BELLE PLAINE CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION
FEBRUARY 1, 2010

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

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

2. CALL TO ORDER. 2.1. Roll Call.

The Belle Plaine City Council met in Regular Session on Monday, February 1, 2010 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 Dawn Underferth, Jim Lange, Gary Trost, Tim O'Laughlin and Cary Coop present.

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

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA.

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

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA.

4.1. Regular Session Minutes of January 19, 2010.
4.2. Committee-of-the-Whole Session Minutes of January 25, 2010.
4.3. Resolution 10-017 Re-Appointing Henry Pressley and Daniel Tix as Members of the Planning and Zoning Commission and Appointing Kelly Norton as an Alternate.
4.4. Resolution 10-018 Appointing Dan Gardner (Re-Appointment) and Rachel Kelm as Members of the Park Board and Appointing Launa Olson as an Alternate.
4.5. Resolution 10-019 Appointing Kelly Norton as a Member of the Design Committee.
4.6. Resolution 10-023 Re-Certifying Special Assessment for the 1999 Street Improvement Project for ALT Properties.

MOTION by Councilmember O'Laughlin, second by Councilmember Lange, to approve the consent agenda as follows: 4.1. Regular Session Minutes of January 19, 2010, 4.2. Committee-of-the-Whole Session Minutes of January 25, 2010, 4.3. Resolution 10-017 Re-Appointing Henry Pressley and Daniel Tix as Members of the Planning and Zoning Commission and Appointing Kelly Norton as an Alternate, 4.4. Resolution 10-018 Appointing Dan Gardner (Re-Appointment) and Rachel Kelm as Members of the Park Board and Appointing Launa Olson as an Alternate, 4.5. Resolution 10-019 Appointing Kelly Norton as a Member of the Design Committee and 4.6. Resolution 10-023 Re-Certifying Special Assessment for the 1999 Street Improvement Project for ALT Properties. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS.

5.1. Community Services Department.

Community Services Director Nelson Ladd was present. The Council acknowledged receipt of the Community Services Department report.

5.2. Public Works and Parks Department.

Public Works Superintendent Al Fahey was present. 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 Lange requested a copy of the Mediacom cablevision contract. Councilmember Underferth requested that discussion on the Mediacom service be added to the next work session agenda. Councilmember Trost expressed concern about the recent negative press the city received from Fox 9 news channel. He requested that a letter be written to counter the unfavorable coverage. Mayor Lies recommended that staff research the best option for the City on this issue. Councilmember Trost requested a copy of the minutes from the Public Works Committee meeting on January 26, 2010. The Council acknowledged receipt of the City Administration report.

6. PUBLIC FORUM.

No one spoke at the public forum.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

7.1. Wine License. The City Council will accept public comment on a request by Rick and Mary Krant, Duets Café, 108 West Main Street, for a wine license.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated February 1, 2010 from City Administrator Murphy regarding the wine license request.

City Administrator Murphy explained the City has received an application for a wine license from Rick and Mary Krant, Damolog, Inc., dba Duets Café, 108 West Main Street. The Police Department has performed the required background check without incident.

Mayor Lies opened the public hearing at 6:14 p.m. and asked for public comment. There was no response.

MOTION by Councilmember O'Laughlin, second by Councilmember Lange, to close the public hearing at 6:15 p.m. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Councilmember Lange inquired as to whether the issuance of this license will be charged against the number of on-sale liquor licenses regulated by the State. City Attorney Vose replied that it is his opinion that the wine license will not affect the maximum number of license allowed as Duets Café is a licensed restaurant.

1. Resolution 10-020 Approving Wine License for Duets Café, 108 West Main Street.

MOTION by Councilmember Trost, second by Councilmember Coop, to approve Resolution 10-020 Approving Wine License for Duets Café, 108 West Main Street. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8. BUSINESS.

8.1. Presentation of Claims.

MOTION by Councilmember Lange, second by Councilmember Coop, to approve the Presentation of Claims and the additional payment list as presented by the Finance Department. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.2. Resolution 10-021 Call for a Public Hearing for the TH25/Walnut Street Improvements.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated February 1, 2010 from City Administrator Murphy regarding calling for a public hearing for the TH25/Walnut Street Improvements.

City Administrator Murphy explained that in 2010, MnDOT will be repairing and restructuring the retaining wall along TH25/Walnut Street between Court Street and Forest Street. Also, there will be improvements made for storm water discharge and erosion control measures on the west side of Walnut Street, north of Forest Street. MnDOT has obtained the necessary easements for the project. State Statute requires municipalities to conduct a public hearing of the improvement.

Councilmember Lange commented that the project was discussed at the recent Public Works Committee meeting. He noted that the west retaining wall will be removed and reconfigured. Mayor Lies requested that staff send a notice to the corridor residents to inform them of the upcoming project.

MOTION by Councilmember Coop, second by Councilmember Underferth, to approve Resolution 10-021 Call for a Public Hearing for the TH25/Walnut Street Improvements. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.3. Proposal for Building Inspection Services with the City of Gaylord.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated February 1, 2010 from Community Development Director Rosenfeld regarding proposal for building inspection services.

Community Development Director Rosenfeld explained the City of Belle Plaine received a phone call from the City Administrator of Gaylord seeking proposals to provide building inspection services within the City of Gaylord. Currently, Gaylord is on the 1979 fee schedule and general/plumbing/mechanical permits are $50.00. At that fee schedule it which would not cover the costs of providing the service. Staff has reviewed the additional travel time and modified the recent proposal submitted to the City of Henderson. Staff would recommend that a set time be established for building inspections and permit pick and drop off.

Councilmember Lange inquired about time constraints when the housing market picks up again and the City's building official may not be able to service the City of Gaylord. Community Development Director Rosenfeld explained that the contract would be re-evaluated at that time.

MOTION by Councilmember Trost, second by Councilmember Underferth, to authorize staff to submit a proposal to the City of Gaylord for building inspection services as outlined in a memo dated February 1, 2010 from Community Development Director Rosenfeld. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.4. Resolution 10-024 Establishing the Library Improvement Committee (ad hoc) and Appointing Members.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated February 1, 2010 from City Administrator Murphy regarding the establishment of the Library Improvement Committee.

City Administrator Murphy explained the Public Works Committee met on Tuesday, January 26 and one of the items on the agenda was the formation of a library improvement committee. The Committee discussed the fact that the library is over 15 years old and is in need of upgrades and remodeling. The Public Works Committee is recommending that the Council form an ad hoc committee to address the needs of the library facility. The recommendation is that the committee be made up of eight members representing the following groups: two Council Members, two members of the Friends of the Library, the Belle Plaine Librarian, a representative from the Scott County Library System and two at-large members of the community. The Committee would prioritize the needs and establish the timeline and funding of the needed upgrades.

Councilmembers Underferth and O'Laughlin offered to serve on the committee.

MOTION by Councilmember Lange, second by Councilmember Underferth, to approve Resolution 10-024 Establishing the Library Improvement Committee (ad hoc) and Appointing Councilmembers Dawn Underferth and Tim O'Laughlin as members. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

The council recessed at 6:32 p.m. and reconvened at 6:40 p.m.

8.5. Carl Neu Visioning Session.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated February 1, 2010 from City Administrator Murphy regarding the scheduling of the Carl Neu Visioning Session.

City Administrator Murphy explained the last several years, the Council has participated in a visioning and teambuilding session with Carl Neu. This is a budgeted item and the price for the workshop is the same as last year. The variable each year is the travel expenses which typically run about $600 to $800. Mr. Neu would request information from the Council and Department heads regarding what is the needed focus this year.

MOTION by Councilmember Lange, second by Councilmember Underferth, to schedule a visioning session with Carl Neu for the preferred dates of March 19 and 20, 2010.

Councilmember Trost was opposed to conducting the visioning session. He believes it is a waste of tax dollars. He recommended that staff members conduct the session rather than hiring a consultant or to find someone that is less expensive than Carl Neu's fees of $6,000. Mayor Lies commented that although it is expensive, he believes the visioning session is worthwhile and of benefit. Councilmember Lange inquired whether the City could skip this year without jeopardizing the communication and productivity of the City. Councilmember O'Laughlin recommended that this issue be tabled to allow time for staff to research the issue further.

MOTION by Councilmember Lange, second by Councilmember Underferth, withdrew their motion and second.

MOTION by Councilmember O'Laughlin, second by Councilmember Underferth, to TABLE action on the Carl Neu Visioning Session to allow time for staff to research alternative options for a visioning session. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

8.6. Scheduling a Joint Session with Belle Plaine EDA.

Mayor Lies referenced a memo dated February 1, 2010 from Community Development Director Rosenfeld regarding the scheduling of a joint session with the EDA.

Community Development Director Rosenfeld explained that Oppidan Development has made application for tax abatement for the new Coborn's development. This requires action by both EDA and the City Council. Staff is requesting a joint session with the EDA and City Council to review and discuss the request. The City's financial advisors will be presenting the financial information and available for questions. Staff suggested the joint workshop be held after the regular scheduled EDA meeting on February 8 at 6:00 p.m.

MOTION by Councilmember Lange, second by Councilmember Underferth, to schedule a joint session with the City Council and EDA for 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 8, 2010 for the purpose of discussing a business subsidy request by Oppidan Development, Inc. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

9. ADMINISTRATION.

9.1. Upcoming Meetings.
1. EDA/Chamber Awards Ceremony, 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 2, Emma Krumbees General Store.
2. Cablevision, 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 3.
3. Finance Ways and Means, 4:15 p.m., Wednesday, February 3.
4. EDA, 5:00 p.m., Monday, February 8.
5. EDA/City Council Joint Session, 6:00 p.m., February 8.
6. Planning Commission, 7:00 p.m., Monday, February 8.
7. Park Board, 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 9.
8. Personnel Committee (Closed), 6:00 p.m. Thursday, February 11.
9. City Offices Closed, Presidents Day, Monday, February 18.
10. City Council, 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 19.

The Council was reminded of the upcoming meetings as listed.

10. ADJOURN.

MOTION by Councilmember Trost, second by Councilmember O'Laughlin, to adjourn at 7:02 p.m. ALL VOTED AYE. MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Krings
Recording Secretary