

City Council Meeting
Regular Meeting
City of Tower
March 15, 2016
Tuesday @ 5:30PM
Tower Civic Center

The regular meeting of the Tower City Council was called to order by Mayor Josh Carlson.

Present: Broten, Carlson, Dougherty, Hiltunen, and Matich
Absent: None
Also Present: L Keith

Visitors: Adeline Broten, Harlan Broten, Ron Abrahamson Sr, Barbara Rinne, Matt Witzel, Mike Totenhagen, Dale Robertson, Dan Broten, Todd Borden, Gary Ross, Charity Ross, Dan Nylund, Jason Chopp, Jeremy Maslowski, Steve Altenburg, Terry Hildreth, Janet Schultz, Dan Schultz, Sheldon Majerle, Jodi Summit, Stephanie Carlson, Dave Rose, Kathy Borden, Jeff Hill, Mike Raj.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to approve the minutes of the previous meetings. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Matich and supported by Broten to accept the agenda as amended with the addition of 5.3 Bob Dale Resignation, 11.1 Airport Advertisement for Bids, the striking of 11.5 Store Front Loan Committee Recommendation, the addition of 11.8 Fire Department DNR Cooperative Agreement, the addition of 11.9 sexual awareness month resolution, and the addition of 11.10 Twin Metals Resolution. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Input:

None

Correspondence:

Correspondence was received from Dan Broten thanking the City for the use of City property for his Snowmobile Licensing Class.

Correspondence was received from an ambulance patient thanking the responding EMT's for the efficient and high quality service they provided.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Matich to accept Bob Dale's resignation as the City of Tower's Emergency Management Director. The motion

carried unanimously.

Jerry Maslowski gave a presentation to the City Council regarding city sponsored deer hunts including the benefits and downfalls.

A motion was made by Broten and supported by Hiltunen to deny planning and zoning's request to give the first reading of amending Ordinance 82 and the zoning for Parcel Code's 080-0020-00030, 080-0020-00162, and 080-0020-00035. Councilors Hiltunen and Broten assented. Councilors Dougherty and Matich and Mayor Carlson dissented. The motion failed.

A motion was made by Broten and supported by Matich to request that the Planning and Zoning Commission provided feedback on what the benefit of rezoning the proposed parcels, the potential impacts to neighboring properties, and the potential benefits or impacts of rezoning the city owned parcel as residential. Councilors Matich, Broten, and Hiltunen assented. Councilor Dougherty and Mayor Carlson dissented. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Dougherty to accept the reports from officers as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to accept the reports from Commissions and Committees as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Matich and supported by Broten to authorize Short Elliott and Hendrickson to proceed with advertising for bids for the 2016 Airport Paving Project. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Broten to authorize the VINE Volunteers to utilize the mini park area for a fundraiser they are hosting to raise money for Volunteers in Education. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to resolve that the City of Tower, as lead applicant, has the authority to act as legal public sponsor for the application described in the *Request for Designation as a Regional Park or Trail in Greater Minnesota*, and formally supports and authorizes the submission on behalf of the partnership.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as lead applicant we are fully aware of the information provided in the application and related master plan and supporting information as submitted, and intend to continue to work cooperatively with the co-applicants and other partners toward the funding, development and management of the Lake Vermilion Trail, possibly through a Joint Powers Board.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, should the Lake Vermilion Trail receive formal designation as a Regional Trail in Greater Minnesota by the Commission, that the

appropriate applicant/partner will work with the Commission on funding agreements for the referenced trail.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the listed applicant certifies that the City will comply with all applicable laws and regulations associated with regional designation and any future grant funding for the City's portion of any Lake Vermilion Trail project. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Hiltunen and supported by Matich to resolve that **WHEREAS**, the City of Tower is a political subdivision/ local government unit of Minnesota organized/operating under the laws of the State of Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tower has been working to redevelop their Historic Harbor; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tower does own and maintain the Historic Harbor redevelopment property; and

WHEREAS, the City of Tower supports the 2017 LCCMR grant application for the design, permitting and construction costs for the aforementioned project; and

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved if the City of Tower is awarded a grant by the LCCMR, the City of Tower hereby agrees to accept the grant award and may enter into an agreement with the LCCMR for the above referenced project. The City of Tower will comply with all applicable laws and environmental requirements as stated in the grant agreement; and

Be It Further Resolved that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit and execute all documents, agreements and applications which may result from this grant,

Be It Further Resolved that the City of Tower hereby assures that this project, upon completion, will be properly maintained. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to amend the Hoodoo Point Manager's Contract to provide clarification of the liability insurance required by all parties. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Matich and supported by Hiltunen to enter into a cooperative agreement with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for fire protection assistance. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Broten to resolve that Whereas, Nationally Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April is intended to bring awareness to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and is a public health concern for individuals, families, community members, and communities as a whole.

WHEREAS, Child sexual abuse/exploitation, rape, and sexual harassment impact all communities as seen by the national statistics: One in three girls and one in six boys will be sexually violated by the age of 18; One in five children is solicited sexually while on the internet; Seventy percent of all sexual assaults happen to Children 17 years and younger.

WHEREAS, The Minnesota Department of Health determined that sexual violence costs Minnesotans 3.3 times more than alcohol impaired driving.

WHEREAS, Since 1984, The Sexual Assault Program has been the only program to provide free direct victim services with sexual violence survivors and community awareness education with Northern Saint Louis County citizens.

WHEREAS, Within the past five years, our local Sexual Assault Program has worked with 2,402 primary and secondary crime victims of sexual violence whom reside in our communities. The program has also provided these survivors with 46,200 on-going advocacy services.

WHEREAS, Annually more than 3,500 community members, students ages preschool through college, area professionals and health fair participants provided awareness and prevention education through the agency.

WHEREAS, Staff, Board Members, and Volunteers of our local anti-sexual violence program; The Sexual Assault Program of Northern Saint Louis Count, encourage every person to speak out when witnessing acts of violence, however small; and to help survivors connect with community allies.

WHEREAS, Together, we must work to educate and engage communities in sexual violence awareness and prevention and to believe, listen, learn, and support its victims and family members. The Teal Ribbon Campaign honors local survivors and their loved ones.

WHEREAS, All Minnesotans must be part of the solution to eliminate crimes of sexual violence.

THEREFORE, I, the Mayor of the City of Tower, Minnesota, join other leaders and do hereby proclaim the month of April in the 2016 as the: Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Carlson and supported by Matich to resolve that **Whereas**, Twin Metals is a company located in Ely, Minnesota that has provided employment opportunities, and payment of property taxes; and

Whereas, the local economy has been struggling and layoffs in mining and related industries have gravely impacted the already struggling economy. The potential of copper, nickel, and precious metals mining development will be a major boost to not only the local economy but to the State of Minnesota as well; and

Whereas, Twin Metals has complied with all laws, rules, and regulatory agency guidelines; and

Whereas, Governor Dayton's denial of permits to access State lands will result in layoffs for Twin Metals and related industries and create a major impact on the region's economy as well as the State's economy.

Whereas, the final approval for the Twin Metals project needs to be decided based on careful and complete examination of laws and rules, and Governor Dayton's refusal to authorize access to State lands does not allow the project to work through the approval process; and

Now therefore be it resolved the City Council of the City of Tower, Minnesota respectfully requests that Governor Dayton reverse his decision immediately and allow Twin Metals to continue their contributions to the region's economy and allow access to State owned lands. Governor Dayton's failure to authorize access could stop the project and end one of the largest development projects in this area in decades.

Councilors Dougherty, Matich, and Hiltunen and Mayor Carlson assented. Councilor Broten dissented. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Matich and supported by Dougherty to pay all bills. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made by Dougherty and supported by Matich to adjourn. Time out was 6:45PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Linda K Keith
City Clerk Treasurer