

City of Vergas
Public Hearing
July 11, 2011

Mayor Dean Haarstick called the Public Hearing to Order.

Scott Goodman explained variance request from the Jesus Little Lambs Preschool for the Public Hearing. Goodman read the requirements of granting a variance to the council. Planning Commission recommended granting the variance with a vote of three to one.

Neighbors said they would like to see this. It is a great idea and they enjoyed having the preschool near their homes.

Haarstick closed public hearing.

CITY OF VERGAS
REGULAR MEETING
July 11, 2011

The City Council of Vergas met in regular session at 6:30 p.m., on Monday, 07-11-11, in Council Chambers, Community Center with the following members present: Mayor Dean Haarstick, Council Members Scott Goodman, Paul Pinke and Kevin Zitzow. Absent: Shawn Day. Also present: Clerk/Treasurer Julie Lammers, Utilities Superintendent Mike DuFrane, Liquor Store Manager Carol Sharp, Steven R. Peloquin of Peloquin & Minge, P.A., John Dermody of Frazee Forum, Colleen Hoffman, Hoffman, Dale & Swenson, PLLC., Aaron Lauinger, Tom Olson, Karen Olson, Rodney Richter, Anthony Soland, Patty Herheim, Karen Hill, Curtis Lahr and Ross Smith.

Mayor Dean Haastick called the meeting to order.

Motion was made by Goodman and carried to approve the agenda with the following additions: Looney Daze, Building Permit, 3.2% On Sale Liquor License, Wall by Karen Hill's and Mayor Minute and the following deletions: Vergas Community Investors.

Motion was made by Pinke and carried to approve the minutes of the June 6, 2011 meetings.

Colleen Hoffman, Hoffman, Dale & Swenson, PLLC, presented information on finances with suggestions for changing the personnel policy on sick leave and vacation, moving all the City checking accounts into one account and water and sewer fiscal updates.

Motion was made by Zitzow and carried to approve the following building permits: shingling for Verla Day, Up North Construction and Dwight Berven, a deck for Chad Miller, and a Dynamic Home for Geraldine Marcy.

Motion was made by Goodman and carried to approve temporary on-sale liquor licenses for the Lions Club on 7/30/11 and 9/10/11 with approval by the State of Minnesota.

Motion was made by Goodman and carried for 3.2% On Sale Liquor License for the Lions to sell at Calcutta on July 15.

Liquor Store Manager Carol Sharp explained a moisture problem beginning last spring at the Liquor Store. Since being installed the insulation on the milk house board has been dripping. Lyden Construction has repaired the top of cooler with a bill of \$2,965.00 and she recommended Corky's Refrigeration pay for damage was due to installation. Council asked City Clerk /Treasurer Julie Lammers to send Corky's Refrigeration a bill for repairs.

Anthony Soland of Skal's explained his conditional use permit says he needs to close the outside eating area at 10:00 pm and he requested Council allow him to stay open Thursday, August 14 thru Saturday, August 14, 2011 for Looney Daze.

Motion was made by Zitzow and carried to allow Skal's to keep their outside eating area open during Looney Daze.

Motion was made by Goodman, seconded by Zitzow to approve 2 foot variance for the Jesus Little Lambs Preschool. Motion passed unanimously.

Goodman reviewed the Planning Commission meeting of June 29, 2011. Tin Can Alley report from State has been approved. The next step will be to provide a 4 to 5 year plan to the state. Goodman asked Aaron Lauinger of Ulteig Engineering, Surveying and Consulting Services to come to the next planning commission meeting. Commissioners will do the nuisance report in August and will report to council in September. Currently the Planning Commission is working on zoning ordinance.

City Hall only received one bid for the Community Center water heater and we would like to have at least two bids. Pinke explained that we need to step down the gas pressure for an on demand water heater. Council decided to table the bidding process until next months meeting.

Council Members Shawn Day and Paul Pinke went to Candor, Hobart and Dora Township meetings and they are not concerned about their residents using the recycling area. Tree limbs and branches are the big problem. Cost of \$1,000 to chip the branches. It may be time to close it down or other options are to put a sign up, fence up and/or man this area. John Dermody of Frazee Forum explained how the recycling center operates in Frazee. Discussed contacting Otter Tail County about assisting with the recycling center.

Motion was made by Goodman and carried to purchase sign for recycling center for \$459.47.

Aaron Lauinger of Ulteig Engineering, Surveying and Consulting Services explained they had been asked to quote a map for City Hall and smaller maps to be sold or used by City employees. They quoted one 48x60 parcel map and one 22x34 parcel and zoning maps for \$800.00. Zitzow asked if they could make ten small maps and three large maps for \$800.00. Lauinger stated that would not be a problem.

Motion was made by Pinke and carried to purchase three 48x60 parcel maps and ten 22X34 parcel and zoning maps for \$800.00 from Ultieg Engineering, Surveying and Consulting Services.

Swimming lesson sign up was today for swimming lessons at the Long Lake Beach. Currently we pay Nancy Jacobson \$30 a student for lessons plus mileage for swimming lessons. We also pay two other instructors an hourly wage and have Red Cross administrative fee and advertising fee to the Frazee Forum. Discussed requesting a donation from TIP to cover additional costs of lessons we will need to discuss the costs of lessons in April for next year.

Motion was made by Goodman and carried to hire Nancy Jacobson at \$30.00 a student, Ashley Savary at \$12.00 an hour and Alex Pfeiffer at \$8.50 an hour for the 2011 swimming season.

The Long Lake Association has said they would donate \$2,000 if we put in a dock this year. It will be 124 feet in length and will be a welcoming spot for persons to dock their watercraft then walk into Vergas for shopping or dining before returning home.

Motion by Goodman and carried to purchase dock from J & K Marine for \$8,928. Council asked DeFrane to try to have the dock in by the end of this week.

Karen Hill explained that the City owns the wall and sidewalk by her place and it is in bad condition and would like to have it removed and grass planted. Hill is concerned someone may get hurt. Discussed removing and the impact that may have on the ledge. DuFrane suggested putting dirt over sidewalk and put retaining wall in front of current wall. Council will review and discuss this at next months meeting.

Looney Daze street closings were discussed and forms will be at the next meeting.

Council received a request for a rummage sale at the Community Center on Friday, August 12, 2011. Carol Sharp explained the only event on Friday at the Community Center was the Junior Royalty Pageant. Council granted the request.

DuFrane questioned Cities role in Looney Days. The Boy Scouts are doing clean up as a fundraising project and barricades will be from Safety Signs. Council decided to check into what needs to be done and they will discuss at the next meeting.

Council discussed snow plowing rates for Town Line Road.

Motion was made by Zitzow and carried to have a rate of \$87.00 for 2010-2011 and a rate of \$80.00 in 2011-2012 with a 50 cents increase/decrease based on fuel prices of \$3.90 a gallon.

Public Utilities Superintendent Michael DuFrane informed Council the sewers are jetted and parking lot by the ball field is completed.

Council members received information regarding a street sweeper to be discussed at next meeting.

Goodman reviewed current water rates and discussed need to raise them. A comparison sheet provided in the council packets was reviewed and will discuss again at next months meeting.

Goodman reviewed updated Building Permit and Application for Variance forms and a new Council Agenda request form.

Motion was made by Goodman and carried to approve updated and new forms.

Lammers presented a credit card policy from the State of Minnesota Office of the State Auditor and requested employees have cards to be used with vendors where we do not have accounts and for travel expenses.

Motion was made by Goodman and carried to allow the three department heads, Michael DuFrane, Carol Sharp and Julie Lammers to have city credit cards.

During the Mayor's minutes Haarstick discussed culverts and how leaving rocks and gravel in them will hurt the ability to drain. Residents should check their culverts and be sure rocks and gravel are cleaned out. Haarstick questioned approaches being put in and how are they addressed.

Motion was made by Pinke, and carried to approve Liquor Store bills totaling \$75,106.38.

Motion was made by Goodman, and carried to approve bills paid between Council and Council bills for a total of \$16,226.24.

The business for which the meeting was called having been completed, the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Clerk-Treasurer Julie Lammers, CMC