



MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF STACY IN THE COUNTY OF CHISAGO AND THE STATE OF MINNESOTA PURSUANT TO DUE CALL AND NOTICE THEREOF

**REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 10, 2012, 7:00p.m.
STACY CITY HALL**

Call to Order

The Stacy City Council met in regular session and was called to order by Mayor Utecht at 7:00p.m.

Roll Call

Present: Mark Utecht, Charles Lucia, Jim Ness, Michael Carlson, and Cindy Bruss
Absent: None
Others Present: Charles Schwartz, Peter Grundhoefer, Anne Thom, Jon Ehlert, and Dennis Thieling

Additions to the Agenda

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1. Minnesota Department of Health Funding Announcements
2. Union
3. Sliding with Frosty – Stacy Lions Park
4. Move next month's meeting

Motion by Ness to approve the agenda as amended. Second by Carlson. Ness, Carlson, Bruss, Lucia, and Utecht voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Motion by Utecht to add an additional item to the agenda: Stacy Sports Grill plowing. Second by Ness. Utecht, Ness, Lucia, Carlson, and Bruss voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Public Comment

Dennis Thieling: Mr. Thieling thanked staff for having the flag at half-staff last Saturday but questioned other dates that it was not at half-staff. Mr. Thieling will provide the information to Mayor Utecht on being placed on a notification list.

Consent Agenda

Motion by Ness to approve the consent agenda. Second by Lucia. Ness, Lucia, Bruss, Carlson, and Utecht voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Staff Reports

Maintenance

Jon Ehlert

Christmas Lights

Mayor Utecht stated that he received feedback from the Stacy Lions Club regarding how the Christmas lights were put up. Some were lit and some were not and not all the new snowflakes were put up. Once the Maintenance Department was made aware of the issue the Christmas lights were rearranged.

Mayor Utecht attended the Lions Club meeting to address their concerns and it appears his attendance was satisfactory as they did not see the need to attend the council meeting. The Christmas lights were taken down in a timely manner.

The Lions Club would like to pursue the Xcel Christmas Lighting Contract. They would like to know what the costs are involved in the Christmas lights being up; and dependent upon cost they may cover the expense of having the fixtures lit.

The city attorney was directed to move forward with reviewing the Xcel Contract and to obtain further details regarding the contract.

Foster Avenue Patches

Member Ness asked why Foster Avenue was not repaired. Mr. Ehlert responded that cold patch was applied without much success. The road will be repaired in the Spring.

Plowing at the Stacy Sports Grill

The council asked if the Stacy Sports Grill was being invoiced for snow removal services performed by the Maintenance Department; at this time they are not. The council directed staff to invoice the Stacy Sports Grill for these services at the regular Maintenance Service rate set forth in the city's fee schedule. This is a cost of doing business and should be reflected as such.

City Attorney

Peter Grundhoefer

Hennepin Technical Contract

Motion by Ness to approve the Mayor to sign the Hennepin Technical College Contract. Second by Bruss. Ness, Bruss, Lucia, Carlson, and Utecht voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Amendment to the Sheriff's Contract

Motion by Ness to approve the Mayor to sign the amendment to the Chisago County Sheriff's contract. Second by Bruss. Ness, Bruss, Lucia, Carlson, and Utecht voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

County Communication Subscriber Agreement 2012

Mr. Grundhoefer verified with the County Attorney that the contracting party would be the Joint Powers Board.

Several issues remain with the contract:

1. The cost of who covers for lost or damaged radios – this is spread out throughout the system. The council would like for each entity to be responsible for their lost or damaged radios.

2. A full year subscriber fee is being charged for six months of service.
3. Who serves on the advisory committee?

Mayor Utecht communicated the concerns to the sheriff who did not seem willing to address the concerns; he also mentioned the concerns to Ben Montzka. He suggests the city go to the County Board to express their concerns, also it may be beneficial to see if other entities would be interested in appearing before the board as a joint effort. Mayor Utecht will contact the surrounding communities to see if they have signed the contract and if they are interested in appearing before the County Board.

Union, Stacy Wine & Spirits

The results have been received on the vote to form a union at the off-sale. The results are that a union will be formed consisting of (as stated in the notice) "All part-time employees employed by the City of Stacy Municipal Off-Sale Liquor Store (Stacy Wine & Spirits), Stacy, Minnesota, who are public employees within the meaning of Minn. State. 179A.03, subd. 14, excluding supervisory, confidential, all City of Stacy On-Sale Municipal (Stacy Sports Grill) employees and all other city employees."

The Status Quo Order that was issued in October was vacated upon the date of the notice. Which means the budgeted wage freeze can move forward if the council so desires.

The next step is to negotiate a contract.

Employee Wage Increase

The council had several comments regarding the approval of the budgeted employee increase in wages for those employees who will not be part of the union.

- Employees have expressed frustration that their budgeted increase was being put on hold by the union; however, the City had no choice in the matter.
- Mayor Utecht said that in his opinion we should move forward with the budgeted increase for all employees except those employees in the bargaining unit until the contract is negotiated; he would like to keep the rest of the employees happy.
- Member Lucia thought it would be better to award the increases after the contract is negotiated; the increases could end up creating a back and forth situation (union vs. non-union employees).
- Member Ness stated that it is not fair to make the non-union employees wait.
- Member Carlson agreed with Member Ness that it would be unfair to hold back on the rest of the employees.
- Member Bruss also concurred with Member's Ness and Carlson.

Motion by Utecht to go ahead with the 3% increase that was budgeted for all nonunion employees and increase benefits for eligible staff as budgeted. Second by Carlson.

Motion by Utecht to table the motion. Second by Ness.

The council struggled with the wording of the motion; motion by Utecht to take a short recess to allow the city attorney to prepare the proper wording for the motion. Second by Ness. Utecht, Ness, Bruss, Lucia, and Carlson voted yes. Recessed from 8:00-8:07pm

Mayor Utecht called the meeting back to order at 8:07pm

Motion by Utecht to take the motion off the table. Second by Ness. Utecht, Ness, Bruss, and Lucia voted yes. Carlson absent for the motion. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Vote on the motion: Members Utecht, Ness, Lucia, Bruss, and Carlson voted no. Mayor Utecht declared the motion fails.

Motion by Utecht to immediately implement the 3% budgeted wage increase and the budgeted monthly benefit amount of \$625 for eligible city employees excluding employees included in the off-sale liquor store bargaining unit during the pendency of the union contract negotiation. Second by Bruss.

Motion by Utecht to amend the motion to reflect an effective date of January 1, 2012. Second by Bruss.

Motion and amendment to the motion action: Members Utecht, Bruss, Carlson, and Ness voted yes. Lucia voted no. Mayor Utecht declared the motion and amendment carried.

Member Lucia stated that he voted no because he has concerns regarding how this will impact the union negotiations.

Christmas Party

Mayor Utecht stated that when he was with Wyoming Township they had a year-end potluck of the board, contract staff, and employees. Is there any reason why Stacy can't do the same thing? Mr. Grundhoefer stated that there is no issue with the potluck.

Motion by Utecht to have a city potluck called the Stacy Christmas Party on the third Tuesday of December 2012 at 7:00pm. Second by Carlson. Utecht, Carlson, Lucia, Bruss, and Ness voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Springsted Contract

The changes to the contract were forwarded to Springsted for review. Mayor Utecht stated that when he met with Doug Green from Springsted he indicated that they don't need to have contract unless the city would like to have one. The council consensus was to move forward with or without a contract.

City Engineer Chuck Schwartz

Resolution Approving Sign Policy

Motion by Ness to approve Resolution Number 2012-1-1, "Resolution Approving the Street Sign Inventory and Replacement Policy." Second by Carlson. Ness, Carlson, Lucia, Bruss, and Utecht voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Radium Abatement Project

This item handled out of order by motion of Utecht. Second by Ness and carried.

Mr. Schwartz stated that three sites were reviewed as possible locations for the water facility; all can accommodate a treatment plant. The three sites and possible costs (costs include soil correction, wetland protection, demolition or abatement, land acquisition, water main, potential excavation support, garage space, and constructability):

City Hall	\$83,000
Four-plex Site	\$233,000
Wellhouse 2; Old Fire Hall Site	\$60,000

The council discussed the pros and cons of each site and the consensus was to utilize the city hall site as their first choice and Wellhouse 2 as the second choice.

The next step is to set up a meeting with the DNR to discuss. Mr. Schwartz will set up a meeting to discuss the project with the DNR.

City Clerk

Sharon Payne

Change in Polling Place

The council consensus was to move the polling place to the Rick Doyle Memorial Building; it is much larger than city hall. The clerk was directed to prepare a resolution moving the polling place to Doyle.

MCFOA Conference

Motion by Utecht to approve the city to cover mileage, registration, hotel, and wages for the City Clerk to attend the MCFOA conference. Second by Ness. Utecht, Ness, Lucia, Carlson, and Bruss voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Committees Commissions

Chisago Lakes Joint Sewage Treatment Commission (CLJSTC)

Member Lucia reported that everything at the CLJSTC is moving smoothly. The Stacy Trail bridge needs to be replaced and it will be determined in the next few months if the sewer line needs to be relocated.

Personnel Committee

The committee will meet this month.

Comprehensive Plan

This item handled out of order by motion of Ness. Second by Utecht and carried.

Motion by Ness to approve the update to the Comprehensive Plan excluding the water and sewer maps. Second by Carlson. Ness, Carlson, Bruss, Utecht, and Lucia voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Economic Development Authority (EDA)

The EDA Appreciation Event will be held on February 8, 2012, at 7:00am. The Lions Club will be catering at the Doyle Building.

The EDA has been touring a business prior to each of their meetings; this will allow them to know what each business does, how we can help them, and how they can possibly help each other. So far they have toured Caltronics and Wyoming Machine; they are very appreciative to both businesses for taking the time to show them their operations.

New Business

Resolution Establishing Appointments for 2012

Motion by Utecht to adopt Resolution Number 2012-1-2, "Resolution Establishing Appointments for 2012." Second by Ness. Utecht, Ness, Lucia, Carlson, and Bruss voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Verizon Wireless Notice of Termination

No action by the city necessary. The city needs to assure that the equipment is removed from the tower and assure no damage is done.

Minnesota Department of Health – Funding Options

Item to be forward onto the city engineer for review.

Sliding with Frosty

The council approved the North Branch Area Chamber of Commerce to use Stacy Lions Park for "Sliding with Frosty" on February 12, 2012.

MMBA Boot Camp

Motion by Utecht for any council member to attend the MMBA Bootcamp conference; the city will cover the real expenses to attend. Second by Carlson. Utecht, Carlson, Bruss, Lucia, and Ness voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Mayor/Council

Next Meeting

The Mayor and Gene Olson will be attending the Oxford Township meeting on February 14, 2012, regarding the fact that no mutual aid agreement exists with the Isanti Fire District. Should our council meeting be changed? The consensus was no.

Union Negotiation Committee

The council consensus was to form a bargaining committee for the union negotiations. To consist of two council members and the city attorney.

Motion by Ness to create a union negotiating body consisting of Mark Utecht, Chuck Lucia, and the City Attorney. Second by Bruss. Ness, Bruss, Lucia, Carlson, and Utecht voted yes. Mayor Utecht declared the motion carried.

Passing on Knowledge

Member Carlson asked if there was a means by which a council member can pass on knowledge to new council members. The Christmas Event will hopefully help this transition as a way to communicate between incoming council members and outgoing council members.

Adjourned at 9:53pm

Mayor Utecht declared the meeting adjourned at 9:53pm.

Sharon MT Payne