

CITY OF HERMANTOWN
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 7, 2008
6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Acting Mayor Tafs presided over the meeting due to the absence of Mayor MacDonald.

ROLL CALL: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen; Lynn Lander, City Administrator; Debbie Lund, City Clerk; Steve Overom, City Attorney; Terry Hanson, Finance Director; Mike Anderson, Chief of Police; Dean Sharpe, City Superintendent

ABSENT: Mayor MacDonald

VISITORS: 9

MINUTES

Motion made by Councilor Koski, seconded by Councilor Boucher to approve the March 17, 2008 City Council Continuation Minutes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC DISCUSSION

St. Louis County Commissioner Peg Sweeney & Marcus Hall St. Louis County Public Works Director – Commissioner Sweeney reviewed the map she supplied to the council on what road projects have been done to date and what is going to happen in the future.

Marcus Hall updated the council on the Miller Trunk Highway project stating that MnDOT had let the bids but due to ordinance issues with the City of Duluth, the bids were rejected and will be re-let in June. This project will take approximately 2 ½ years to complete.

Councilor Boucher asked about the problems on Midway Road from Maple Grove to Highway 194, the road causes traffic to swerve and has become a safety issue.

Mr. Hall noted that they do realize Midway Road needs maintenance and hopefully once the Maple Grove/Mall project are started they can solicit federal funds for Midway Road improvements sooner rather than later as they to realize it is a safety concern. If you have any further questions after this evening please get them to Lynn Lander and he can forward them to me.

Kurt Soderberg, WLSSD Executive Director – Mr. Soderberg stated he will be retiring the end of June and introduced Marianne Bohren, Assistant Director.

Ms. Bohren reviewed the 2008 WLSSD wastewater treatment budget, which increased 4.7% over the costs of the 2007 budget. Budget increases were due to significant increases in electricity, medical insurance premiums, chemical costs; loadings for flow and BOD are slightly lower than 2007 and loading for TSS are 5.61% higher. Debt payments will increase from \$7,160,000 to \$7,300,000 for 2008 supporting a capital budget of \$5.6 million.

The monthly billing for Hermantown is made up of the following parts: monthly discharge, peak flow, 2008 debt service and 2007 year-end adjustments. The comparison of monthly billing from 2007 to 2008 is as follows: monthly loadings: 2007 - \$14,790, 2008 - \$18,436; Peak Flow: 2007 - \$703, 2008 - \$746; Debt Service: 2007 - \$4,665, 2008 - \$4867; Year End Adjustment: 2007 - (\$760), 2008 - \$2,335 for a total monthly billing in 2007 of \$19,398 and \$26,384 for 2008. There has been a significant increase in Hermantown loading primarily because we are now monitoring and measuring that component of the Hermantown flow that goes through the Bay View interceptor.

The Western Lake Superior Sanitary District Capacity Availability Fee (CAF) is a fee payable to WLSSD by new connections or existing connections that as a result of a new use are anticipated to discharge increased wastewater flows into the WLSSD system. A CAF fee is based on the cost of the WLSSD system capacity, a portion of which is reserved for future growth. The CAF fee was put into place in 2006 at \$750. The new evaluation takes into account current asset values and significant infrastructure investments to reduce overflows and ensure compliance with permit conditions and have been increased to \$940.

Councilor Thielen questioned how much of the CAF Fees are set aside for future projects?

Ms. Bohren answered the Capacity Availability Fee collected each year and crediting that against what the total bill is for wastewater treatment customers. This year the capacity availability fee, we assume the collection will be \$325,000 and it is offsetting the operating and debt service charges for that particular year.

COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORT

Councilor Boucher – No report

Councilor Koski – No report

Councilor Tafs – No report

Councilor Thielen – No report

Mayor MacDonald – Absent

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

Lynn Lander, City Administrator – No report

DEPARTMENT HEADS REPORT

Debbie Lund, City Clerk – No report

Terry Hanson, Finance Director – No report

Dean Sharpe, City Superintendent – No report

Mike Anderson, Chief of Police – No report

COMMUNICATIONS

Communications 2008-94 through and including 2008-125 were read and placed on file.

Communication 2008-110 from Utility Commission to City Council regarding Feasibility Study for Well Supply for City of Hermantown

Communication 2008-113 from Terry Bollett, Allied Adjusters to Orin Olson, 3781 Haines Road regarding Water Damage to Basement

Communication 2008-115 from Lynn Lander, City Administrator to Mayor & City Council regarding Utility Permit Fee

Communication 2008-117 from Lynn Lander, City Administrator to Todd Steen, Hermantown Youth Soccer Association regarding Draft Use Agreement

Communication 2008-118 from Erika Johnson, Planning & Zoning Coordinator to Mayor MacDonald & City Council regarding Maple Village 1st Addition

Communication 2008-119 from Erika Johnson, Planning & Zoning Coordinator to Mayor MacDonald & City Council regarding City of Hermantown Soccer Field Expansion

Communication 2008-120 from Debbie Lund, City Clerk to Mayor & City Council regarding Change in Polling Places

Communication 2008-121 from Lynn Lander, City Administrator to City Officials regarding Proposed Sewer Improvement District No. 421 Midway Road to Seville Road

Communication 2008-122 from Karen & Olin Olson, 3781 Haines Road to Allied Adjusters, Terry Bollett regarding Water Damage to Basement/Appeal of Decision

Communication 2008-125 from John Klaers, City Planner/Zoning Director to City Officials regarding Re-Use Task Force Draft Report

NEW BUSINESS

Motion made by Councilor Boucher, seconded by Councilor Thielen to appoint Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, and Mayor MacDonald to serve on the Board of Appeals & Equalization to be held Monday, May 6, 2008 at 2:00 p.m. Roll Call: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen, aye. Mayor MacDonald, absent. Motion carried.

Motion made by Councilor Koski, seconded by Councilor Thielen to schedule a public informational meeting on the proposed Re-Use Plan for the old city hall building for Monday, May 5, 2008 at 6:35 o'clock p.m. at the Administrative Services Building, 5105 Maple Grove Road. Roll Call: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen, aye. Mayor MacDonald, absent. Motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Vouchers 39003 through and including 39155 in the amount of \$345,765.45 were read.

Motion made by Councilor Koski, seconded by Councilor Boucher to approve general city warrants in the amount of \$345,765.45. Roll Call: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen, aye. Mayor MacDonald, absent. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS

2008-36 Resolution Authorizing And Directing The Mayor And City Clerk To Execute And Deliver A Memorandum Of Understanding With St. Louis County Sheriff's Office ("SLCSO")

Motion made by Councilor Thielen, seconded by Councilor Koski to adopt Resolution 2008-36, Resolution Authorizing And Directing The Mayor And City Clerk To Execute And Deliver A Memorandum Of Understanding With St. Louis County Sheriff's Office ("SLCSO"). Roll Call: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen, aye. Mayor MacDonald, absent. Motion carried.

2008-37 Resolution Designating Polling Places For Primary And General Election

Motion made by Councilor Boucher, seconded by Councilor Koski to adopt Resolution 2008-37, Resolution Designating Polling Places For Primary And General Election. Roll Call: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen, aye. Mayor MacDonald, absent. Motion carried.

2008-38 Resolution Calling Public Informational Meeting In Connection With Sewer Improvement District No. 429 Hermantown Road

Motion made by Councilor Koski, seconded by Councilor Boucher to adopt Resolution 2008-38, Resolution Calling Public Informational Meeting In Connection With Sewer Improvement District No. 429 Hermantown Road. Roll Call: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen, aye. Mayor MacDonald, absent. Motion carried.

2008-39 Resolution Authorizing And Directing The Mayor To Execute Professional Services Agreement With Progressive Consulting Engineers, Inc. To Provide A Feasibility Study For Well Supply For The City Of Hermantown In An Amount Not To Exceed \$25,000.00

Motion made by Councilor Boucher, seconded by Councilor Thielen to adopt Resolution 2008-39, Resolution Authorizing And Directing The Mayor To Execute Professional Services Agreement With Progressive Consulting Engineers, Inc. To Provide A Feasibility Study For Well Supply For The City Of Hermantown In An Amount Not To Exceed \$25,000.00. Roll Call: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen, aye. Mayor MacDonald, absent. Motion carried.

2008-40 Resolution Authorizing The Amendment Of The 2008 General Fund Budget To Acquire Positive Pay Module For The Accounting Software

Motion made by Councilor Koski, seconded by Councilor Boucher to adopt Resolution 2008-40, Resolution Authorizing The Amendment Of The 2008 General Fund Budget To Acquire Positive Pay Module For The Accounting Software. Roll Call: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen, aye. Mayor MacDonald, absent. Motion carried.

2008-41 Resolution Authorizing And Directing The Preparation And Issuance Of Preliminary Acquisition Notices To Obtain A Parcel From Minnesota Power For Extension Of A City Street (Loberg Drive)

Motion made by Councilor Boucher, seconded by Councilor Thielen to adopt Resolution 2008-41, Resolution Authorizing And Directing The Preparation And Issuance Of Preliminary Acquisition Notices To Obtain A Parcel From Minnesota Power For Extension Of A City Street (Loberg Drive). Roll Call: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen, aye. Mayor MacDonald, absent. Motion carried.

2008-42 Resolution Approving Wetland Replacement Plan For The City Of Hermantown Soccer Field Expansion And Imposing Conditions On Such Approval

Motion made by Councilor Koski, seconded by Councilor Boucher to adopt Resolution 2008-42, Resolution Approving Wetland Replacement Plan For The City Of Hermantown Soccer Field Expansion And Imposing Conditions On Such Approval. Roll Call: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen, aye. Mayor MacDonald, absent. Motion carried.

2008-43 Resolution Approving Preliminary Plat Of Maple Village First Addition And Imposing Conditions Thereon

Motion made by Councilor Koski, seconded by Councilor Thielen to table Resolution 2008-43, Resolution Approving Preliminary Plat Of Maple Village First Addition And Imposing Conditions Thereon for two (2) weeks. Roll Call: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen, aye. Mayor MacDonald, absent. Motion carried.

2008-44 Resolution Adopting Agreement For The Use Of Hermantown Athletic Fields By The Hermantown Youth Soccer Association, Hermantown Little League And Hermantown Softball Association

Motion made by Councilor Boucher, seconded by Councilor Thielen to adopt Resolution 2008-44, Resolution Adopting Agreement For The Use Of Hermantown Athletic Fields By The Hermantown Youth Soccer Association, Hermantown Little League And Hermantown Softball Association. Roll Call: Councilors Boucher, Koski, Tafs, Thielen, aye. Mayor MacDonald, absent. Motion carried.

CITY ATTORNEY

Steve Overom, City Attorney – No report

Acting Mayor Tafs announced the schedule of meetings for April.

Acting Mayor Tafs thanked Calin Davidson and Tim Crossman for taping the meeting.

Motion made by Councilor Boucher, seconded by Councilor Koski to recess meeting at 7:29 p.m. Motion carried.

Clerk

ATTEST:

Acting Mayor