WALKER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WALKER FIRE HALL MEETING ROOM
MONDAY, JULY 1, 2019

CALL TO ORDER –Mayor Shaw

- Mayor Jed Shaw called the regular scheduled meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance
  - Council members present: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Shaw and Wilkening
  - Council members absent: None.
  - Others present during portions of the meeting included:

Terri Bjorklund, City Administrator	Pamela Smith, City Employee
Dean Morrill, Pilot Independent	John Valen, City Attorney
Mike Ridlon, Public Works Director	Wayne Tennis, Chief of Police
Steven Swor, St. Vincent de Paul	Coretta Czycalla, Self
Janet McClung, Self	Mark Vondenkamp, Self
Paul Nye, Back Street Bike	Steve Ekholm, Self
Jane Ekholm, Self	Mick Arola, Self

CONSENT AGENDA-Mayor Shaw

M/S Shaw/Hansen to approve the Consent Agenda Items 1 thru 20 as follows waving the reading.

1. Approve Walker City Council regular meeting minutes of June 3rd, 2019.
2. Approve Walker City Council continued meeting minutes of June 4th, 2019.
3. Approve Walker City Council regular meeting minutes of June 20th, 2019.
4. Review and file draft of Walker Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments regular meeting minutes of June 24th, 2019.
5. Review and file May 2019 Zoning Administrator report.
6. Review Walker Public Library Board meeting minutes of June 19th, 2019.
7. Review and file draft of Walker Park Advisory Board meeting minutes of June 25th, 2019.
8. Review and file Walker Police Department Monthly Report.
9. Review and file Public Works Committee meeting minutes of June 20th, 2019.
10. Review and file Walker Area Joint Fire Department Minutes of June 13th, 2019.
11. Approve Cash Balance Report as of May 31st, 2019.
12. Review and file Cass County's May/June Tax Settlement for 2019.
13. Approve to pay Bond Trust Services Corporation for General Obligation Improvement Bonds, Series 2007A, in the amount of $4,242.50.
14. Approve of loan repayment to Minnesota Public Facilities Authority in the amount of $343,141.66 for G.O. Bonds repayments plus $3,883.21 in prepaid special assessments for a total of $347,024.87.
15. Review and file letter from the State Demographic Center regarding annual population and household estimates for the City of Walker.
16. Review and file Deputy Registrar Reimbursement Grant Application between the Minnesota Department of Public Safety and City of Walker DMV #125.

17. Approve payment of invoice 368211 in the amount of $12,450.00 to SEH for Walker Municipal Airport Master Plan with Airport Layout Plan.
18. Approve payment of invoice 368203 in the amount of $15,000 to SEH for Walker Municipal Airport Access Road & Parking Lot Reconstruction Final Design Phase.
19. Review and file AGC Committee meeting notes of Tuesday June 4, 2019.
20. Review and file ongoing City projects.

Motion passed (5-0)

WALKER CITY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING MEETING MINUTES
WALKER FIRE HALL MEETING ROOM
MONDAY, JULY 1, 2019

PUBLIC HEARING –MAYOR SHAW

- Mayor Jed Shaw called the public hearing meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

  - Council members present: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Shaw and Wilkening
  - Council members absent: None.
  - Others present during portions of the public hearing included:

Terri Bjorklund, City Administrator	Pamela Smith, City Employee
Dean Morrill, Pilot Independent	John Valen, City Attorney
Mike Ridlon, Public Works Director	Wayne Tennis, Chief of Police
Steven Swor, St. Vincent de Paul	Coretta Czycalla, Self
Janet McClung, Self	Mark Vondenkamp, Self
Paul Nye, Back Street Bike	Steve Ekholm, Self
Jane Ekholm, Self	Mick Arola, Self

- Hear public comment on the proposed adoption of Ordinance 2019-02 an Ordinance adding Transitional Housing Standards to the Walker City Code.

Wilkening reviews with the public the history of how the proposed transitional housing standards came before the planning commission. Several months ago a charity came to the City questioning what our transitional housing regulations were and we did not have any. Pam did research on other towns that help regulate that type of activity. He adds that there are State laws in place and certain criteria that must be followed. We reviewed the City of Bemidji's regulations and made some tailored changes that fit our community regulating the property, not the person. The result is the Ordinance that we are presenting as an opportunity of consideration this evening.
Czycalla Questioned the February 25th planning commission meeting draft that was pulled from the website; referring to section B number 3. She states that there are things taken out as far as the location being 500 feet of the location of certain things. She states that in the last draft she printed out many of the things were taken out except for licensed daycares, schools and libraries. She feels that the trails, parks, residential housing for vulnerable adults should be left in there. Walker has assisted living and memory care

group homes and I think that language should still be left in there where transitional housing would not be allowed within 500 feet of those boundaries.
Valen questioned what would be her reason for including those?
Czycalla-There is vulnerable populations that have to be protected. Those people living in transitional housing…
Valen questioned what it is about those people…
Czycalla stated that when you look of the definition of Minnesota State Statutes it states that transitional housing is for homeless people or families. And the word homeless is taken out of the proposed draft and stressed that needs to stay in there as well.
Valen clarified that the reason for the changes are that we can regulate the property and not the person. He added that her concern is based on that the people at that facility are somehow more dangerous than other people. We have no data that would support that.
Czycalla stated that she is concerned about her property value; if they were to move close to me how that would affect her property value.
Valen questioned if she had a study that would indicate that would adversely affect you.
Czycalla responded that she does not have study but personally feels that way.
Valen stated that if the Council were to do that it would need to be based on some kind of a reliable study that would support those conclusions.
Arola questioned if there was a place in town that they were looking at.
Swor communicated that he was from Saint Vincent de Paul and states that they are the organization looking at transitional housing. He explains that the concept behind this is, to have a job you have to have a permanent location; a home address. What happens is when people get a job it takes almost a month before you get your first paycheck and it takes a bit longer than that before you can get section eight housing. We are looking at helping the people that are trying to get on their feet. Right now we are just doing the discovery aspect of this to see what the response is from the public and ask whether we can afford it or not because we are a small community. We would be working with Bicap and Access North as far as training is concerned. If there is anyone there staff would be on hand 24/7 while someone is living there. We can help them if they need help with budgets, if they need to be trained as far as cooking is concerned. We are looking at Veterans that possibly might have PTSD. We are looking at anybody that needs that opportunity to get a foot up. He added that initially they were looking at the location of the old video store over by Jimmy's. It would house three people at a time. We would have three bedrooms and a common kitchen and washing facilities. He explained that he didn't want anything were there were a bunch of people smoking outside. He added that he has the same concerns and does not want people that don't belong there. They will be actively looking for jobs and if they are not they are not fulfilling their part of the agreement.
Arola questioned if they feel they have enough resources if there is a setback.
Swor stated that after several people received jobs they ended up working out of town; RDO. These are people that we put up in someone's personal home. Another one we managed to get some tents and sleeping bags and bicycles and they stated at a campground until they found jobs.
Arola questioned if up to three people was a sure thing.
Swor stated that they would have facilities for up to three people any more than that we would not be able to take care of them. He added that he spoke with the Veterans

Association and annually they try to find jobs for about four Veterans in our area and Access North; all together they try to find jobs for about twelve people a year up here. Our thought is if we can even help three people become viable citizens again; we will do what we can.
Arola stated that her concern is that there are already four group homes in this small town. Do we really want more of this?
Shaw stated for the record they are discussing the actual Ordinance that the City would have not Group Homes. While he can answer questions what he specifically may do that is going to have nothing whatsoever to do with the Ordinance that we pass. If you have any questions specifically about the Ordinance please let them be known.
Wilkening added that Ordinance is very State specific as to what can and can't be regulated. We as a Council need to follow State Statute in order to keep us out of legal problems. The regulations that are being imposed are similar to VRBO.
No other public comments or questions were heard.
Public hearing closed at 6:12 p.m.

SCHEDULED CITIZENS PRESENTATION –Mayor Shaw
None.

CITY STAFF COMMENTS – Administrator Terri Bjorklund

- Texas 4000

Bjorklund stated that day one found them in Lampasas, TX and day 70 of the ride will find them in Anchorage, AK. On day 39 they will be in Walker, MN overnight. Paul has put together a group of citizens and a group of people that will be hosting these people in their homes overnight and will be doing a cook out at the park. I want to make you all aware that we are going to have a lot of people in town that day. Getting the bronze level of a bike friendly community we want to make sure that everybody is aware so that we can extend our kindness and hopefully at least half of the 28 riders will come back another day and just spend time with us.
Nye stated that there are three teams doing this trip starting from the University of Texas and 28 members in each team. The Ozark team is coming through Walker. He stated that he looked at their itinerary and they are spending more time in the State of Minnesota than any other State. He added that these kids are the cream of the crop of go getters and motivators. Each member of the team had to raise $4,000, participate 50 hours of community service and do weekly training rides before going on this trip for a whole year. All of them in one way or another have been affected by cancer.
The Council thanks Paul and the good job he has done.
Nye added that for the record the Barbeque in the park is not a public event.

- Sourcewell Grant

Bjorklund stated the end of 2019 they are due to order a new squad car that will be delivered in 2020 upon Council approval. Wayne has applied to Sourcewell for one of their small project partnership grants. We received a check today for $2,500 to help with the squad camera.

PERSONNEL, BUDGET & ADMINISTRATION – Councilmember Senenfelder

1. **M/S** Senenfelder/Moore to approve of Claim #56664 to Claim #56772 including Voided Check Numbers 56006, 56276, 56685, 56686, 56718 and bank drafts in the amount of $175,192.85
   Motion passed (5-0)
2. **M/S** Senenfelder/Moore to approve of the amendment to the subscription agreement with Tyler Technologies in the agreed contract amount of $5,124.00 for the period of June 1st, 2019 through December 31st, 2019 and $9,223.00 each year expiring on May 31st, 2023.
   Motion passed (5-0)
3. **M/S** Senenfelder/Moore to approve of the payment and transfer to Spencer Ross Post 134 in the amount of $644.17 for the 2nd half of the 2019 Legion abatement payment and also transfer $644.17 from general fund 101 to legion abatement fund 420.
   Motion passed (5-0)
4. **M/S** Senenfelder/Moore to approve to send Terri Bjorklund to Sourcewell R5 Summit in Staples, MN on October 23, 2019 at a cost of mileage and wages.
   Motion passed (5-0)
5. **M/S** Senenfelder/Moore to approve to purchase Konica Minolta bizhub 458e Color MFP in the amount of 7,035.00 for the DMV. (Original price $17,325.00 less discounts in the amount of $10,290.00)
   Motion passed (5-0)
6. **M/S** Senenfelder/Hansen to approve to purchase Konica Minolta bizhub C558 Color MFP in the amount of $11,650.00 for City Hall. (Original price $30,800.00 less trade in value and discounts in the amount of $20,300.00)
   Motion passed (5-0)
7. **M/S** Senenfelder/Moore to approve to purchase upgrades for the Konica 308 copier in the amount of $650.00 and relocate the copier to the Library.
   Motion passed (5-0)
8. **M/S** Senenfelder/Moore to approve to accept the resignation of Charolette Hines, Deputy Registrar effective July 9th, 2019.
   Motion passed (5-0)
9. **M/S** Senenfelder/Hansen to approve of the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to appoint Carol Longfellow Deputy Registrar with a .50¢ per hour raise and an additional .50¢ per hour upon successful completion of her six month probation period as Deputy Registrar.
   Motion passed (5-0)
10. **M/S** Senenfelder/Moore to approve of the recommendation of the Personnel Committee to Advertise for a DMV Clerk
    Motion passed (5-0)
11. **M/S** Senenfelder/Moore to approve of the request from Terri Bjorklund to send Carol Longfellow to the Annual MDRA meeting in St. Cloud on September 20th, 2019 at a cost of $40 plus mileage and wages.
    Motion passed (5-0)

12. **M/S** Senenfelder/Moore to approve of the brewery license applications from Portage Brewing Company LLC, located at 107 5th Street South for a Brewer Off-Sale, Off Sale Sunday Growler and Tap Room On-Sale/Sunday license.
    Motion passed (5-0)
13. **M/S** Senenfelder/Moore to approve of a 1 day Temporary Liquor License for the Walker Area Joint Fire Department, on August 16th, 2019 at the Walker Fire Hall for their annual fish fry fundraiser; contingent upon receiving certificate of liability naming the City as additionally insured.
    Motion passed (5-0)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/LIQUOR STORE/AIRPORT/LIBRARY – Councilmember Hansen

1. **M/S** Hansen/Moore to approve of Walker Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments Meeting Minutes of May 20th, 2019.
   Motion passed (5-0)
2. **M/S** Hansen/Moore to approve of Walker Public Library Board minutes of May 15th, 2019.
   Motion passed (5-0)
3. **M/S** Hansen/Wilkening to approve of the recommendation of the Walker Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments to approve LU-2019-04, a Lot Split Metes and Bounds with the findings of fact and condition.
   Findings of Fact:
   1. Both the North Tract and the South Tract are currently zoned Transitional Commercial and is properly zoned where both residential and commercial uses should coexist intended uses as permitted in the Transitional Commercial zone.
   2. Both Tracts are connected to public water and sewer.
   3. The applicant is not proposing any provisions for water-based recreation.
   4. Lot areas and dimensions conform to the requirements of the zoning provisions, without variance. The minimum lot size for newly created lots in the Transitional Commercial zone is 5,000 sq. ft. The proposed division is as follows: North Tract 26,795 ± square feet and the South Tract 26,325 ± square feet.
   5. Future development will not be constrained by the proposed lot layouts.
   6. Each lot is subject to the right-of-way designated on Lake May Road and Eighth Street (State Highway No. 34).

   Condition:
   1. Any proposed additions or renovations will require application for a building permit.

   Motion passed (5-0)

4. **M/S** Hansen/Wilkening to approve of Ordinance 2019-02, an Ordinance adding Transitional Housing Standards to the Walker City Code.
   Senenfelder asks for clarification on why language was deleted.
   Valen stated that the idea was that we are regulating the property and not the people. Without some kind of a factual study showing that people who would use this

transitional housing would be more dangerous than your current next door neighbor; I don't think we could justify the provisions that would restrict their placement.
Senenfelder questioned if he knew why that was left in the language when Bemidji drafted their Ordinance.
Wilkening stated this would have to be able to be upheld in court. If you go by State Statute and anything in the Federal Fair Housing Act we would comply. If we left some of the language that we have taken out it is questionable. We could open ourselves to a potential for a lawsuit. Which John basically stated that he wouldn't be able to defend us?
Senenfelder questioned why a City much larger than us left that language in there.
Valen stated that he did not have an answer to that.
Senenfelder questioned the 500 feet from any other transitional use, adding that we could end up with two of them as long as they are not within 500 feet of each other.
Valen clarifies that the 500 feet did not come from him.
Wilkening stated the 500 feet is following the State guidelines.
Ayes: Wilkening, Moore, Shaw Nays: Hansen, Senenfelder
Motion passed (3-2)

5. **M/S** Hansen/Moore to approve of Resolution 32-2019, a resolution authorizing summary publication of ordinance 2019-02, an ordinance adding transitional housing standards to the walker city code.
   Wilkening stated that if we don't add this to our Ordinance we would be doing a greater disservice to our residents for what we can legally adopt. We are fortunate by having the organization come in up front and have worked with us and have not pressured us to make a decision and allowed us to sort through this whole process.
   Senenfelder stated that he understands the need for an Ordinance adding that he would like to know why other Cities could win that battle with stronger restrictions and why we felt we couldn't.
   Shaw stated that he is basing that off of that they simply passed that Ordinance that hasn't been challenged as of yet.
   Senenfelder stated that he would like to see and ask why it was passed as is.
   The Council clarifies that Bemidji's is by Interim Use as would be ours.
   Wilkening stated that there is a biannual review and approval process.
   Shaw stated that he understands Senenfelder concern with this and could look into it further.
   Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Shaw, Wilkening Nays: Senenfelder
   Motion passed (4-1)
6. **M/S** Hansen /Wilkening to approve of the recommendation of the Walker Planning Commission/Board of Adjustments to enable the Library Board to develop plans for a new Library that may protrude into the setback.
   Motion passed (5-0)
7. **M/S** Hansen/Senenfelder to approve of Ordinance 2019-05, an Ordinance amending Chapter 4 Alcoholic Beverages of the Walker City Code.
   Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Shaw, Wilkening Nays: None
   Motion passed (5-0)

8. **M/S** Hansen/Moore to approve of Resolution 33-2019, a resolution authorizing summary publication of ordinance 2019-05, an Ordinance amending Chapter 4 Alcoholic Beverages of the Walker City Code.
   Ayes: Hansen, Moore, Senenfelder, Shaw, Wilkening Nays: None
   Motion passed (5-0)

PARKS/AMBULANCE BOARD–Councilmember Moore

1. **M/S** Moore/Senenfelder to approve of Walker Park Advisory Board to approve Minutes of May 28th, 2019.
   Motion passed (5-0)
2. **M/S** Moore/Senenfelder to approve of the recommendation of the Park Advisory Board for the placement of Hoop Dancer bronze statue to be placed on City Hall property on a pedestal with an inscription as to the meaning of the statue.
   The area to be placed will be determined by Staff.
   Motion passed (5-0)

PUBLIC WORKS, SAFETY & CEMETERY – Councilmember Wilkening

1. **M/S** Wilkening/Moore to approve of the recommendation of the Public Works Committee to send Jay Carroll to MRWA training session for a water test refresher course to take his water class D test in St. Cloud on September 30th, 2019 through October 2nd, 2019 at cost of $255.00 for the class $32.00 to test and room and board.
   Motion passed (5-0)
2. **M/S** Wilkening/Senenfelder to approve of the recommendation of the Public Works Committee for adoption of the Mailbox Support Policy.
   Motion passed (5-0)
3. Update on 2020 proposed natural gas line from Cass Lake to Walker.
   Wilkening noted that the State Legislature included the tax abatement into the 2020 tax bill. The distribution company will run the line and then Minnesota gas will take it from that point and bring it into the City of Walker. They will be working on that in 2020 when we do our Northside Project. They plan to have people hooked up and operational at least in some phases by 2020 and they will hold more meetings as we get closer. And it will continue to the Casino so the Ah-Gwah-Ching site will probably have a tap that will lead up to it until there is a need to connect.

OTHER BUSINESS –Mayor Shaw

- In observance of Independence Day, Walker City Offices and DMV will be closed on Thursday July 4th, 2019.

ADJOURNMENT-Mayor Jed Shaw

Mayor Shaw adjourns the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

_____ Attest:_____

Jed Shaw, Mayor Terri Bjorklund, Administrator