

## COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

September 1, 2009

The City Council of Thief River Falls, Minnesota, met in regular session at 5:00 p.m. on September 1, 2009 in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The following Councilmembers were present: Bendickson, Cullen, Erickson, Holten, Lee, Schmalz, and Mayor Nordhagen. Councilmember Kajewski was absent. Mayor Nordhagen chaired the meeting.

### **PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/PUBLIC INFORMATION/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mayor Nordhagen presented a Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program Proclamation. Following discussion, Councilmember Cullen moved, being seconded by Councilmember Bendickson, to acknowledge the Voice of Democracy Scholarship Program Proclamation recognizing the importance of this educational tool. On vote being taken, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Councilmember Schmalz motioned, being seconded by Councilmember Cullen, to approve the agenda with the addition of one item. On vote being taken, the motion was unanimously approved and the agenda adopted.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 9-199-09: APPROVAL OF COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Cullen introduced Resolution No. 9-199-09, being seconded by Councilmember Schmalz, that:

RESOLVED, by the City Council, to approve the August 18, 2009 Council Proceedings as presented.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

### **RESOLUTION NO. 9-200-09: APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Cullen introduced Resolution No. 9-200-09, being seconded by Councilmember Schmalz, that:

RESOLVED, by the City Council, to authorize payment of bills and disbursements in the total amount of \$1,019,050.49. A printout of the approved payments and disbursements is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9-201-09: RESOLUTION SETTING HEARING ON VACATION OF A PORTION OF EASTWOOD DRIVE**

A public hearing is required with regard to the proposed vacation of a portion of Eastwood Drive. Following discussion, Councilmember Cullen introduced Resolution No. 9-201-09, being seconded by Councilmember Lee, that:

WHEREAS, The City Council of the City of Thief River Falls, Minnesota, has determined to vacate that part of Eastwood Drive described as the N½ of the West 160 feet of Eastwood Drive in the City of Thief River Falls, Pennington County, Minnesota, reserving an easement for utility purposes under vacated Eastwood Drive.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, that the City Council will consider the vacation of the N½ of the West 160 feet of Eastwood Drive with reservation of an easement for utility purposes, together with the right to install, maintain, repair, and replace said utilities, under the vacated street, and a public hearing shall be held on such proposed vacation on the 6th day of October, 2009 before the City Council in the City Council Chambers, 405 3<sup>rd</sup> Street East, Thief River Falls, Minnesota, at 4:55 p.m., and the Clerk shall give published and posted notice as required by law.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9-202-09: APPROVAL OF PROPOSED 2009 TAX LEVY, COLLECTIBLE IN 2010**

The City Council reviewed the proposed 2009 tax levy. Following discussion, Councilmember Bendickson introduced Resolution No. 9-202-09, being seconded by Councilmember Schmalz, that:

RESOLVED, by the City Council of Thief River Falls, County of Pennington, Minnesota, that the following sums of money be levied for the current year, collectible in 2010, upon taxable property in the City of Thief River Falls for a total proposed levy of \$1,582,406. There is no increase over last year's levy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the final budget and levy for the City of Thief River Falls will be discussed and determined at the December 15, 2009 Council meeting which will be held at 6:00 p.m.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9-203-09: APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY 2010 BUDGET SUMMARY**

The City Council reviewed the preliminary 2010 budget summary. Following discussion, Councilmember Holten introduced Resolution No. 9-203-09, being seconded by Councilmember Cullen, that:

RESOLVED, by the City Council, to adopt the City of Thief River Falls Preliminary 2010 Budget. A summary of the 2010 revenue and expenditures is as follows:

	<u>2010 REVENUE</u>	<u>2010 EXPENSE</u>	<u>TRANSFERS OR (USE) OF FUND RESERVES</u>
General Fund	\$ 6,695,804	\$ 6,694,911	\$ 893
Liquor Dispensary	\$ 4,147,415	\$ 4,122,415	\$ 25,000
Water Utility Fund	\$ 1,735,740	\$ 2,088,777	(\$ 353,037)
Electric Utility Fund	\$10,189,674	\$10,019,889	\$ 169,785
Wastewater Utility Fund	\$ 565,483	\$ 618,896	(\$ 53,413)
Sanitation Utility Fund	\$ 766,300	\$ 1,069,315	(\$ 303,015)
Airport	\$ 1,469,225	\$ 1,429,225	\$ 40,000
Storm Water Utility Fund	\$ 159,500	\$ 96,075	\$ 63,425
Police Relief Pension Fund	\$ 14,270	\$ 24,260	(\$ 9,990)
Debt Service Fund	\$ 331,640	\$ 330,700	\$ 940
TOTALS	\$26,075,051	\$26,494,463	(\$ 419,412)

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9-204-09: APPROVAL OF THE 2010 - 2015 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN**

The 2010-2015 Capital Improvements Plan was presented to the City Council. Following discussion, Councilmember Lee introduced Resolution No. 9-204-09, being seconded by Councilmember Bendickson, that:

RESOLVED, by the City Council, to approve the 2010-2015 Capital Improvements Plan as presented.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9-205-09: APPROVAL OF FERGUS POWER PUMP INC. BID FOR LIME SLUDGE REMOVAL**

Public Utilities Director Rude presented the bid results for lime sludge removal. Following discussion, Councilmember Lee introduced Resolution No. 9-205-09, being seconded by Councilmember Schmalz, that:

WHEREAS, pursuant to proper notice, bids were received, opened, and tabulated on August 26, 2009 for removal of lime sludge from the ponds, transportation to haul the sludge to the airport, and the application of the sludge on airport fields; and,

WHEREAS, Fergus Power Pump, Inc. submitted the only bid.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, to approve the bid submitted by Fergus Power Pump, Inc. in the amount of \$44.99 per 1,000 gallons for lime sludge removal.

There is an estimated 1,400,000 gallons of lime sludge to be pumped from the ponds for a total estimated cost of \$62,986.00.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9-206-09: APPROVAL OF MERGER OF STREET AND SANITATION DEPARTMENTS INTO A STREET/SANITATION DEPARTMENT**

The City Council reviewed a Public Works Committee and Personnel/Labor Committee recommendation. Following discussion, Councilmember Lee introduced Resolution No. 9-206-09, being seconded by Councilmember Bendickson, that:

WHEREAS, the Public Works and the Personnel/Labor Committees determined that by combining the Streets and Sanitation Departments into one department, the City would streamline operations, have greater flexibility in carrying out the workload, and save public dollars.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, to accept the Committees' recommendation to merge the Street and Sanitation Departments into a single department designated as "Streets/Sanitation Department", effective September 1, 2009.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Randy Konickson, current Street Supervisor, be appointed as the supervisor for the newly combined department effective September 1, 2009 with a revised position description to be approved by the City Council at the next council meeting.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9-207-09: APPROVAL OF DESIGNATION OF BRIAN "RANDY" HARGER, SHAWN HAWKINSON, BRIAN JOPPRU, LARRY RAHN, SCOTT BEITO AND BOB HUOT AS PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE STREET/SANITATION WORKERS**

A Public Works Committee recommendation was presented. Following discussion, Councilmember Cullen introduced Resolution No. 9-207-09, being seconded by Councilmember Lee, that:

WHEREAS, due to the merger of the Street and Sanitation Departments into the Street/Sanitation Department the Sanitation Department employees shall be designated as Public Works Maintenance Street/Sanitation employees; and,

WHEREAS, discussions were held with Teamster Union Stewards during the last negotiation session with regard to this action and the City received their approval for the redesignation from Sanitation Workers to Public Works Maintenance Street/Sanitation Workers.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, to accept the Public Works Committee recommendation, to designate Sanitation Workers Brian "Randy" Harger, Shawn Hawkinson Brian Joppru, Larry Rahn, Scott Beito, and Bob Huot as Public Works Maintenance Street/Sanitation employees, effective September 1, 2009. Their salaries shall be adjusted to reflect the Grade Level 4 salary structure of the Public Works Maintenance Street/Sanitation position.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9-208-09: CERTIFYING UNPAID SIDEWALK SNOW REMOVAL CHARGES TO PENNINGTON COUNTY AUDITOR**

The City Council was presented with unpaid sidewalk snow removal charges from the 2008/2009 winter season. Following discussion, Councilmember Bendickson introduced Resolution No. 9-208-09, being seconded by Councilmember Schmalz, that:

WHEREAS, several sidewalk snow removal charges remain unpaid to the City of Thief River Falls; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to City Code Section 91.01 and Minnesota State Statute 429.101, the City may certify to the Pennington County Auditor the unpaid snow removal charges.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, to certify the following unpaid sidewalk snow removal charges to the Pennington County Auditor for collection as part of the property owners property tax statement in 2010:

<u>OWNER</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>PARCEL</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
Richard Greisen	803 Knight Ave N	25.017.097.10	\$44.00
Paul Olson	219 Main Ave S	25.005.011.30	\$136.00
Jeff & Vicki Hunt	816 Main Ave N	25.017.122.30	\$93.00
Anthony Hendricks	916 Knight Ave N	25.017.038.50	\$46.00
Crystal Lee/Chanc Keefe	908 Knight Ave N	25.017.036.50	\$46.00

Bonnie & Craig Folkedahl	310 Kendall Ave S	25.006.043.70	\$91.00
Steven Gillespie	702 St. Paul Ave S	25.010.036.40	\$46.00
Kevin Walseth/A. Downs	331 Kendall Ave N	25.006.018.60	\$46.00
Jamie Kuznia/Cheryl Lunos	126 Kneale Ave N	25.006.407.20	\$46.00
Steven & Patty Wasley	419 Duluth Ave N	25.003.169.30	\$22.50
Steven & Patty Wasley	419 Duluth Ave N	25.003.170.30	\$22.50
Sampson/Christine Wilson	423 Main Ave N	25.003.144.10	\$45.00
Steven Riddle	941 Duluth Ave N	25.021.034.40	\$45.00
Candace Miller	609 Atlantic Ave N	25.003.003.20	\$45.00
John/Roxanne Nicholson	412 Red Lake Blvd	25.013.013.10	\$45.00
Citimortgage, Inc.	343 Kendall Ave N	25.006.015.60	\$45.00
Zakary Solem	316 Crocker Ave N	25.006.084.90	\$45.00
Duane Hagen	219 Kendall Ave S	25.012.054.70	\$45.00
Dawn Graves	421 Tindolph Ave S	25.012.123.30	\$92.00
Aaron Jimison	616 St. Paul Ave S	25.010.022.30	\$45.00
Casey Larson	503 Knight Ave N	25.003.059.10	\$27.00

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9-209-09: APPROVAL OF ENDORSING PROPOSAL TO DESIGNATE THE THIEF RIVER AS A PUBLIC DRINKING WATER SOURCE**

The City Council reviewed information presented from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency regarding the Thief River as a drinking source. Following discussion, Councilmember Lee introduced Resolution No. 9-209-09, being seconded by Councilmember Bendickson, that:

RESOLVED, by the City Council, to approve the endorsement proposal from the Minnesota Department of Pollution Agency to reclassify the lower Thief River as a drinking water source.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

**RESOLUTION NO. 9-210-09: APPROVAL OF NORTHERN PLAINS CONTRACTING QUOTE FOR LIFT #9 REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT AND HANSON CONSTRUCTION QUOTE FOR INSTALLATION OF ROOF HATCHES**

The City Council reviewed quotes received for replacement of Lift Station #9. Following discussion, Councilmember Lee introduced Resolution No. 9-210-09, being seconded by Councilmember Schmalz, that:

WHEREAS, Northern Plains Contracting submitted the only quote for removal and replacement of Lift Station #9; and,

WHEREAS, Hanson Construction submitted the only quote for the installation of two access hatches on the pump building roof.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, to accept the quote submitted by Northern Plains Contracting in the amount of \$28,800.00 for removal and replacement of Lift Station #9 and the quote submitted by Hanson Construction in the amount of \$8,124.00 for installation of two access hatches.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Parks and Recreation Committee – September 8, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.
- Public Works Committee – September 9, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.
- Administrative Services Committee – September 10, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.
- City Council/Pennington County Commissioners – September 14, 2009 at 7:00 a.m.
- Public Utilities Committee – September 14, 2009 at 4:30 p.m.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further discussion, Councilmember Cullen moved, being seconded by Councilmember Schmalz, to adjourn the meeting at 5:27 p.m. until 7 a.m. on September 14, 2009. On vote being taken, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried and the meeting adjourned.

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Steve Nordhagen, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jodie R. Torkelson, City Administrator