

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTH BRANCH IN THE COUNTY OF CHISAGO AND IN THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

REGULAR SESSION

July 14, 2014

CALL TO ORDER: The North Branch City Council met in regular session and Acting Mayor Borchardt called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL: Councilmembers present were Kathy Blomquist, Joyce Borchardt and Trent Jensen. Councilmember Theresa Furman and Mayor Ronald Lindquist were absent. Staff members present were City Administrator Konrad, Chief Meyer, Planner Roberts, Finance Director Hill, Public Works Director Williams and the City Attorney Squires.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- Claims
- Resolution No. 046-07-14-14 – Election Judge Appointment
- Authorize Closed Session – Union Negotiations
- Status Change – LS Store Clerk 1 Larter to Clerk 2
- Minutes – June 5, 2014 Work Session
- Minutes – June 9, 2014 Regular Session
- ~~Minutes – June 23, 2014 Regular Session~~

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Blomquist, to approve the consent agenda as amended to remove Item 4G. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Blomquist, to approve Minutes of June 23, 2014 as presented. Members voted: Ayes – 2, Nays – 0, Abstain – 1(Borchardt). Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

NONE

COMMITTEE/COMMISSIONS:

6A PLANNING COMMISSION

A1 Ordinance and Summary Ordinance – Interim Use

Planner Roberts outlined the proposed Interim Use Ordinance.

Jensen thanked the City Attorney for the opinion. Blomquist said that she and Councilmember Furman have been working on this for years.

Motion by Blomquist, seconded by Jensen, to adopt Ordinance No. 210-14 “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE NORTH BRANCH

CITY CODE ADDING INTERIM USE PERMITS TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE.” All voted AYE. Motion carried.

Motion by Blomquist, seconded by Jensen, to adopt Ordinance 210-14S, “A SUMMARY ORDINANCE AMENDING THE NORTH BRANCH CITY CODE ADDING INTERIM USE PERMITS TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE.” All voted AYE. Motion carried.

6B ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

B1 Superior Silica Sands Project Update

Konrad updated Council noting that Superior Silica has decided to move forward with the facility in North Branch. Staff is working with Superior Silica Sand on a development agreement. Konrad noted that there will most likely be a public information meeting in August.

6C PARK COMMISSION

NONE

6D WATER AND LIGHT COMMISSION

D1 Minutes

INFO

STAFF REPORTS:

7A ENGINEERING/PUBLIC WORKS

A1 Shouldering Quotes

Williams reviewed the proposed shouldering quotes.

Motion by Blomquist, seconded by Jensen, to approve Resolution No. 047-07-14-14, “A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE QUOTES SUBMITTED OR SHOULDERING AND AWARDED CONTRACT THEREOF.” All voted AYE. Motion carried.

7B ADMINISTRATION

B1 Animal Control Contract

Chief Meyers outlined the proposed animal control contract. He noted that the contract will be with Linda Fransen out of Isanti. She requires a weekly on-call fee which was not a fee from the previous contractor. Meyer recommended implementing an impound fee. Konrad noted that the fee would necessitate an ordinance amendment.

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Blomquist, to approve Animal Control Contract between the City and Linda Fransen as recommended by Staff.

Jensen would like to look at the fees to recover costs.

After discussion, all voted AYE. Motion carried.

7C	BUILDING	NONE
7D	FINANCE D1 Financial Report	INFO
7E	LEGAL	NONE

NOTICES AND COMMUNICATIONS:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jay Young confirmed that Superior Silica Sands wishes to move forward and asked whether the Council is interested in moving forward with the project. He then said that many people do not understand the ramifications of this project. He further said this seems to be a foregone conclusion. Borchardt said that the purchase agreement and necessary development agreement will spell out all of the specifics of the project.

Laurie Warner said that they would like clarification of the notice and how much notice needs to be given and how the notice will be given so that the citizens will be aware of the meetings. Konrad indicated the notice will be on the website and published in the newspaper. The sale of the property public hearing will be held at the EDA meeting. Notice of those meetings is found on the website. Ms. Warner asked if October is the prospective date when they want to be up and running. Konrad indicated that is correct.

Gilbert Randolph said that assuming the project goes through he would like to know what recourse the residents have in this situation and do the citizens have any recourse to say no to this project. The City Attorney indicated there are several approvals necessary as part of the project where public comment will be taken. Mr. Randolph said he is concerned with the long term traffic issues and potential health issues from the silica sand. Mr. Randolph said he is disappointed that the City of North Branch continues to pursue this development when the residents do not want it.

Blomquist said that the MPCA has ordinances for the transportation of silica sand. She then asked if the Council needs to implement some transportation ordinances for this type of use.

Jensen asked if the Minnesota Department of Health is going to regulate the potential health safety issues with this type of use. City Attorney indicated that the City owns the property so this is handled a little differently in that there will be public meetings where residents can express concerns about the sale of the property.

Jensen asked when the Council is going to see the development agreement and what the conditions are proposed to be. City Attorney indicated he would walk through the development agreement with the Council once it is drafted.

Carolyn Burnowski of 8th Avenue asked why the timeline is being rushed through because this is such an important issue for the City. She then said that the County

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Commissioners should be invited to some of these meetings as well since this affects the County and not just North Branch.

Hill explained that the original timeframe proposed by Superior Silica Sands was July so that has been moved back to allow for the public process.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: **NONE**

NEW BUSINESS: **NONE**

MAYOR AND COUNCIL:
12A Upcoming Agendas **INFO**

Motion by Jensen, seconded by Blomquist to adjourn to closed session to discuss union negotiations. All voted AYE. Motion carried.

ADJOURNED: at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bridgitte Konrad, City Administrator
jrl/TOSS