

A continuation of the March 2, 2009 City Council Meeting was called to order March 16, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of taking care of unfinished business from the March 2, 2009 meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL: Councilors Geissler, Koski, Stauber, Tafs, Mayor Boucher; Lynn Lander, City Administrator; Debbie Lund, City Clerk; Steve Overom, City Attorney; Mike Anderson, Chief of Police

VISITORS: 3

MINUTES

Motion made by Councilor Tafs, seconded by Councilor Koski to approve the March 2, 2009 City Council Minutes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION SUMMARY

Richard Fursman, The Brimeyer Group, Inc. – Hopefully you have been able to review the profile for the city administrator position that has been developed and hopefully it has somewhat a reflection of what the community is and the type of individual we are looking for. Once this is approved we will immediately put out the notice on the ICMA, LMC websites and the trade organizations, MN City Managers Association and other associations in the region. We will be primarily concentrating in the Midwest region. The profiles will also be sent to communities and we will also do recruitment calls if needed. Once we have reached the deadline we will do an initial screening of all the candidates and get those down to a workable 15 to 20 applicants. I will then contact those individuals and have interviews with them. From that interview I will bring the top 10 that I feel would be the most appropriate fit here. At which time we will have a full report on all ten and send you the full report once you have read through all the profiles I will come back we will discuss which of those ten you would like to interview. Generally we will get the applicants down to four to six for interviews. Once the final applicants have been picked we will do a full background check, financial, criminal and educational institutions. We are asking for two days for interviews, a Friday & Saturday. Friday afternoon they would have lunch, take a tour of the city with some city officials, a reception with the council and then Saturday is one on one interview with each one of the candidates and then group interviews. The City is responsible for the costs of travel, meals and hotel, etc. On the 20th of April we will be going through the screening sheets and on May 1st & 2nd will be the interviews.

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

Councilor Geissler – No report

Councilor Koski – No report

Councilor Stauber – No report

Councilor Tafs – No report

Mayor Boucher – I apologize for Friday morning's absence.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Lynn Lander, City Administrator – We have the overlay project on Haines Road from Morris Thomas to Airport Road, which will probably be bid in May and constructed June through October. Likewise, I asked about the new signals at the intersection of Anderson/Haines and Hermantown/Piedmont but unfortunately they could not give me a date when they would be activated.

DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORT

Debbie Lund, City Clerk – No report

Michael Anderson, Chief of Police – Mr. Anderson gave a power point presentation of the Hermantown Police Department Annual Report for 2008. The total recorded incidents for 2008 was 7,077 this is a 7.62% decrease compared to 2007 which was 7,661 incidents. I looked at the entire report and have identified two major reasons for this decrease. The first reason is traffic enforcement in 2008, it decreased 6.32% from 3,210 to 3,007, and one reason for this decrease is we lost one of our highest traffic go-getters, we assigned him to the Lake Superior Drug and Gang Task Force, which I think, is directly reflected in that number. The second decrease in 2008 that I think is a good thing is serious Part 1 & Part 2 crimes decreased 16.24% from 938 incidences to 784. There are two types of numbers that are reflected in this report the first one in the number of incidences and that is the number of times an officer got called to a scene. A single incident report may have multiple offenses associated with it. Mike reviewed the rest of the annual report.

Today I received an email about available funding under the COPS Hiring Recovery Program. This is money that is coming from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. This funding is to be used to fund entry-level salaries and benefits for three years for newly hired full-time sworn officer positions. This is an opportunity that doesn't come along every year and I know in my budget proposal I didn't budget for adding any additional staff. Who knew that money was going to be available. Last time we applied and received a COPS Grant was in 1995 and I was one of the recipients from the last COPS Grant. I would like to apply for this grant and my recommendation is to ask for two officers. When communities grow staffing has to grow to keep up with community demands, right now we have seven officers and are in the process of hiring the eighth officer for patrol. That leaves us with four officers per patrol crew and with vacations, sick time, etc. it usually leaves us with one officer per patrol shift for all of Hermantown. Increased roadways and developments also increased commercial growth in the next

three to five years. With the expansion of Wal-Mart and Menards the police department is going to see an increase in traffic and problems. As you saw in the annual report a majority of our time deals with miscellaneous public issues, the quality of life problems. By receiving grant monies it will clearly benefit local taxpayers. These are also competitive grants and the sooner I am able to get going on the application process the higher it will be on the pile. I am not asking you at this time to make a resolution to hire additional officers although I think Lynn passed out an email with an opinion from the League of MN Cities. The reason I am bringing this forward today is I would like some direction whether or not the Council supports me moving forward with filling out this extensive application process in the hopes of getting a grant. If there is no support I am not going to waste my time or city staff time to complete the process. The grant is 100% funding for three years and the requirement is after that three years is complete the city has to retain that person for a twelve month period. The deadline for submitting the grant application is April 14th and if we are lucky enough to receive a grant to hire an additional officer I would be coming back to the Council for authorization to accept or decline the grant.

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications 2009-80 through and including 2009-96 were read and placed on file.

Communication 2009-87 from Deborah Lund, City Clerk to Heather Rose Carlson, Calibrate Business Consulting regarding Team Building Retreat

Communication 2009-90 from Lynn Lander, City Administrator to Mayor & City Council regarding Off-Sale Liquor License

Communication 2009-92 from Lynn Lander, City Administrator to City Council & Planning & Zoning Commission regarding Land Use Ordinance Mistakes and Land Use

NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by Councilor Geissler, seconded by Councilor Stauber ordering a public hearing on proposed increase in the number of Off-Sale Intoxicating Liquor Licenses allowed to be issued by the City of Hermantown. Roll Call: Councilors Geissler, Koski, aye. Councilors Stauber, Tafs, Mayor Boucher, nay. Motion failed.

Motion made by Councilor Stauber, seconded by Councilor Geissler to authorize the Chief of Police and City Administrator to apply for a Community Oriented Police Service Grant. Roll Call: Councilors Geissler, Koski, Stauber, Mayor Boucher, aye. Councilor Tafs, nay. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Tafs, seconded by Councilor Koski to approve City Administrator position profile outline for advertisement, in addition, set May 1st & 2, 2009 for final candidate interviews and selection. Roll Call: Councilors Geissler, Koski, Stauber, Tafs, Mayor Boucher, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

2009-24 Resolution Authorizing The Disposal Of Surplus City Property

Motion made by Councilor Tafs, seconded by Councilor Koski to adopt Resolution 2009-24, Resolution Authorizing The Disposal Of Surplus City Property. Roll Call: Councilors Geissler, Koski, Stauber, Tafs, Mayor Boucher, aye. Motion carried.

2009-25 Resolution Approving Application For License For Gambling By ALS Association, Minnesota Chapter

Motion made by Councilor Stauber, seconded by Councilor Tafs to adopt Resolution 2009-25, Resolution Approving Application For License For Gambling By ALS Association, Minnesota Chapter. Roll Call: Councilors Geissler, Koski, Stauber, Tafs, Mayor Boucher, aye. Motion carried.

2009-26 Resolution Approving County Project SP 69-691-021 County State-Aid Highway No. 91 (Haines Road) Within The City Of Hermantown Corporate Limits

Motion made by Councilor Koski, seconded by Councilor Geissler to adopt Resolution 2009-26, Resolution Approving County Project SP 69-691-021 County State-Aid Highway No. 91 (Haines Road) Within The City Of Hermantown Corporate Limits. Roll Call: Councilors Geissler, Koski, Stauber, Tafs, Mayor Boucher, aye. Motion carried.

CITY ATTORNEY

Steve Overom, City Attorney – No report

Mayor Boucher thanked Nathan Gustavsson for running the video equipment.

Motion made by Councilor Tafs, seconded by Councilor Geissler to recess meeting at 8:07 p.m. Motion carried.

Clerk

ATTEST:

Mayor