

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRINCETON CITY COUNCIL HELD ON
JUNE 25, 2015 7:00 P.M. IN THE CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Mayor Paul Whitcomb called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Council members present were, Thom Walker, Dick Dobson, Victoria Hallin and Jules Zimmer. Staff present, Administrator Mark Karnowski, Finance Director Steve Jackson, Community Development Director Jolene Foss, Police Chief Todd Frederick, Public Works Director Bob Gerold, Fire Chief Jim Roxbury, Liquor Store Manager Nancy Campbell, Clerk Shawna Jenkins, Attorney Damien Toven, and Engineer Mike Nielson.

AGENDA ADDITIONS/DELETIONS

None

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

- A. Regular Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2015

WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE REGULAR MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 16, 2015. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Permits and Licenses

- 1. American Legion Gambling permit – Bingo at Mille Lacs County Fair

C. Donations/Designations

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

OPEN FORUM

PRESENTATION – 2014 Audit

Steve Wischmann from KDV went over the City's 2014 audit. He said in summary, it was a very stable year for all the funds, good reserves, good cash flow and the city is doing a very nice job.

Hallin asked about the pension fund deficit that Wischmann mentioned and if it is shown in this audit. Wischmann replied that the pension deficit will show up next year.

Whitcomb opened the public hearing at 7:28pm

DOBSON MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AT 7:28PM WITH NO COMMENTS. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

HALLIN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE AUDIT AS PRESENTED. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS, AND COMMITTEES

- A. Fire Advisory Minutes of June 2, 2015
- B. Park Board Minutes of June 22, 2015

PETITIONS, REQUESTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

A. New Life Church 5k route request

Karnowski reported that Jaime Grant from New Life Church is going to hold a 5k run and is looking for approval on the route they have selected. The route has been reviewed and approved by Police Chief Frederick.

ZIMMER MOVED TO APPROVE NEW LIFE CHURCH'S 5k ROUTE AS SUBMITTED. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A. Resolution 15-31 – Contract for West Branch Project

Karnowski said Resolution 15-31 is to award the West Branch Street, roadway and utility improvement project to the low bidder of Douglas Kerr Underground, LLC of Mora. Also, it has been determined that work identified in Alternate Bid No. 1 can be accomplished with an increase in bid items provided for in the Base Bid as noted in Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$42,168.43

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 15-31. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION.

Whitcomb asked what the change order was for already. Nielson responded that it addresses the replacement of the existing sanitary sewer and new service lines to each residence. Doing it now will save money.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Resolution 15-32 – Bond Reimbursement

Jackson reported Resolution 15-32 satisfies an IRS requirement for the bonding that the City will be doing for the West Branch Project.

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 15-32, ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES RELATING TO COMPLIANCE WITH REIMBURSEMENT BOND REGULATIONS UNDER THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE. WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Otto Bremer Grant Acceptance

Foss advised that she is asking for Council approval to close out the contract for the Great Northern Trail so she can complete the necessary paperwork for the Otto Bremer Grant.

HALLIN MOVED TO ACCEPT THE OTTO BREMER GRANT AND CLOSE OUT THE CONTRACT FOR THE GREAT NORTHERN TRAIL. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. Streambank Pay Voucher #3 and Final

Karnowski said the final payment for the last of the Streambank projects is completed. It was to address the requirements of the MPCA for the phosphorus reduction. Pay voucher #3 is the final one and the City Engineer recommends approval.

Karnowski added that the MPCA was out about 10 days ago to inspect the site to see everything was done and holding correctly. They were very pleased with the work.

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE PAY VOUCHER #3. WALKER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Feasibility Study for 7th Ave

Karnowski reported that a feasibility study needs to be done for the new school being built. Staff is asking for a resolution approving a feasibility study to be approved.

Hallin asked if the study will be paid for by the city. Karnowski responded that the Engineering fees will be rolled into the project. However, there are a few properties on the west side, so staff is working on an equitable way to assess the fees to those homeowners.

WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 15-33 AUTHORIZING A FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR 7TH AVE. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

NEW BUSINESS

A. Cancel July Study Session

Karnowski advised that staff's suggestion was to possibly cancel the meeting. However, after the meeting this afternoon with the School District, staff would like to discuss co-locating the School District management staff at City Hall. There have been a few meetings and they are at a place in the discussion that they would like to get the rest of the Council involved. They have preliminary sketch, and it would include at this point in time, selling the old police station to the district.

B. Northland Drive Bituminous

Nielson advised that Northland Drive is in poor condition and deteriorating. While the road is 24 years old, he stated the extensive hospital construction traffic did not help. In doing some core samples, it appears the damage is limited within the top 2 inches. He is suggesting the top be re-milled. The road will require more than just a seal coat, and property owners will likely be assessed so a feasibility study will need to be done. He added it is along the entire road, with some areas being worse. Hallin agreed that the Hospital construction traffic was likely very damaging.

WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 15-34 AUTHORIZING A FEASIBILITY STUDY BE DONE FOR NORTHLAND DRIVE. DOBSON SECONDED THE MOTION.

Dobson added that this was discussed at the Public Utility Commission meeting and while they have had some issues there, they will address them as they occur instead of replacing the lines.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. Flushable Wipes Litigation

Karnowski reported that the City of Wyoming has filed a class action complaint against several manufacturers regarding those firms' practices associated with the design, testing, manufacturing, marketing, distribution, and/or sale of *allegedly* flushable bathroom wipes.

The law firm representing Wyoming (Flaherty & Hood) has asked if the city of Princeton would like to also file a complaint on the matter. This is a 'contingency' matter and there will be no cost to the city to participate whether the suit is successful or not.

The city has had damage to some of our lift station pumps and we've had backups that did damage to residential properties because of the 'flushable' wipes. That's the reason the law firm wants the city involved...so it shows evidence of the problem.

Background:

As key participants in the flushable wipes market, the firms have had access to a plethora of information about the harm their wipes cause to municipal wastewater systems.

The subject products include all wipe products designed, distributed, marketed and advertised by the firms as suitable or able to be flushed down a toilet without causing harm to plumbing, sewer, and/or septic systems.

The complaint alleges the firms know, and have known, of the harm they cause to sewer systems and waste treatment facilities and yet continue to manufacture and promote them as flushable.

Contrary to the Defendants' representations, these flushable wipes do not degrade after flushing. Rather, the flushable wipes remain intact long enough to pass through private wastewater drain pipes into the municipal sewer line causing clogs and other issues for municipal and county sewer systems and wastewater treatment plants, resulting in thousands, if not millions, of dollars in damages.

Despite numerous complaints from state and local sewer authorities both in United States, and internationally, Defendants have not removed the false claims regarding the flushability of these wipes.

He asked if the Council would like to add the city of Princeton to the original complaint.

Hallin said we have a nice new plant and she is in favor of the city being added to the original complaint.

Walker asked if the purpose of the litigation was to stop advertising them this way, or change the product. Karnowski said he understands that the litigation is about public education, and hopefully they will take the "flushable" off the product.

HALLIN MOVED TO MOVE FORWARD TO ADDING THE CITY TO THE LITIGATION. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Public Works Plow Truck CIP Purchase

Gerold reported that this request is to replace a 1979 truck the City purchased as new. This replacement is in the CIP and he has negotiated the price down a bit. Staff has inspected and driven the truck. It will take a little bit of work in the shop, but it will work well for what is needed.

WALKER MOVED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE 2000 STERLING LT9513 FOR \$35,095.00 AND DISPOSITION THE 1979 FORD. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MISCELLANEOUS

BILL LIST

HALLIN MOVED TO APPROVE THE BILL LIST WHICH INCLUDES THE MANUAL CHECKS AS LISTED ON THE MANUAL BILL LIST FOR A TOTAL OF \$122,395.01 AND THE ITEMS LISTED ON THE LIQUOR BILL LIST AND GENERAL CITY BILL LIST WHICH WILL BE CHECKS 72022 TO 72071 FOR A TOTAL OF \$142,395.74. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business:

DOBSON MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:00PM. HALLIN SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawna Jenkins
City Clerk

ATTEST:

Paul Whitcomb, Mayor