BELLE PLAINE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
JANUARY 3, 2011

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

Mayor Tim Lies led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

OATH OF OFFICE.
Mayor Timothy Lies
Councilmember Paul Chard
Councilmember Michael Pingalore
Councilmember Scott Schneider

City Administrator David Murphy administered the Oath of Office to Mayor-Elect Tim Lies. Mayor Tim Lies then administered the Oath of Office to Council-Elect Members Paul Chard, Michael Pingalore and Scott Schneider and welcomed them as members of the Belle Plaine City Council.

2. CALL TO ORDER. 2.1. Roll Call.

The Belle Plaine City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, January 3, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at the Government Center, 218 North Meridian Street, Belle Plaine, MN. Mayor Tim Lies called the meeting to order with Councilmembers Cary Coop, Gary Trost, Paul Chard, Michael Pingalore and Scott Schneider present.

Also present were City Administrator David Murphy, Community Development Director Trisha Rosenfeld, Public Works Superintendent Al Fahey, Finance Director Dawn Meyer, Police Chief Tom Stolee, City Engineer Joe Duncan, City Attorney Bob Vose and Video Recording Operator Beth Dempsey.

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Trost, to approve the agenda as presented. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA.

4.1. Regular Session Minutes of December 20, 2010.
4.2. Resolution 11-002 Adopting Committee Appointments.
4.3. Resolution 11-003 Approving Retiree Monthly Insurance Benefit.
4.4. Resolution 11-004 Appointing Finance Director Dawn Meyer as Temporary Acting City Administrator in the Absence of the City Administrator.
4.5. Resolution 11-005 Declaring the Official Intent of the City of Belle Plaine to Reimburse Certain Expenditures from the Proceeds of Bonds to be Issued by the City.
4.6. Resolution 11-006 Updating Signatory on Financial Transactions with the State Bank of Belle Plaine.
4.7. Resolution 11-007 Appointing David Lyter as a Volunteer Firefighter with the Belle Plaine Fire Department.

Mayor Lies noted the omission of his name as an appointee to the Ambulance Committee and requested the correction on Resolution 11-002.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Chard, to approve to add the name of Mayor Tim Lies as a member of the Ambulance Committee on Resolution 11-002, and to approve the consent agenda as follows: 4.1. Regular Session Minutes of December 20, 2010, 4.2. Resolution 11-002 Adopting Committee Appointments, 4.3. Resolution 11-003 Approving Retiree Monthly Insurance Benefit, 4.4. Resolution 11-004 Appointing Finance Director Dawn Meyer as Temporary Acting City Administrator in the Absence of the City Administrator, 4.5. Resolution 11-005 Declaring the Official Intent of the City of Belle Plaine to Reimburse Certain Expenditures from the Proceeds of Bonds to be Issued by the City, 4.6. Resolution 11-006 Updating Signatory on Financial Transactions with the State Bank of Belle Plaine and 4.7. Resolution 11-007 Appointing David Lyter as a Volunteer Firefighter with the Belle Plaine Fire Department. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

5.1. Community Services Department.

Community Services Director Nelson Ladd was present and advised that a Community Services Advisory Committee will be held at the end of January. The Council acknowledged receipt of the Community Services Department report.

5.2. Public Works and Parks Department.

Public Works Superintendent Al Fahey was present. Councilmember Chard commented on the snow-covered hydrants and asked for assistance with clearing certain locations. The Council acknowledged receipt of the Public Works Department report.

5.3. Engineer Report.

City Engineer Joe Duncan was present. The Council acknowledged receipt of the Engineer Report.

5.4. City Administration Report.

City Administrator David Murphy was present. Councilmember Trost requested a copy of the 1985 ambulance contract with area townships. The Council acknowledged receipt of the City Administration report.

6. CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION

1. Councilmember Jim Lange.
2. Councilmember Tim O'Laughlin.
3. Councilmember Dawn Underferth.

Mayor Lies presented Certificates of Appreciation to former Councilmembers Jim Lange, Tim O'Laughlin and Dawn Underferth, and thanked them for their service to the City.

6.1. PUBLIC FORUM.

No one spoke at the public forum.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS- NONE SCHEDULED.

8. BUSINESS.

8.1. Presentation of Claims.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Schneider, to approve the Presentation of Claims as presented. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.2. Resolution 11-001 Professional Appointments.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated January 3, 2011 from City Administrator Murphy regarding the annual professional appointments.

City Administrator Murphy explained that each year, the City is required to officially adopt the professional appointments.

Councilmember Pingalore inquired about the term length of the professional services. City Administrator Murphy responded with the starting dates for the professional services. Councilmember Pingalore suggested the City proceed with request for proposals for the professional services as a matter of cost containment. Councilmember Chard agreed. Mayor Lies explained the City Council closely reviewed the cost of services provided by the professional consultants during last year's annual appointment. The City Council found all to be acceptable. Finance Director Meyer explained that the process involves more than just reviewing the costs. Many firms will submit a low cost for the first year or two and the City can expect an expensive learning curve for new firms. Mayor Lies concurred, further explained that many factors need to be considered. City Administrator Murphy explained that requests for proposals are not necessary for professional services. The City Council may seek costs and other information from firms as desired. Councilmember Trost explained that just prior to 2001, the City Council interviewed engineering firms and recalled it was a difficult process. Mayor Lies commented that he is pleased with the services being provided by the consultants. Councilmember Coop explained that it would be difficult to seek proposals for all the professional consultants. He suggested the City Council focus on one particular service. Councilmember Chard agreed with Councilmember Coop, stating that seeking a proposal keeps everyone on their toes.

Councilmember Coop suggested the City Council pass the proposed resolution for professional services for a period of three months. That will allow time for each Councilmember to seek further information about their cost of services and yet not disrupt the current services. Councilmember Schneider suggested the City Council take into consideration the amount of staff time needed to seek proposals. Councilmember Coop suggested each Councilmember make contact with each of the professional services to determine whether further review by the full Council is warranted. Mayor Lies summarized the action by saying each Councilmember so inclined may seek out the information on the professional services during the upcoming two week period. This issue will be placed on the January 18, 2011 council agenda for further discussion.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Chard, to approve Resolution 11-001 Professional Appointments for a period of ninety (90) days. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.3. Work Session Schedule.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated January 3, 2011 from City Administrator Murphy regarding the scheduling of work sessions.

City Administrator Murphy explained the idea of discontinuing holding monthly work sessions was brought up at the December 27, 2010 work session. If the Council wishes to discontinue the workshops, it would be appropriate to make a motion to that effect.

Mayor Lies commented that he supports the discontinuation of the monthly work sessions, noting that special work sessions can be scheduled as needed.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Schneider, to discontinue the monthly work sessions. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.4. Schedule Interviews with Candidates for Boards and Commissions.

It was the consensus to schedule the interviews with the candidates for the various boards and commissions for Wednesday, January 12, 2011 starting at 6:00 p.m.

Recess Regular Session.

Mayor Lies recessed the regular session at 6:52 p.m.

8.5. SPECIAL CLOSED SESSION. 1. Discuss Law Enforcement Labor Services Union Contract.

Mayor Lies convened the special closed session at 6:58 p.m. with Councilmembers Cary Coop, Gary Trost, Paul Chard, Michael Pingalore and Scott Schneider present. Also present were City Administrator David Murphy, Finance Director Dawn Meyer and City Attorney Bob Vose.

The Council and staff discussed the proposed language changes to the proposed Law Enforcement Labor Services contract.

MOTION by Councilmember Trost, second by Councilmember Coop, to recommend the City Council proceed with adoption of the Law Enforcement Labor Services contract as proposed. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Reconvene Regular Session.

Mayor Lies adjourned the special closed session at 7:27 p.m. and reconvened the regular session.

8.6. Approve Law Enforcement Labor Services Union Contract.

MOTION by Councilmember Schneider, second by Councilmember Coop, to approve the Law Enforcement Labor Services contract as presented. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

9. ADMINISTRATION.

9.1. Upcoming Meetings.
1. Public Safety, 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 5.
2. EDA, 5:00 p.m., Monday, Jan. 10.
3. Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m., Monday, Jan. 10.
4. Park Board, 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 11.
5. City Offices Closed, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Monday, Jan.17.
6. Design Committee, 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 18.
7. HRA, 5:45 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 18.
8. City Council, 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 18.

The Council was reminded of the upcoming meetings as listed.

10. ADJOURN.

MOTION by Councilmember Chard, second by Councilmember Coop, to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Krings
Recording Secretary