

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
APRIL 26, 2012 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Jeremy Riddle called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present were Paul Whitcomb, Victoria Hallin, Dick Dobson and Thom Walker. Staff present were Administrator Mark Karnowski, Finance Director Steve Jackson, Community Developer Carie Fuhrman, Public Works Director Bob Gerold, Police Chief Brian Payne and Liquor Store Manager Nancy Campbell. Also present: City Attorneys Dick Schieffer and Damien Toven.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

There was one addition under Unfinished Business: USDP Wastewater Permit Update.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 12, 2012.

WHITCOMB MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 12, 2010. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION.

Dobson noted that, under "Reports of Officers, Boards and Committees" that the reference to the VFW Post should be post "806" not "6643".

Further, under the "Park and Trail Plan Grant Funding Received" explanation, the completed sentence should read as follows:

Karnowski updated the City Council saying that he received a letter from the Initiative Foundation that the City of Princeton had been approved for the grant request of \$3,500.00 toward *the mapping portion of the new parks and trails plan.*

BOTH WHITCOMB AND HALLIN AGREED TO AMEND THEIR MOTION TO READ "AS CORRECTED". THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda included the following items:

A. Permits and Licenses:

1. Gerald Johnson selling Toys/Balloons along Parade Route on June 7, 2012 (contingent upon criminal background check.)

B. Personnel

1. Public Works Part Time Summer Help

- a. Clarence Reiman; return employee; effective May 14-Oct. 27± at \$9.25/hour
- c. Bob Goodell: return employee; effective May 14-Oct. 27± at \$9.00/hour
- d. Jake Green effective May 14-Sept. 1± at \$8.00/hour
- e. Chase Lindenfesler, effective May 14-Sept. 1± at \$8.00/hour
- f. Ryan McElhone, effective May 14-Oct. 27± at \$8.50/hour

2. Splash Park Part Time

- a. Linda Alexander; effective May 12-Oct. 19± at \$7.25/hour
- b. Shane Bartz effective May 12-Oct. 19± at \$7.25/hour
- c. Baily Kampa, return employee: effective May 12-Oct. 19± at \$7.75/hour
- d. Austin Gerth, effective May 12-Oct. 19± at \$7.25/hour

3. Fire Department

- a. Adam Cook advance to Regular Firefighter effective April 26 \$10/hr
- b. Bryan Haubenschild advance to Reg. Firefighter effective April 26 \$10/hr

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

OPEN FORUM

Carol Ossell, President of the Princeton Visionary Committee, approached the Council to request that the Council commit \$90,000 of the \$320,000 in excess Railroad Tax Increment Funds to the relocation of the water line. She explained that the waterline needs to be moved in order to facilitate the construction of the proposed amphitheater. She noted that she sent out an email asking Princeton Chamber Members if they supported the amphitheater plans and the city's expenditure of the \$90,000 and received 58 positive replies. She also contacted businesses that are not members of the Chamber and 20 of them also supported the use of those TIF funds for the amphitheater. As is standard for open forum issues, no action was taken by the Council on the request.

PUBLIC HEARINGS - there were no Public Hearings

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMITTEES

Mayor Riddle noted that the February 22, 2012 Public Utilities Commission minutes and the April 23, 2012 minutes were included in the Council packet and that there were no action items required that were not located elsewhere on that meeting's agenda.

PETITIONS, REQUESTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. Liquor Store Grant funding request from Special Olympics

The Council reviewed a request from the Princeton Special Olympics organization for about \$200 worth of liquor for their silent auction to be held in conjunction with their upcoming golf tournament .

Dobson noted that the Special Olympics was a very worthwhile organization and that they do have residents in Princeton that benefit from the fundraiser.

Liquor Manager Nancy Campbell suggested that the city provide gift certificates rather than actual product to make sure the "winner" is of legal age and to encourage the winner to spend additional money while visiting the store.

Mayor Riddle asked if we could make the gift certificates name specific. Campbell said she'd talk to the organizer to see if that's possible.

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE A FIVE (5) TWENTY DOLLAR GIFT CERTIFICATES TO THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS ORGANIZATION FOR THEIR FUND RAISER. WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

B. Princeton Chamber request for street closures

The Council reviewed a request from the Princeton Chamber of Commerce to:

1. Use the North Mall parking lot and Rum River Drive (between 1st Street and 2nd Street north) for their A. Rum River Festival (June 9th); B. Pork Chop Dinner (July 12th); C. Block Party (August 3rd) and D. Chili Fest (September 22nd) and
2. Make sure all street light pole outlets are powered up and usable by the vendors as well as use the city generator.

Mayor Riddle asked if the street closure request was for all four dates and Chamber Director Mary Chapman advised that, yes that was correct.

Karnowski noted that any approvals for Rum River Drive closure(s) should be contingent upon the County's concurrence.

Dobson noted that the Chamber needed to talk to the PUC about the light pole power as the city did not control that portion of their request.

WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE CHAMBER'S USE OF THE NORTH MALL AND THE CLOSURE OF RUM RIVER DRIVE (CONTINGENT UPON THE COUNTY'S CONCURRENCE) AS WELL AS THE USE OF THE CITY GENERATOR FOR THE FOUR CHAMBER SPONSORED EVENTS. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Ordinance 683 – Building Materials Amendment

Carie Fuhrman advised the Council that proposed ordinance 683 would amend the zoning ordinances to allow for the newest trend in roofing materials like color-locked metal roofing (as opposed to the old galvanized metal roofing as well as other materials).

Walker said that he doesn't see how the new "common usage" terminology changes anything in that new language is vague enough so the interpretation can be left up to the city for each case.

Fuhrman said the city attorney felt the new language was preferred over the existing and would "clean-up" the language.

Mayor Riddle suggested that, because this is just a first reading, the proposed new language can be wordsmithed to address Walker's concerns.

HALLIN MOTIONED TO INTRODUCE ORDINANCE NO. 683 AS A FIRST READING. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

B. Resolution #12-26 - Rum River Health Services Revolving Loan Fund Approval

Fuhrman advised the Council that the EDA had reviewed the revolving Loan fund application from Rum River Health Services (RRHS) to purchase an electronic medical record software system. The proposal would immediately create two or three jobs with an ultimate impact of four to six new jobs within approximately 18 months.

Fuhrman advised that the EDA was recommending a \$24,999 loan at an interest rate of 4.5% and subject to a 5-year amortization and a 3-year balloon – subject to the city attorney's approval of the collateral's title.

Mayor Riddle asked what the security was and Fuhrman explained that the collateral was the RRHS building.

WHITCOMB MOTIONED TO CONCUR WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE EDA AND APPROVE COUNCIL RESOLUTION #13-26 APPROVING A 4.5% REVOLVING LOAN TO RUM RIVER HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$24,999 SUBJECT TO A 5-YEAR AMORTIZATION SCHEDULED, A 3-YEAR BALLOON AND SUBJECT TO A POSITIVE REVIEW BY THE CITY ATTORNEY OF THE TITLE TO THE COLLATERAL. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

C. Resolution #12-32 - Initiative Foundation's Comp Park & Trails Plan Mapping Grant

Karnowski explained that Resolution #12-32 was accepting the Initiative Foundation's grant covering the cost for the mapping of the proposed Park & Trails Plan.

HALLIN MOTIONED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 12-32 ACCEPTING A INITIATIVE FOUNDATION GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,500 FOR THE COST OF DOING THE MAPPING FOR THE CITY'S PARK & TRAILS PLAN. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS)

D. Resolution #12-33 – Resolution Supporting VFW Buddy Poppy sales

HALLIN MOTIONED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 12-33 SUPPORTING THE LOCAL VFW'S ANNUAL "BUDDY POPPY" SALE. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Bond Refunding Consideration

Finance Director Steve Jackson advised the Council that the previous bond refunding issue that was cancelled because of rising interest rates was again looking feasible because the interest rates were dropping again. He presented documentation indicating that, while the net savings were not as much as originally anticipated in February, they would now be worthwhile.

He advised that, if the Council wanted to proceed, a motion stating the intent to sell the bonds in conjunction with the May 10th Council meeting would be in order.

After a brief discussion, the following motion was considered.

RIDDLE MOTIONED TO STATE THE COUNCIL'S INTENT TO SELL THE REFUNDING BONDS IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE MAY 10th COUNCIL MEETING. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS)

B. USDP Wastewater Permit Update

Karnowski advised the Council that, in February of this year the City Council approved the pre-treatment discharge permit for the production wastewater produced by United States Distilled Products (USDP) and that, since then, USDP has completed construction of their pretreatment equipment and its effluent has been tested and is ready to begin being discharged to the WWTP. They will discharge a maximum of 2,000 gallons per day which may eventually be increased.

Karnowski advised that no action was required by the Council at this point and that the city would continue closely monitoring the process. If the parameters of the discharge exceeded the permit, USDP would be obligated to immediately stop discharging into the city system.

Dobson asked if the discharge from USDP would increase the amount of sludge produced and Public Works Director Bob Gerold said it would not. Further, Gerold advised that once the new plant's reed beds went on line that the city would not have to haul sludge for several years.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 21st Avenue Extension Alternative Presentation

Richard Anderson, a pilot with a hangar at the Princeton Airport, approached the Council expressing his concern about the proposed construction of a road linking the southerly end of 21st Avenue with 19th Avenue past the airport. He noted that the FAA has advised that constructing that road would conflict with the proposed construction of the cross-wind runway. Anderson asserted that the future of flying included an increase in the use of "light sport" aircraft. He explained that operating a light sport aircraft did not require a pilot's license, so older pilots who could no longer pass the physical required for a full pilot's license are moving toward using light sport aircraft.

Anderson noted that light sport aircraft are 2-passenger planes that are lightweight and more often need to use a cross-wind runway. Therein, Anderson asserted, is the need for the cross-wind runway.

Anderson also asserted that, with the opening of the Wal-Mart on the north end of 21st Avenue, that potential shoppers from south of Princeton will meander through the city's industrial park if

the proposed extension of 21st Avenue is constructed. He said that extra traffic would clog up the industrial park.

His alternative proposal was to convince both Sherburne and Mille Lacs Counties to construct an inter-county road linking Sherburne County Road 45 with Mille Lacs County Road 39 and taking the route originally designated by MnDOT for the TH169 frontage road along the west side of TH169 and south of the Tim Strong property. He presented a diagram of the proposed route and walked through the segments with the Council.

Anderson's plan also included the suggestion that the city purchase and re-zone the Strong property for use as additional industrial park space.

Anderson explained that the cross-wind runway was part of the airport's original Airport Layout Plan but, at some point, the alignment of the runway was moved, but the zoning for the cross-wind was not adjusted. So he also proposed relocating the proposed cross-wind runway to its original alignment.

Anderson offered to present his plan to both the Mille Lacs and Sherburne County Boards if the City Council so desired.

Walker commented that he liked the proposal and felt that it was something worth exploring.

Mayor Riddle said that the new route would be preferential to the current route and noted the "speed bump" surface drainage structure at the intersection of 17th Avenue South and 14th Street South.

Riddle asked Engineer Nielson if the portion of 21st Avenue south of 1st Street is a 9-ton road and Nielson advised that it is.

Anderson noted that the FAA doesn't like wetlands in the vicinity of airports so the city could anticipate the FAA's support of this proposal, especially if it filled wetlands.

Riddle said that the city couldn't afford to build the route as presented by Anderson, but if the Counties used their funds that'd be okay. He also noted that it would take some pressure off the intersection by Burger King (Rum River Drive and 9th Avenue Circle).

Anderson advised that Sherburne County Commissioner Rachel Leonard was at the Airport Advisory Board meeting when he gave them the same presentation and she appeared to be in support.

Whitcomb said that he too likes the proposal.

Mayor Riddle advised that he was directing the Community Development Director, Carie Fuhrman and City Engineer Nielson to further research the proposal and advise the Council prior to authorizing Anderson going to the respective county boards for reaction. No further action was taken.

B. "It Starts Here" Campaign (Downtown Business Acceleration Program)

Fuhrman advised that City Council that a joint venture between the Chamber and the City was being undertaken to do a downtown revitalization/business acceleration program called "It Starts Here!"

Fuhrman said that a community stakeholder meeting was scheduled for Thursday, May 17th beginning at 6:30 at City Hall to bring all the players together. She urged the Council Members to make plans to attend.

C. Goetz Dobson Resignation from Park Board

The Council reviewed a letter of resignation from Park Board member Cheryl Goetz-Dobson who advised she was resigning because of a work schedule conflict.

Karnowski advised that the Council accept the resignation and direct staff to advertise for city residents interested in filling out Goetz-Dobson's term.

HALLIN MOTIONED TO ACCEPT GOETZ-DOBSON'S RESIGNATION WITH REGRETS AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO ADVERTISE FOR INTERESTED CITIZENS TO FILL THE REMAINDER OF HER APPOINTMENT. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 4 AYES, 0 NAYS AND ONE ABSTENTION (DOBSON).

Dobson explained that he abstained because of a conflict of interest (Cheryl Goetz-Dobson is his wife).

D. Industrial Park Stormwater Improvements

Engineer Nielson approached the City Council and requested permission to approach the FAA to negotiate the necessary easement to acquire land for a stormwater filtration ditch. He explained that the FAA requirement is a 48 hour drawdown and the proposal being pursued is for a 24 hour drawdown. So he was optimistic that the FAA could approved the request.

WALKER MOTIONED TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY ENGINEER TO APPROACH THE FAA TO NEGOTIATE THE NECESSARY EASEMENT FOR A STORMWATER FILTRATION DITCH TO SERVE THE INDUSTRIAL PARK.. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 AYES, 0 NAYS).

MISCELLANEOUS - None

BILL LIST – \$251,518.85

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE BILL LIST WHICH INCLUDES THE MANUAL CHECKS AS LISTED ON THE MANUAL VOUCHER BILL LIST FOR A TOTAL OF \$98,156.62, AND THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE LIQUOR BILL LIST AND GENERAL CITY BILL LIST WHICH WILL BE CHECKS 65971 TO 66042 FOR A TOTAL OF \$251,518.85. WHITCOMB SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (5 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 8:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Karnowski, City Administrator

ATTEST:

Jeremy Riddle, Mayor