

**CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES
CITY HALL – CITY COMMISSION CHAMBERS
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2010, 7:00 P.M.**

ATTENDANCE: City Commissioners: Ron Boyce, John Campbell, Mike Lies, Elsa Duford, Fred Funke, and Mayor Pat DeVries presiding. Commissioner Judy Preston absent. City Manager Todd Crossett and City Attorney James Raymond present.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor DeVries called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED AGENDA: Commissioner Lies motioned to approve the agenda, with one amendment to add an agenda item after number 7 to change the date of the next Commission meeting from February 15 to February 17th due to President's Day. Commissioner Funke seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA:

A. CITY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES – JANUARY 4, 2010

B. JANUARY 15-31, 2010 CLAIMS

Commissioner Lies moved to approve the consent agenda, items A and B with typographical corrections to item A. Commissioner Funke seconded the motion. Rory Horning commented that his comments in regards to the rural fire stakeholders meeting on the January 4th minutes were part of the City Manager comments item and not the public comment item. He felt that public comments should be included on all agenda items, including the City Manager comments, and questioned whether Robert's Rules of Order. He rose to a point of order to determine what they would do with his corrections to the minutes. Mayor DeVries clarified that his corrections were not included in the motion. **The motion carried unanimously.**

GOLF RESTAURANT MANAGEMENT OPTIONS: City Manager Crossett advised the Commission of the past history of the golf course restaurant's pattern of unsuccessful operation. He explained that independent vendors' business models and their need to turn a profit independent of the golf course did not necessarily correlate with the needs of the golf course to service its golfing clientele. He suggested if the City runs the restaurant, they could do so with a lesser profit motive relative to the restaurant itself because the City would have interest in both sides of the business and would run the food and beverage service with the primary goal of supporting the City's golfing enterprise. If the City were to put out another request for proposal for independent vendors, he recommended they research what made the past vendors leave, stressing that there was a historic \$10,000-\$15,000 annual loss to the City due to flipping vendors every year. He proposed that if the City took over the restaurant, the focus would be on golfers. They would hire an experienced manager who would report to the City Manager and Roger Wallace, working full time for 8 months, with a second full time employee cross trained in the kitchen and waiting tables. Additional employees would be added March through September. They would create a casual hangout for golfers, with fast service and a simple menu and make use of focus groups and the golf board to build a sense of partnership with the golfing public. More robust controls, especially with alcohol, would have to be implemented.

Commissioner Boyce opined that if the facility had been offered to vendors for the 8-month period, rather than the full year, they might have had more success. He also mentioned they should consider a contracted menu. City Manager Crossett apprised the Commission of the status of the liquor license and the City's options regarding it. **Commissioner Campbell moved to table the golf course restaurant management options until the February 17th, 2010 City Commission meeting, seconded by Commissioner Boyce.** Commissioner Lies felt the consensus was for the City to run the restaurant, and they should begin advertising for the management position. Dave Sheesley, President of the golf board, urged the Commissioners to begin advertising because the golf season would be starting as soon as the weathered allowed, which has happened in February before. He added that the most qualified people for the management position would be looking for work already. Murat Kalinyaprak commented that the previous restaurant vendors had not been given the same chance the City was giving itself. He had questions about inaccurate numbers for the golf course, adding that no one on the golf board or Commission had taken responsibility for the repeated failure of the restaurant. Rory Horning urged the Commissioners to hold onto the liquor license until they could get back the money they had spent on it. Jim Sohm commented that he felt the City should run the restaurant for one year, but only to establish the needs of an outside vendor. He suggested that it be completely separate from golf course and pro shop entirely, as employees from the pro shop had been a problem inside the restaurant facility. He felt that no keys to the restaurant should be in the hands of the golf pro shop and vice versa, they needed to be two separate managers who would both report to the City Manager. There also needed to be signage and penalties for individuals who were bringing outside alcoholic beverages onto the course. He stressed that golfers should not be allowed to push for discounts or favors as they had in the past, and the manager must be well qualified in all aspects of the restaurant. He suggested the manager also receive portion of profits to ensure their stake in the success of the restaurant. **The motion to table the item until the February 17th, 2010 meeting carried with 5 in favor, and Mayor DeVries opposed.**

REQUEST FOR FUNDS TO THE LAKE COUNTY SPAY/NEUTER TASKFORCE FOR SPRING SPAY AND NEUTER CLINIC (CITY'S CURRENT BUDGET INCLUDES \$1,000 GENERAL FUND DONATION 1000 450315 733 AND 1000 440600 73): Pam Gibson spoke on behalf of the Lake County Spay/Neuter Taskforce, informing the Commission of the past success of the three clinics held in Lake County thus far. She thanked the City for proactively doing their part to help control the animal population in Lake County, and hoped they would consider them again next year. The spring spay/neuter clinic would be taking place on May 1st and 2nd.

POLSON LOAVES & FISHES FOOD PANTRY – REQUEST WAIVER OF FEES FOR THE NEW LOCATION AT 901 1ST STREET EAST – BUILDING PERMITS \$950 – PLAN REVIEW \$617 – ZONING CONFORMANCE \$100 AND WATER METER PIT \$520 – TOTAL REQUESTED TO BE WAIVED \$2,187: Bryan River informed the Commission that the Polson Loaves & Fishes had moved into a new building and they were currently remodeling it. He respectfully requested the City Commission waive the fees associated with the remodeling the building. City Manager Crossett noted that all the affected department heads had recommended waiving the fees. **Commissioner Funke moved to waive the total requested fees of \$2,187 for the Polson Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry, seconded by Commissioner**

Boyce. Rory Horning encouraged the Commissioners to approve the fee waiver. **The motion carried unanimously.**

APPOINTMENT OF CAROLYN HEINZ TO THE POLSON CITY LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES TO FILL BRUCE HARROP'S UNEXPIRED TERM UNTIL 6-30-2012: Jackie Gran requested, on behalf of the Library Board, that the Commission appoint Carolyn Heinz to the remainder of Bruce Harrop's unexpired term. **Commissioner Campbell moved to appoint Carolyn Heinz to the Library Board of Trustees to fill Bruce Harrop's unexpired term until June 30, 2012, seconded by Commissioner Lies.** Karen Duty expressed her support for Carolyn Heinz. **The motion carried unanimously.**

RESCHEDULE REGULAR CITY COMMISSION MEETING FROM MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH UNTIL WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2010 FOR PRESIDENTS' DAY: **Commissioner Lies moved to approve rescheduling the next regular City Commission meeting for February 17, 2010, seconded by Commissioner Boyce.** **The motion carried unanimously.**

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS: City Manager Comment advised the Commission that the City had applied for energy efficiency grants. They would be hearing the results of the TIGR grant application during February.

The deadline for the appropriation committee in Washington D.C. would be due March 1st, and Virginia Sloan from Senator Tester's office had offered to help set up the pitch and sit in on the conference call to D.C.

The bid packets were being put together for the Streetscape project. The Polson Business Association had been meeting with the City so they could work closely with the businesses to keep the stores accessible to customers during construction. The estimated timeline was 2-3 completed before Memorial Day, starting at the Highway. All of the affected businesses were encouraged to install larger water lines, which they would only have to cover the cost of the materials, the water department would be installing them for no added charge.

The first meeting of the Polson area rural fire stakeholder group had a good turnout. They had written a mission statement and set up an operating agreement. The next meeting of the stakeholders would be February 25, 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

He noted that police department had dealt with a suicide attempt and a stabbing at local bar, and they had stepped up and responded with an exceptional level of competence, as had the fire department. He particularly noted Officer Chris Wright who had safely talked the attempted suicide victim off of the bridge. The police department had received a \$2,000 donation from Wal-Mart the previous week.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS OF SIGNIFICANT INTEREST TO THE PUBLIC NOT ON THE AGENDA: Murat Kalinyaprak commented that he was glad to see the new Commission moving toward doing the "right, logical thing rather than the previous Commissioners", particularly towards public comment. He felt the past information was important because some of the people who made past decisions were still in the room, and the public still had the right to protest those actions. He felt those people should acknowledge their past decisions, but not continue to stand by them or cover them up. He inquired about the lot trade with Bill Ingram. City Manager Crossett replied that he had supplied the information to

Bill Ingram, but he had not heard back. He suspected Mr. Ingram was still evaluating his decision.

Rory Horning commented that as a stakeholder in the Rural Fire Department, he formally requested a copy of any information that would be handed out at a stakeholder meeting. He read from the MCA Title 2, Section 11. He asked why they were not allowing comments on city manager comments, and by what legal authority.

Susanne Lipkey inquired about the purchase of the Meridian building. City Manager Crossett advised that the engineer was continuing to work on the report requested by the Commission and it would be brought back on the agenda after it was completed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – LITIGATION: Mayor DeVries brought the executive session to order at 8:35. City Attorney Raymond explained pending litigation regarding a previously authorized developer rebate. Questions and discussion were had. Motion was made and seconded to instruct the City Attorney, passed four in favor and two abstaining.

The executive session adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Mayor Pat DeVries

Attest: Assistant City Clerk Kala Parker