

Councilpersons:  
First Ward: Friedmeyer, Wharton  
Second Ward: Schmidt, Kruger  
Third Ward: Bricher, Schoen

Mayor: Rollin Hall  
City Atty: Peter Ekstrand  
City Adm: Chad Springer  
City Clerk: Susan Schamaun  
Date: December 2, 2014

### ***PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL***

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Wabasha was held on Tuesday, December 2, 2014, and was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Hall.

All Councilpersons were present.

All present stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Guest Speaker:** None

**3. Public Comments:** David Fisk, 308 Skyline Drive, came forward in reference to the proposed downtown Community Center. He gave information on the downtown. He stated he felt the original Destination Hotel Project should be implemented. He also voiced concerns about parking in the downtown area and the increase in parking the Community Center would produce if located on Second Street. He felt there were better alternative sites. He proposed the City renegotiate the agreement with the group representing the Community Center and also proposed the City do what it can to secure a Hotel Destination on the Riverfront property.

**4. Changes or Additions to Agenda:**

Councilpersons Bricher and Wharton moved to add amending the Local Improvement Policy added to the agenda for discussion. Adopted unanimously.

Councilperson Bricher stated he wanted to add the Riverfront Taskforce consultant fee. Mayor Hall stated that will be brought forward at a later time.

City Clerk requested adding 8.7 Coffee Mill Ski Area wine/strong Beer License Application.

**5. Mayor's Presentation:**

Mayor Hall thanked Councilperson Bricher for serving the past eight years on not only the City Council but also on the Street Commission, Planning Commission and Port Authority. He stated he has been great to work with and thanked him for his contributions.

Mayor Hall also reported he had advice from 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders on how to be a mayor and read two of the letters.

**6. Committee Reports and Wabasha Good News:**

**Planning Commission:** Councilperson Friedmeyer reported the Planning Commission did not meet.

**HPC:** Councilpersons Schoen reported she did not attend.

**Park Board:** Councilmember Kruger reported the Park Board did not meet.

**Utilities Commission:** Councilmember Schmidt reported outside of normal business, they discussed the mixer at the water tower. The mixer was not correct and no decision has been made on how to address the problem. In an effort to be proactive and keep citizens aware of freezing water pipes, the

City will take water temperatures in areas that had problems with freezing pipes last year and if there becomes a problem, the citizens will be notified.. The water department is finally in the black.

**Police Commission:** Councilmember Wharton stated the Police Commission did not meet.

**Street Commission:** Councilperson Bricher reported the Street Commission met and discussed adding a public comment segment to their meetings. The Commission reviewed requirements for part-time snow removal seasonal employees. These positions are being proposed to reduce the amount of comp time that occurs during a snow emergency and to get the streets and parking lots cleared in a shorter period of time. They voted to accept the bid of \$70.00 per hour per truck for snow removal from Danckwart Landscaping. Also discussed snow emergency vehicle towing and the purpose of CodeRed in notifying the public when a snow emergency is declared.

**7. Administrator’s Report:** Chad Springer, City Administrator, reported auditors started preliminary work today. Ad went in the paper for the Steering Committee for the Comprehensive Plan. The ad was also put on the City’s website. The City has received many inquiries in relation to the Steering Committee ad. City staff have added software modules for permits, licensing, permits and point-of-sale. City staff is still studying demos for agenda software. He reviewed fuel costs and projections with Street Superintendent, Tony Johnson. City Hall offices will be closed at noon on December 24th.

**8. Consent Agenda:**

**Councilpersons Schmidt and Kruger moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion adopted unanimously.**

- 8.1 Approved the November 12, 2014 Regular Minutes
- 8.3 2015 Annual Licenses Approval
- 8.4 Application for Temporary On-Sale Liquor License – St. Felix Spaghetti Dinner
- 8.5 MN Lawful Gambling Application to Conduct Excluded Bingo – American Legion Auxiliary Post 50
- 8.6 Mining Ordinance – WSB Contract Extension
- 8.7 Wine/Strong Beer License Application – Coffee Mill Ski Area
- 8.2 Warrants:

Mayors	General Fund	\$2,305.69
Police	“	\$1,192.16
Legal	“	\$4,672.54
Planning & Development	“	\$59.99
Street Dept.	“	\$5,824.06
Park Dept.	“	\$1,161.92
Bobcat of Rochester	CIP	\$39,430.15
Building Inspections	“	\$1,228.52
Ambulance	“	\$5,899.46
Pool	“	\$12.00
Fire	“	\$8,133.62
Miscellaneous	“	\$359.22
<b>Total</b>	“	<b>\$70,279.33</b>

**9. Public Hearing: 2015 Budget/Levy Truth-N-Taxation:**

Mayor Hall opened the Public Hearing at 7:36 pm.

Chad Springer stated there is a 1.5% increase in the City's levy.

Mr. Jeff Roemer came forward and stated he had a question on why his taxes went up on his apartment building property. Chad Springer informed him that issue needs to come before the Board of Adjustment in April, 2015. It will be advertised in the paper.

Councilperson Wharton stated he felt the Library's budget amount has increased too much and the County's amount has went down. He stated over the last five years the Library's budget has increased by 31%. He also pointed out that two thirds of the Library's users are county users. He stated he would like to see that amount reduced to the State mandated minimum, which is approximately \$112,000.

Councilperson Wharton moved to approve the 2015 Budget/Levy with a decrease in the Library's increase from 7.5% to 1.5% which would bring the amount from \$150,381 to \$142,015 and to instruct the Library to be prepared that the 2016 Budget will be the State mandated minimum amount. Councilperson Bricher seconded.

Chad Springer, City Administrator, explained the Library Board's justification from a 7.8% down to a 7.5% increase was included in the Council packet.

Michelle stated the State figures the City's amount on Maintenance of Effort which is an old outdated Stated Statute. She stated if the City adopts the State mandated amount, the Library would have to make huge cuts including staff and salary. She also stated they would have to cut materials. She stated she started at \$39,000 and her pay increased \$15,000. Utilities have gone up and materials have gone up, benefits have gone up.

Councilperson Bricher stated he felt the time to look at this is when budgets are being drafted in late summer. Councilperson Schoen stated this needs to be a part of the City's Comprehensive Plan and let the citizens decide what they want to support.

The motion failed by the following vote:

Ayes: Schoen, Wharton

Nays: Schmidt, Bricher, Friedmeyer, Mayor Hall, Kruger

Councilpersons Friedmeyer and Bricher moved to approve the Resolution Setting the 2015 Budget/levy as presented. The motion was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Kruger, Mayor Hall, Friedmeyer, Schmidt, Bricher

Nays: Wharton, Schoen

Councilperson Schmidt thanked City Staff for keeping budgets at only 1.5% increase.

Mayor Hall closed the public hearing at 7:56 PM.

**10.1 Schedule End of December Meeting:**

City Administrator, Chad Springer, stated historically Council meets at the end of the year to process as many bills as possible. **Council will meet on December 31<sup>st</sup> at 9 am to approve end of year bills.**

**10.2 Amend Local Improvement Policy:**

Councilperson Bricher stated he wanted to amend the Local Improvement Policy to clarify when to assess or not assess road projects that are related to State or County Highway Road Projects. It was

determined City Administrator and Councilperson Bricher will work on the amendment that if the City is not being billed for a project then there would not be an assessment brought forward to citizens.

**11.1 Donations:**

**Councilpersons Wharton and Schoen moved to approve the Resolution Accepting Donations: Adopted unanimously.**

**CITY OF WABASHA  
RESOLUTION NO. # -2014  
RESOLUTION ACCEPTING DONATIONS**

**WHEREAS,** The City of Wabasha is generally authorized to accept donations of real and personal property pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 465.03 for the benefit of its citizens, and is specifically authorized to accept gifts and bequests for the benefit of recreational services pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 471.17; and

**WHEREAS,** The following persons and entities have offered to contribute the cash amounts set forth below to the city for the following:

<u>Name of Donor</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Burkhardt-Roemer VFW Post 4086	Combined Drive	\$100.00
Friends of the Library	Library	\$765.00
Anonymous	Library Patron Computer	\$500.00

**WHEREAS,** All such donations have been contributed to assist the city in the establishment and operation of recreational facilities and programs either alone or in cooperation with others, as allowed by law; and

**WHEREAS,** The City Council finds that it is appropriate to accept the donations offered.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF WABASHA, MINNESOTA, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The donations described above are accepted and shall be used to establish and operate recreational facilities and programs either alone or in cooperation with others, as allowed by law.
2. The city clerk is hereby directed to issue receipts to each donor acknowledging the city's receipt of the donor's donation.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Wabasha on December 2, 2014.

**Having no other business, councilperson Friedmeyer and Wharton moved to adjourn at 8:02 pm. Adopted unanimously.**

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Susan Schamaun, City Clerk