND THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE LIQUOR BILL LIST AND GENERAL CITY BILL LIST, WHICH WILL BE CHECKS NUMBERING 56742-56818, FOR A TOTAL OF \$194,495.43, AS SHOWN ON THE BILL LIST. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. ON THE VOTE: AYES - 5; NAYS - 0. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Bien
Deputy City Clerk

ATTEST:

Jeremy Riddle, Mayor