

Councilpersons:
First Ward: Gallenberger, Gibson
Second Ward: Schmidt, Hiers
Third Ward: Meurer, Bricher

Mayor: John Meisch
Clerk-Treas. Susan Schamaun
City Adm: David Schmidt
City Atty: Peter Ekstrand
Date: February 16, 2010

PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Wabasha was held on Tuesday, February 16, 2010 and was called to order by Mayor John Meisch.

Roll call found all members present.

Mayor Meisch called for citizen comments. Hearing none, he called for the Consent Agenda.

Councilpersons Hiers and Bricher moved to approve the following consent agenda:
Adopted by the following vote:

Ayes: Gibson, Schmidt, Hiers, Bricher, Meurer, Gallenberger and Mayor Meisch
Nays: None

Approved the February 1, 2010, Regular meeting minutes.
Approved Application for Exempt Permit for Wabasha Rotary Club Raffle.
Approved the following Official Out-Of-State Travel Policy:

ELECTED OFFICIAL OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL POLICY

Purpose:

The City of Wabasha recognizes that its elected official may at times receive value from traveling out of the state for workshops, conferences, events and other assignments. This policy sets forth conditions under which out-of-state travel will be reimbursed by the City.

General Guidelines:

- 1) The event, workshop, conference or assignment must be approved in advance by the City Council at an open meeting and must include an estimate of the cost of the travel. In evaluating the out-of-state travel request, the Council will consider the following:
 - Whether the elected official will be receiving training on issues relevant to the City or to his or her role as the Mayor or as a council member;
 - Whether the elected official will be meeting and networking with other elected officials from around the country to exchange ideas on topics of relevance to the City or on the official roles of local elected officials.
 - Whether the elected official will be viewing a city facility or function that is similar in nature to one that is currently operating at, or under consideration by the City where the purpose for the trip is to study the facility or function to bring back ideas for the consideration of the full council.
 - Whether the elected official has been specifically assigned by the Council to testify on behalf of the City at the United States Congress or to otherwise meet with federal officials on behalf of the City.
 - Whether the City has sufficient funding available in the budget to pay the cost of the trip.
- 2) No reimbursements will be made for attendance at events sponsored by or affiliated with political parties.
- 3) The City may make payments in advance for airfare, lodging and registration if specifically approved by the Council. Otherwise, all payments will be made as reimbursements to the elected official.
- 4) The City will reimburse for transportation, lodging, meals, registration, and incidental costs using the same procedures, limitations and guidelines outlined in Section 9 Compensation, Subd. 10 Expenses & Reimbursement of the City's Personnel Policy.
- 5) Airfare will be reimbursed at the coach rate.
- 6) Receipts are required for lodging, airfare, and meals and should accompany an expense report form. It is not necessary to have receipts for cabs and tips. The expense report form shall be submitted to the City Clerk for payment.
- 7) The City will not reimburse for alcoholic beverages, personal telephone calls, costs associated with the attendance of a family member, rental of luxury vehicles, meal expenses included in the cost of registration, or recreational expenses such as golf or tennis.

Approved the following warrants as presented:

Mayors	General Fund	2,369.01
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Fire Dept.	"	2,116.33
Police	"	4,203.61
Zoning/Planning	"	93.11
Ambulance	"	1,948.81
Emergency Management	"	7.26
Streets	"	16,517.37
Park	"	1,850.82
Pool	"	361.15
Harbor	"	79.12
Dog Pound	"	161.72
Building Inspection Fees	"	693.80
Debt Service Funds	"	1072.00
Fountain Permit-Bouquet	"	140.00
Total		\$31,614.11

Mayor Meisch brought forward 5.1 Amendment to Section 505.21 Subd. 3: The Sewer Service Charge System and stated Council held the public hearing on February 1, 2010, and is brought back to this meeting for action in amending the reconnection fee for service that has been discontinued due to a delinquent bill from \$35.00 to \$50.00.

Councilpersons Bricher and Gallenberger moved to amend Section 505.21 Subd. 3: Establishing Use and Rate Regulations for Municipal Wastewater Treatment Facilities changing the reconnect fee from \$35.00 to \$50.00. Adopted unanimously.

Mayor Meisch brought forward 5.2 Section 305 Zoning & Shoreland Ordinance Proposed Amendments and asked City Planner, Molly Patterson-Lundgren to come forward and explain the amendments.

Molly Patterson-Lundgren came forward and stated the Planning Commission keeps a list of proposed changes throughout the year. She stated the Planning Commission held a public hearing on February 9th. She stated one person from the public attended and questioned where marinas were going to be allowed and what the changes were.

Councilperson Hiers questioned guest cottages in which Molly stated it is a second residential dwelling unit on the same property as the principle structure. This was allowed in the ordinance in 2007 and is now being clarified for extra density for this allowance.

Mayor Meisch stated these proposed amendments to Section 305 Zoning & Shoreland Ordinance will be on the March 2, 2010, Council agenda.

Mayor Meisch brought forward 5.3 Resolution Approving Decertification of TIF District No. 2. and stated this district paid \$234,707 in principal and \$101,502 in interest for a total of \$336,209 for costs on the TIF note. As of 2008, there was \$20,249 paid for administrative costs and there should be a balance of \$22,737 that can be used for pooled redevelopment costs. In order for that to happen, the attached resolution needs to be adopted.

City Administrator, David Schmidt, stated Mr. Fisk was made aware of this process.

Councilpersons Bricher and Gibson moved to approve the following Resolution authorizing City staff to take the necessary actions as recommended by Ehlers staff to move forward: adopted unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 761

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DECERTIFICATION OF TAX INCREMENT FINANCING DISTRICT NO. 2 (FISK) OF THE CITY OF WABASHA, MINNESOTA

WHEREAS, on June 29, 1993, the City of Wabasha (the "City") created its Tax Increment Financing District No. 2 (Fisk) (the "District"), within its Municipal Development District No. 1 (the "Project") and authorized a Fisk. Pay As You Go tax increment obligation;

WHEREAS, the Pay As You Go obligation has been paid in full; and

WHEREAS, the City wishes to decertify this district before its statutorily required decertification date; and

WHEREAS, there are no parcels located in the District which currently have delinquent taxes under the duration limits; and

WHEREAS, the City desires by this resolution to cause the decertification of the District after which all property taxes generated by property within the District will be distributed in the same manner as all other property taxes beginning January 1, 2010.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City of Wabasha that the City's staff shall take such action as is necessary to cause the County Auditor of Wabasha County

to decertify the District as tax increment districts and to no longer remit tax increment from the District to the City.

Dated: February __, 2010

ATTEST:

David Schmidt, City Administrator

(Seal)

Mayor Meisch brought forward 5.4 Board of Review. He stated Wabasha County Assessor has scheduled the City of Wabasha Board of Review for Monday, April 19, 2010, from 6:00 to 6:30 pm at City Hall. It was stated Councilpersons Gallenberger, Hiers and Meurer would serve for 2010.

Mayor Meisch brought forward 5.5 HPC Appointment and stated Monica Walters has graciously come forward and offered to serve on the HPC. Mayor Meisch stated he recommends Monica Walters to serve on the HPC for a term to run through 2010.

Councilpersons Meurer and Gibson moved to approve the appointment of Ms. Monica Walters to serve on the HPC for a term to run through 2010. Adopted unanimously.

Mayor Meisch brought forward 6.1 High Speed Rail Update. He stated on a monthly basis he has had the privilege to represent the City of Wabasha on the High Speed Rail Coalition. He stated millions of dollars have been allocated to Minnesota and Wisconsin to do the preliminary studies on the routes. If the river route is selected as one of the primary routes, it will go from Chicago, La Crosse, Winona, and Red Wing and end at the St. Paul terminal. It would bring the possibility of commuter trains and there could be stops in Winona and Red Wing. This would improve transportation to our area and becomes an economic viability tool for the City as well.

Mayor Meisch presented four resolutions passed in other communities to support the high speed rail. After discussion, it was determined Council would review resolutions and bring back to the next Council meeting for discussion.

Mayor Meisch announced Budget to Actual financial reports would be part of Council packets and on the Council agenda for the second meeting of each month as an accounting suggestion by the City's auditors.

Mayor Meisch stated Minnesota Governor Pawlenty has announced Local Government Aid cuts and the City of Wabasha's cut is projected at \$133,700, and in combination with the \$170,000 cut previously, that makes a total of \$300,000.

David Schmidt stated he has met with each department head and they are going through their budgets. He stated all options are being looked at so a proposal can be drafted for Council to review.

Mayor Meisch asked Council to forward comments, priorities and suggestions to him on the budget.

Councilperson Schmidt stated that by the City wells there are test wells used by the Army Corps. of Engineers that he feels are not secured enough to protect against contamination. It was determined David Schmidt would contact the Army Corps. of Engineers.

Councilperson Gibson stated shelving is up on the Community Thrift Store and they are still taking donations on Tuesdays from 10 am to 2 pm. They are in desperate need of kids clothing. The soft opening is still set or April 1st.

Councilperson Gallenberger asked if there was an update on the potholes. Mayor Meisch stated the Street Department is doing everything they can do. He stated the County is trying to get a heater for the cold mix.

At 7:37 pm, Councilpersons Meurer and Bricher moved to go into closed session to discuss the Police Union contract. The motion was adopted unanimously.

At 7:54 Council came out of closed session.

Councilpersons Gibson and Bricher moved to make a counter offer established by the City Administrator, David Schmidt and provided to City Attorney Peter Ekstrand who will draft a letter which will include provisions for furlough equity and further stating the only changes to the 2009 contract are outlined in the drafted counter offer dated February 16, 2010. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Councilpersons Schmidt and Hiers moved to adjourn at 8:00 pm. Motion adopted unanimously.

Susan Schamaun, City Clerk/Treasurer