WALKER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WALKER FIRE HALL MEETING ROOM
701 ELM AVENUE, WALKER, MINNESOTA
MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2024

Call to Order – Mayor Worth
Mayor Worth called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

- Pledge of Allegiance.
- Councilmembers present: Mary Beth Hansen, Char Moore, Jim Senenfelder (via Zoom), Gary Wilkening, Jerecho Worth
- Councilmembers absent: none
- Staff members present: Hope Fairchild, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer; Jennie Meyer, Zoning Administrator; Peter Anderley, Police Chief; Dan Martin, Public Works Director; Chase Reed, School Resource Officer; Brandon Goehring, Police Officer; Kris Carlson, City Engineer; John Valen, City Attorney

- Others present during other portions of the meeting include:

Dean Morrill, Pilot Independent Newspaper
Chip Leer, Leer Title
Sean Lewis, Leer Title
Erin Haefele, Self
Joe Arndt, Self
Jeff Holly, Walker on the 4th
Cindy Wannarka, Chamber of Commerce
Bob Moore, Self
Ineke Leer, Leer Title
Kristin Holly, Walker Bay Live
Zoe Windebank, Hatch Burrito Co.
Matt Doughty, Walker Youth Hockey
Jed Shaw, Self

Consent Agenda – Mayor Worth
M/S Moore/Wilkening to approve of consent agenda items 1 through 23 as follows, waiving the reading.

1. Approve of Walker City Council regular meeting minutes of March 4, 2024.
2. March Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments was not held due to lack of business.
3. Approve of Public Works Committee regular meeting minutes of March 19, 2024.
4. March Park Advisory Board meeting was not held due to lack of business and inclement weather.
5. Review and file Library Advisory Board regular meeting minutes of March 12, 2024.
6. Review and file draft of Walker Area Joint Fire Department Board regular meeting minutes of March 14, 2024.
7. Review and file Walker Police Department Monthly Report.
8. Approve of the Cash Balance Report dated February 29, 2024.
9. Review and file Sales Tax Receipts.
10. Approve of claim no. 63264 to claim no. 63379 including voided check numbers 63284, 63289, 63336, 63337, and 63349, and bank drafts 1133-1142 in the amount of $378,332.04.
11. Approve of Park Advisory Board regular meeting minutes of February 27, 2024.
12. Approve of Library Advisory Board regular meeting minutes of February 13, 2024.

13. Review and file letter from Erik Misselt, Executive Director of the Minnesota Board of Peace Officer Standards and Training regarding Walker Police Department successful compliance review.
14. Review and file letter from Matt Varilek, Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development regarding the approval of Minnesota Investment Fund application for Yo-Yo Donuts.
15. Review and file thank-you letter from the Initiative Foundation for donation.
16. Approve of the audit engagement letter from Miller McDonald for completion of the 2023 annual financial audit.
17. Approve of not waiving the statutory tort limits on the City's liability insurance.
18. Approve of paying Application for Payment 6 in the amount of $107,395.69 to R.L. Larson Excavating, Inc. for professional services and materials through March 12, 2024.
19. Approve of Northwest Area Project Change Order 2 from R.L. Larson Excavating, Inc. in the amount of $32,948.10.
20. Approve of Master Professional Services Agreement between Ulteig Engineers, Inc. and the City of Walker for Work Order 2 – West Side Project: Sanitary Sewer Collection & Water Distribution System Improvements.
21. Approve of paying invoice number 14290 in the amount of $375,348.69 to Hy-Tec Construction for Walker Public Library Project professional services and materials through February 29, 2024.
22. Approve of paying invoice number WK2024-01 in the amount of $9,156.00 to Kitchigami Regional Library System for 2024 levy.
23. Approve of the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to pay invoice number 9058365041 in the amount of $6,622.89 to Grainger for new line striper.
    Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Wilkening, Worth Nays:
    Motion passed (5-0)

Scheduled Presentations – Mayor Worth

1. Jeff Holly, Walker on the 4th – request of $1,000.00 donation for 4th of July Fireworks. *This request is for fireworks for the 4th of July in Walker. This request was made and approved by the Walker City Council last year.*
2. Matt Doughty – request to consider first ever Youth Pond Hockey Classic on Leech Lake. *Walker Youth Hockey would like to hold a youth hockey tournament in partnership with Chase on the Lake on Leech Lake on February 21-23, 2025. They have contacted Cass County regarding permitting for the use of the lake. A back-up location would be the WACC if the ice was not stable enough. They would plan for 6-8 rinks on the ice. The Walker Youth Hockey organization wanted to ask the City if they had any permitting requirements or asks to go along with this event.*
3. Chip and Ineke Leer – request to place ADA-compliant ramp on City sidewalk.
4. Police Chief Peter Anderley will swear in School Resource Officer Chase Reed.

Public Comment Period – Mayor Worth

1. Open Public Comment Period on the potential implementation of Walker Police Department body-worn cameras.

   No comments were heard. No comments were received by phone, email, or mail.

City Staff Comments – Administrator Fairchild

1. Thank you and congratulations to Police Chief Peter Anderley for the work done to successfully pass the Minnesota POST Board review of Walker Police Department mandated department policies and employee training.

Personnel, Budget & Administration – Councilmember Senenfelder

1. **M/S Hansen/Moore** to approve of Resolution 21-2024, a Resolution Regarding the Support of a Job Creation Fund Application in Connection with Yoyo Donuts.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Wilkening, Worth Nays:
   Motion passed (5-0)
2. **M/S Hansen/Wilkening** to approve of the 3.2% off sale liquor license transfer for Super One Foods #425 due to updated address at the newly constructed storefront in Walker.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Wilkening, Worth Nays:
   Motion passed (5-0)
3. **M/S Hansen/Moore** to approve of the purchase agreement between the City of Walker and Three Blue, LLC for the sale of 12 industrial/rural residential lots in the industrial park in the amount of $176,000.00.
   Discussion: Three Blue LLC asked if the Walker City Council would consider ordinance amendments in allowing metal siding, pole buildings, and "shouse"- like structures in the rural residential zone. Councilmembers were open to the idea and stated that the discussion should begin with the Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Wilkening, Worth Nays:
   Motion passed (5-0)
4. **M/S Hansen/Moore** to approve of Resolution 22-2024, a Resolution Approving and Authorizing Sale of Real Property Pursuant to Minn. Stat. 412.211.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Wilkening, Worth Nays:
   Motion passed (5-0)
5. **M/S Hansen/Moore** to approve of the donation request from Jeff Holly of Walker on the 4th in the amount of $1,000.00 for 4th of July fireworks.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Wilkening, Worth Nays:
   Motion passed (5-0)
6. Discussion on the request from Matt Doughty to hold the first ever Youth Pond Hockey Classic on Leech Lake.
   Discussion: Councilmembers expressed support for the event and that an event like this in the winter would be great. Any on land requests should be brought to Walker City staff.
7. Discussion on request from Kristin Holly of the Walker Bay Live Committee for a City donation in the amount of $1,000.00 and officially designating Walker Bay Live events as Community Festivals.
   Discussion: Councilmembers discussed the designation of "Community Festival" for Walker Bay Live events. Administrator Fairchild stated that in terms of liquor licensing, the "Community Festival" designation allows for the off-site sale of liquor without needing a caterer's permit. Even with the "Community Festival" designation, for-profit sale of food and liquor in the Park would not be allowed due to ordinance. There could also be liability concerns due to the "Community Festival" designation. Councilmembers stated that this should be a stand-alone event and it sounds like the designation would not add any benefit because of current Park ordinance.

8. **M/S Worth/Moore** to approve of donating $1,000.00 to Walker Bay Live.
   Discussion: Councilmembers expressed concerns that this was not a budgeted item for this year. Some Councilmembers stated that this should be a stand-alone event and that the City should not be depended on for support or ownership.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Worth Nays: Senenfelder, Wilkening
   Motion passed (3-2)
9. **M/S Hansen/Wilkening** to approve of Solicitor/Peddler License Application from Christopher Pennell to operate a food truck in the parking lot at NAPA, 821 Minnesota Avenue West, from April 1, 2024 to April 1, 2025 with the following conditions:
   - Mobile food unit may not operate more than 21 days annually in one location (in accordance with rules from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture).
   - Applicant must provide updates of dates and times of operation at location to City Staff at least a week in advance of operation – failure to comply will result in loss of Solicitor/Peddler License.

   Discussion: Councilmember expressed concern regarding approval of food truck requests when decisions have not yet been made about updating ordinance to reflect food truck regulation. Councilmember stated that there is not currently anything in ordinance that does not allow food trucks to operate on private property in commercial and industrial zones.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Worth Nays: Wilkening
   Motion passed (4-1)
10. **M/S Hansen/Moore** to approve of Solicitor/Peddler License Application from Zoe Windebank to operate a food truck in the parking lot at Green Scene, 617 Michigan Avenue on the stated dates in the application, with the following conditions:
    - Mobile food unit may not operate more than 21 days annually in one location (in accordance with rules from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture).
    - Applicant must provide updates of dates and times of operation at location to City Staff at least a week in advance of operation – failure to comply will result in loss of Solicitor/Peddler License.

    Discussion: Councilmembers requested that owners of Hatch Burrito Co. apply under the same name each time to lessen confusion.
    Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Worth Nays: Wilkening
    Motion passed (4-1)
11. **M/S Worth/Hansen** to approve of Solicitor/Peddler License Application from Christopher Black to operate a food truck in the parking lot at Green Scene, 617 Michigan Avenue on the stated dates in the application, with the following conditions:
    - Mobile food unit may not operate more than 21 days annually in one location (in accordance with rules from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture).
    - Applicant must provide updates of dates and times of operation at location to City Staff at least a week in advance of operation – failure to comply will result in loss of Solicitor/Peddler License.

    Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Worth Nays: Wilkening
    Motion passed (5-0)

Planning and Zoning, Library & Liquor Store – Councilmember Hansen
None.

Parks, Cemetery & Airport – Councilmember Moore
None.

Public Works – Councilmember Wilkening

1. **M/S Worth/Moore** to approve of the request from Chip and Ineke Leer to place an ADA-compliant ramp on City-owned sidewalk at 5th Street North bordering Leer Title, with the conditions that flower planters are removed and to work with City Engineers on slope of the ramp.
   Roll call: Ayes: Moore, Senenfelder, Wilkening, Worth Nays:
   Abstaining: Hansen
   Motion passed (4-0, 1 abstaining)
2. **M/S Wilkening/Moore** to approve of the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to approve of the Walker Bay Live Street Closure Request at City Dock on August 22, 2024.
   Roll call: Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Wilkening, Worth Nays:
   Motion passed (5-0)

Announcements – Mayor Worth

- Upcoming meeting dates:
  - Library Advisory Board meeting: 4/09/2024 at 5 p.m.
  - Walker Area Joint Fire Department Board meeting: 4/11/2024 at 6 p.m.
  - Public Works Committee meeting: 4/16/2024 at 7 a.m.
  - Park Advisory Board meeting: 4/23/2024 at 5 p.m.
  - Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments meeting: 4/29/2024 at 6 p.m.
  - City Council meeting: 5/06/2024 at 6 p.m.

Adjournment – Mayor Worth
Mayor Worth adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

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Jerecho Worth, Mayor Hope Fairchild, City Administrator/Clerk-Trs.