

**City of Columbus
Regular City Council Meeting
September 10, 2014**

The September 10, 2014 meeting of the City of Columbus City Council was called to order at 7:08 p.m. by Mayor Dave Povolny at the City Hall. Present were Council Members Denny Peterson, Jeff Duraine, Bill Krebs & Jessie Messina. City Administrator Elizabeth Mursko; Attorney Bill Griffith, Jr., Engineer Larry Bohrer and Recording Secretary Karen Boland.

Also in attendance were: Jody Krebs, Doug Schliesing, Mark Daly, Jim LaBarre, Yul Yost, Rusty Fifield, Patricia Boesch, Angela Boesch, Tom Sibbald, Pat Preiner, Mary Preiner, Jesse Preiner, and Paul Ringell of the Forest Lake Times.

A. CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

1. Call To Order - Regular Meeting - 7:08 P.M.
2. Pledge of Allegiance

B. CONSENT AGENDA

3. Motion - Approval of the City Council Budget Meeting Minutes on 08/27/14
4. Motion - Approval of the City Council Meeting Minutes on 08/27/14
5. Motion - Approval of the 2014 Redpath Audit Contract (**Pages 1-9**)
6. Motion - Agenda Approval with Additions
7. Motion - Pay Bills as Posted

Motion by Peterson to approve the consent agenda. Second by Krebs. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Messina - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye; Povolny - aye. Motion Carries.

C. PRESENTATIONS

**8. PUBLIC HEARING & RESOLUTION - VACATE PORTION OF CAMP III ROAD
(Pages 10-12) (A1-A3)**

At the August 13, 2014 City Council meeting, Resolution 14-18 was approved to set a public hearing on the vacation of a portion of Camp III Road. The City Engineer said the legal description looks fine.

Council Member Duraine received a call from the resident at 15635 Zodiac Street with a concern that the turnaround will be too close to his land. Jim LaBarre, Carlos Avery Wildlife Management, said the DNR must allow public access. The parking lot is being moved to 105 feet west of Zodiac Street, on the south side of Camp III Road, at the vacation point, in order to make it more visible and less likely to create public safety problems. There was discussion about moving the lot to the north side of Camp III Road, which is currently privately owned. Mr. LaBarre is willing to explore this possibility if the landowner is in agreement.

The City Attorney pointed out that the Council initiated the request to vacate the road 105 feet west of the intersection. The question is whether that section of the road is excess to the City's needs. The DNR expressed a willingness to move the parking lot at the City's request, but it is under their jurisdiction. The DNR will gate and maintain the lot.

Public Hearing: At 7:25 p.m. Mayor Dave Povolny asked if anyone from the public would like to speak. The following persons testified: No one asked to speak at this time.

Council Member Denny Peterson said this issue was originally raised, because neighbors wanted the current DN R parking lot moved closer to the road so it is more visible.

The public hearing ended at 7:29 p.m.

Motion PLZ 02300 by Peterson to approve Resolution 14-19 Vacating a Portion of Camp III Road Northeast, west of Zodiac Street, in the City of Columbus, MN 55025, with the recommendation that the DNR look into the possibility of moving its proposed parking lot to the north side of Camp III Road. Second by Krebs. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Messina - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye; Povolny - aye. Motion Carries.

9. PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT

The Planning Commission meeting scheduled for 09/03/14 was cancelled. The City Administrator reported that the Planning Commission has no applications for its next meeting and no specific work direction from the Council. Mayor Dave Povolny said to cancel the next meeting.

10. PUBLIC OPEN FORUM No one asked to speak during Public Open Forum.

D. STAFF & CONSULTANT REPORTS

11. ENGINEER REPORT

Motion Award Contract for 2014 Road Improvements (Bender & 184th; 178th 177th Lanes & Heidelberg) (Pages 13-17)

The City Engineer reported that six bids were received for the 2014 Road Improvements Project. The low bid came from Rum River Contracting Company of Princeton, MN. The bid was for \$299,762.62. Rum River has worked for the City previously, and the Engineer has no reservations about them.

Motion PW E 01200 by Peterson to receive all bids submitted for the 2014 Street Improvements Project. Second by Duraine. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Messina - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye; Povolny - aye. Motion Carries.

Motion CON 00100 by Peterson to award the contract for the 2014 Street Improvements Project to Rum River Contracting Co. for their low bid of \$299,762.62. Second by Krebs. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Messina - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye; Povolny - aye. Motion Carries.

Motion Resolution 14-20 Awarding Bonds 2014-A to Wyoming Bank (Handout at Meeting)

Rusty Fifield, Senior Vice President of Northland Securities, spoke to the Council about bonding. The First State Bank of Wyoming put forth a proposal to purchase the City's \$396,000 general obligation bond Series 2014A at a true interest rate of slightly over

3%. The Bond Council has reviewed the bank's proposal and recommends that the City accept it.

There was discussion of pre-payments. The City Administrator reported that only three people have said they may pre-pay, so there would be no significant amount to reduce the bonding amount, knowing that there are a few parcels eligible for deferrals.

Motion BON 00300 by Peterson to approve Resolution 14-20 awarding the sale of General Obligation Improvement Bonds, Series 2014A, in the original aggregate principal amount of \$396,000 to First State Bank of Wyoming, Wyoming, Minnesota. Second by Krebs. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Messina - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye; Povolny - aye. Motion Carries.

Update/Direction - John Brown Property

A drainage area map of the Winnicki Ditch Survey from Rice Creek Watershed District (RCWD) was reviewed. 40 to 50 large cottonwood trees are in the ditch. In addition to the culvert under Lake Drive, there are two other culverts in this ditch system. Shortly downstream from the 48" diameter culvert, just outside the County Road right-of-way, the land jumps up two feet vertically. There is another jump in the 30" diameter culvert, from sediment build-up, then it begins to go downhill and drops off fairly fast 600-700 feet downstream from that culvert. From the east end of the 48" diameter culvert you would have to go about 600-700 feet before you hit the natural grade where the ground slopes off. That would be the minimum work needed just to get it flat. An informal meeting was held at the RCWD. Mr. Winnicki and others attended. This is a private ditch. Neither the City, nor the RCWD, nor the County has jurisdiction over it. Under the law, a public ditch can be established by petition of benefited landowners or, with some type of super-majority vote by the CC, the City may be able to establish some type of drainage district.

Another consideration would be whether or not this type of clean-up would affect wetlands.

Mr. Brown's walk-out is the same elevation as the top of that 48" culvert. He has a mound system and it pumps continuously.

The Council would like to ask the landowners as a body to cooperate in a coordinated effort to clean out the ditch.

Motion by Duraine to send a letter to landowners adjoining the ditch, asking for their cooperation in coordinating a clean-out of the private ditch. Second by Messina. Votes as follows: Peterson - nay; Messina - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye; Povolny - aye. Motion Carries.

The City Administrator and City Attorney will draft a letter.

Update - Hidden Park Drainage Update/Paul Brihn Culvert/Water Issue 161St Ave.

The City Engineer provided information regarding drainage directions and patterns. At an earlier meeting Council Members asked for the exploration of possible available grant monies for creating a pond at Hidden Park. The Engineer met on-site with representatives of the Watershed District and the Anoka Conservation District. Beginning in 2015 the Urban Stormwater Remediation Program may be reactivated in the Watershed District. That would be a competitive grant application program for

which the City could possibly qualify. There was discussion and some question about how much of the problem is coming from Hidden Park. Even with the park diked off, there are water issues due to culverts that are not working. The overall solution is unclear. The City Administrator said that two meetings ago, City Staff were directed to call a neighborhood meeting. The proposed date is September 24th from 5 to 7 p.m. The City Engineer, City Attorney, and Tom Schmidt from RCWD will attend.

Direction - MN DOT Road Funding

The Engineer has become aware of a MN DOT program called The Local Road Improvement Program. He thinks the Hornsby Street realignment going north may be eligible for these funds. It's called Routes of Regional Significance or Rural Road Safety Account. He will need to read the criteria and talk to MN DOT to see if the City would be eligible. The criteria will be available September 15th. The Council directed the Engineer to look into it.

12. ATTORNEY REPORT

Motion Guidelines Electronic Communications (Pages 18-20)

The Electronic Communications Policy has been revised.

Motion ADM 05400 POL 14-03 by Krebs to adopt the Electronic Communications, Internet and Equipment Use Guidelines and Policies for Council Members. Second by Messina. Votes as follows: Peterson - aye; Messina - aye; Duraine - aye; Krebs - aye; Povolny - aye. Motion Carries.

13. MAYOR & CITY COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT

Council Member Peterson

Last week Council Member Peterson attended a Sunrise Watershed District meeting. The carp barrier was put along one road. Election Avenue is blacktopped. He thanked Council Members Duraine and Messina for donations toward the Fall Fest bridge.

Council Member Messina

Council Member Messina voiced his concern about meeting attendees (the public) sitting at the conference table at the rear of the City Council Chambers. He would like to see the table moved from the back of the meeting room and see people move up front, so it doesn't look like a "primadona" group.

Other Council Members saw no problem with the table. It allows people to sit more comfortably or bring beverages, or paperwork to review during the meeting.

Council Member Duraine

Council Member Duraine attended a transit meeting. The Gateway transit line decided to go onto Bus Rapid Transit. There is a Rushline Task Force meeting next week to look at the same type of thing.

Council Member Krebs

Council Member Krebs has attended a few RCW D meetings with regard to the John Brown issue. It has given him a new perspective. He has found the RCWD are more focused on draining water away from businesses and homes.

Mayor Dave Povolny

Mayor Povolny would like to look into getting small, inexpensive laser pointers for Council members. He also suggested looking at upgrading the meeting room in the next year for better recording, sound quality, seating, etc.

Council Member Messina said he knows of other City Councils that allow Council members to participate remotely when they are out of state. He would like to look into what would be required to have that capacity. He said he would be willing to absorb the cost. The City Attorney said that the person participating remotely has regulations to follow, for instance, they need to be in a public place while participating, and participation must be interactive.

14. CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

2015 Budget Discussion (Updated Budget Materials Handout at Meeting)

The levy is due September 30th. There’s one more Council meeting for discussion prior to the preliminary levy being submitted. The proposed levy and the budget summary were presented. Overall there is about a 10% increase over last year. The two biggest numbers are the blacktop fund and the debt service fund.

The overall preliminary levy as presented is \$2,379,636. In December the final levy must be completed. Between the preliminary levy and the final levy, it can be reduced. It cannot be increased.

Treasurer's Report

Receipts:	\$68,129.23
Disburse:	\$59,184.09
Balance:	\$2,148,728.34

E. ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

- / Planning Commission Meeting Cancelled 09/17/14
- / Calendar of Meeting (Page 21)

F. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by D uraine to adjourn. Second by Krebs
Meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

/s/ Karen Boland

Karen Boland
Recording Secretary