

**WORTHINGTON CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING, FEBRUARY 8, 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Mike Kuhle with the following Council Members present: Scott Nelson, Diane Graber, Larry Janssen, Mike Harmon, Rod Sankey. Honorary Council Member: Jason Gerdes.

Staff present: Steve Robinson, City Administrator; Dwayne Haffield, Director of Engineering; Troy Appel, Public Safety Director; Todd Wietzema, Public Works Director; Brad Chapulis, Director of Community/Economic Development; Janice Oberloh, City Clerk.

Others present: Gail Holinka and Kathy Craun, Public Arts Commission; Mark Becker.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**HONORARY COUNCIL MEMBER**

Mayor Kuhle introduced and welcomed Jason Gerdes as the Honorary Council Member for February, March and April 2016. Mr. Gerdes provided a brief background on himself, and said he was looking forward to serving.

**AGENDA CLOSED/APPROVED**

The motion was made by Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Graber and unanimously carried to close/approve the agenda as presented.

**CONSENT AGENDA APPROVED**

The motion was made by Council Member Sankey, seconded by Council Member Janssen and unanimously carried to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- City Council Minutes of Regular Meeting January 25, 2016 and City Council Minutes of Special Meeting February 1, 2016
- Minutes of Boards and Commissions - Traffic and Safety Committee Minutes of January 26, 2016; Worthington Housing and Redevelopment Authority Board Minutes of December 22, 2015; Worthington Convention and Visitors Bureau Minutes of December 16, 2015
- Temporary On-Sale Liquor License - Avera Medical Group Worthington, April 2, 2016
- Storm water utility credit - Bioverse Facility, 2220 Research Lane, total credit of 3.81 acres for parcels 31-3786-591 through 31-3786-597
- One-time extension of Worthington Event Center hours from midnight to 3:30 a.m. to accommodate the ISD 518 prom activities on April 30-31, 2016
- Bills payable and totaling \$871,608.75 be ordered paid

**2016 BOARD OF APPEAL / EQUALIZATION APPOINTED AND SCHEDULED**

Steve Robinson, City Administrator, stated that notification had been received from Nobles County that the local Board of Appeal/Equalization (LBAE) is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> in the Nobles County Board Room. City Charter states that at least three members of City Council should be appointed to serve as the Board of Appeal/Equalization, and State Statute requires that at least one of the members be LBAE certified. Currently Council Members Graber, Nelson and Sankey are certified through July 1, 2017. Mayor and Council all indicated they were planning on attending and will serve as the Local Board of Appeal/Equalization on May 5th.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3647 ADOPTED AUTHORIZING RULEMAKING PETITION TO AMEND RIVERINE STANDARDS**

Flaherty and Hood was requesting the City to authorize them to file a petition on our behalf for rulemaking with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA), seeking to have the MPCA amend its newly adopted riverine standards based upon the post-rulemaking identification of new evidence. Steve Robinson, City Administrator, said two of the requirements in the rule have not been accepted by the Federal Environmental Protection Agency. Council Member Harmon added that the developer of the phosphorous test indicated it should not be used but it was included anyway in the standards.

The motion was made by Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Harmon and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution authorizing Flaherty and Hood to file the petition on behalf of the City of Worthington:

RESOLUTION NO. 3647

A RESOLUTION BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WORTHINGTON, MINNESOTA AUTHORIZING FLAHERTY & HOOD, P.A. TO FILE A PETITION ON ITS BEHALF FOR AMENDMENT TO MINNESOTA RULES 7050.0150, .0220, AND .0222 TO THE MINNESOTA POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY AND THE MINNESOTA OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS PURSUANT TO MINNESOTA STATUTES, SECTION 14.091

(Refer to Resolution File for complete copy of Resolution)

**CRAILSHEIM BRIDGE SCULPTURE ANNOUNCEMENT AND PERIOD FOR PUBLIC REVIEW**

Axel Huss, a former Crailsheim/Worthington exchange student, commissioned a sculpture in Crailsheim to honor and commemorate the sister-city relationship between Crailsheim and Worthington. The sculpture represents a bridge between the two communities across the world, and points directly towards Worthington. Mr. Huss requested that Worthington complete the bridge by erecting the same sculpture here, pointing directly to Crailsheim. Worthington/Crailsheim

International, Inc. (WCII) challenged the City to complete the other half of the bridge sculpture on Mr. Huss's behalf. A release for the design was obtained from Mr. Huss when he visited Worthington in 2015. Council directed the Worthington Public Arts Commission to work with WCII on the effort, and artist Brady Haugen was hired to produce a conceptual design of the bridge. Steve Robinson, City Administrator, noted that announcement of the project tonight would start a required 30 day public comment. Following the comment period, the project will then be brought to Council for approval at their regular meeting on March 14, 2016.

Gail Holinka and Kathy Craun, representing the City's Public Arts Commission, were at the meeting and presented a time line on the project thus far. The Commission's proposal for Worthington's half of the bridge sculpture also incorporates a compass in the project, with a desired location for the project at Chautauqua Park. It is hoped to have the project completed by July 1<sup>st</sup>, as a group from Crailsheim, including Mr. Huss, will be here August 7<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup> this year.

Total estimated cost of the project is \$28,500. In addition to receiving a grant award for the project of \$20,000, donations of \$4,000 have been received. WCII will lead the fund raising efforts for the remaining \$4,500.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AIRPORT MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION GRANT CONTRACT**

Staff presented a resolution for Council consideration that authorizes execution of the Minnesota Department of Transportation Airport Maintenance and Operation Grant for state fiscal years 2016-2017. The grant provides reimbursement of 75% of eligible costs, up to a total amount not to exceed \$74,705. Adoption of the resolution is required to complete the grant process.

The motion was made by Council Member Sankey, seconded by Council Member Graber and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution authorizing execution of the grant:

RESOLUTION

AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
AIRPORT MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION GRANT CONTRACT

It is resolved by the City of Worthington as follows:

1. That the State of Minnesota Contract Number 1001080, "Airport Maintenance and Operation grant Contract," at the Worthington Municipal Airport is accepted.
2. That the Mayor and Clerk are authorized to execute this Contract and any amendments on behalf of the City of Worthington.

**RESOLUTION ADOPTED AUTHORIZING GRANT AGREEMENT WITH MN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

Troy Appel, Director of Public Safety, presented a resolution for Council consideration that would authorize him to execute a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety. Grant funds will supplement local funds for the purchase of squad computers.

The motion was made by Council Member Graber, seconded by Council Member Nelson and unanimously carried to adopt the following resolution:

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AGREEMENT**

BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE Worthington Police Department enter into a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety, for traffic safety projects during the period from October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2016.

The Director of Public Safety for the City of Worthington is hereby authorized to execute such agreements and amendments as are necessary to implement the project on behalf of the Worthington Police Department and to be the fiscal agent and administer the grant.

**2016 PRIVATE DOCKS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY**

City Code requires that Council shall annually set the number of private docks to be allowed on public property and set the permit fee. Todd Wietzema, Public Works Director, noted that 10 permits were approved and issued in 2015 at the permit fee rate of \$135.00. Appropriate signage and insurance is also required, and previous permit holders are given first opportunity for renewal.

The motion was made by Council Member Nelson, seconded by Council Member Graber and unanimously carried to continue with the limit of 10 dock permits and to leave the permit fee at the 2015 rate of \$135.00.

Mr. Wietzema said that, should additional permits be applied for, they would need to be brought to Council for consideration to change the number allowed.

**AMENDMENT #2 APPROVED TO AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICE APPROVED FOR ADDITIONAL STREET, STORM SEWER AND WATER MAIN EXTENSIONS**

Dwayne Haffield, Director of Engineering, noted the City currently has an agreement in place with Bolton and Menk for services for preliminary design, platting and feasibility reports for the initial development of the TH 59 North Commercial/Industrial Park. Based on Council's recent approval

of the memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Smith Trucking and the City of Worthington, staff had requested Amendment #2 to the agreement with Bolton and Menk for the design and construction phase services required for the street, storm sewer and water main extensions from County Ditch 12 through the proposed Smith Trucking development. It also includes services to provide coordination with Smith Trucking as requested in the MOU. Proposed fees for the amendment are \$138,050, less than 25% of the currently projected cost of the improvements addressed in the amendment. Mr. Haffield said additional fees of \$8,000 for testing are not included in the agreement.

The motion was made by Council Member Graber, seconded by Council Member Nelson and unanimously carried to approve Amendment #2 to the agreement with Bolton and Menk for additional street, storm sewer and water main extensions for development of the TH 59 North Commercial/Industrial Park.

### **COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Mayor Kuhle - nothing to report.

Council Member Nelson - Park Board met regarding the sculpture. The HRA met and discussed replacement of the boiler at the Atrium - they received a grant for roughly \$400,000 but the estimate for replacement is \$580,000. They will be looking at ways to scale that back and have it re-quoted.

Council Member Graber - Attended the Special City Council meeting February 1<sup>st</sup>, and the February 5<sup>th</sup> dinner at the Dayton House. The Transit Joint Powers Board met several times to discuss rates, evaluate and review services of public transportation. The Chamber Convention and Visitors Bureau met - discussed their annual report - motel revenues for 2015 were excellent and they have \$110,000 in reserve. Attended today's Planning Commission meeting and the ED Au.

Council Member Janssen - January 28<sup>th</sup> attended the Joint Powers Transit meeting - talked about taxi rates - they also elected new officers: Marv Zylstra is the new Chairperson and Diane Graber is the Vice Chair. On 1/26 Traffic and Safety met - Steve Schneider talked about speed limit changes in various places around the city this spring. Crailsheim Drive will be reduced by 5 mph, and the reduced speed limit by the school will be extended down further towards the ball fields. No change on County Road 57, but there will be a change on the county road off the Flower Lane crossing. Also attended, and thanked the Mayor for, the dinner at the Dayton House.

Council Member Harmon - Thanks to the Mayor for the dinner. Attended the MnDOT meeting on the first of February regarding the Oxford Street resurfacing. Water and Light met - the wells are still coming up. They discussed whether a watering ban would be needed - there is a policy in place for watering. The wells are the highest they've been since 2009.

Council Member Sankey - January 26<sup>th</sup> attended a Heron Lake Watershed District meeting - welcomed a new member to the Board. They acted on the normal annual requirements and discussed several projects. Also attended the Oxford Street overlay project meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup>, and the Chamber meeting on the 29<sup>th</sup>, the Special City Council meeting on February 1<sup>st</sup> and on February 5<sup>th</sup> attended the annual award presentation to the City Managers, of which Brian Kolander was the

recipient - thanks to the Mayor for dinner.

### **CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Steve Robinson, City Administrator, reported that he met last week with Minnesota West reps. - they're looking at initiating a new program but one of their biggest concerns is if they bring in more students they don't have the housing for them. The lack of housing is becoming a challenge not only at the college but throughout the community. Had some discussions in the last few days with some private developers who are exploring a movie theater project - talking about the economics of a theater building and based on historical sales, financially it's very tight to afford a new building, the real estate, the site improvements, based on what sales have been the last number of years - we'll continue those conversations. Last week on Thursday and Friday attended an Ehlers public finance seminar - attended a number of sessions on public finance - grateful he is surrounded by experts here at City Hall.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The motion was made by Council Member Sankey, seconded by Council Member Nelson and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Janice Oberloh, MCMC  
City Clerk