

LEGAL AND FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
Rapid City, South Dakota

April 12, 2017

A Legal and Finance Committee meeting was held at the City/School Administration Center in Rapid City, South Dakota, on Wednesday, April 12, 2017, at 12:30 p.m.

A quorum was determined with the following members answering the roll call: John Roberts, Jerry Wright, Lisa Modrick, and Steve Laurenti. Absent: Amanda Scott

(NOTE: For sake of continuity, the following minutes are not necessarily in chronological order. Also, all referenced documents are on file with the Master Agenda.)

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Laurenti, second by Modrick and carried to adopt the agenda.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident of Rapid City, Sylvia Conrad, owns twenty acres off of Sedivy Lane behind Open Bible Church. Valley Sod Farms located to the south of her property would like to lease her land and incorporate it into their operation. She is requesting to have this property de-annexed and put back in to the County so the sod farm business can expand and the land can be used properly.

Program Director for the South Dakota Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve, Major Lona Christensen appeared before the Committee to announce that the Rapid City Police Department is a finalist for the 2017 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. This award is the Department of Defense's highest recognition given to the employers for exceptional support to the National Guard and Reserve employees. The top 30 finalists were selected from a pool of 3,064 nominations submitted earlier this year by National Guard and Reserve service members. From these thirty nominations, fifteen recipients will be selected and announced in June. The Rapid City Police Department was nominated by Sgt. First Class Chris Hall a member of the joint force headquarters with the South Dakota Army National Guard. The Rapid City Police Department is proud of their employee's military service as evidenced by their creation of a national defense ribbon which officers who have served in the armed service may wear. They actively recruit National Guard and Reserve members to be part of their department and have created formal policies for military deployment and reintegration to better support their employee during military service. Each deploying member is assigned a primary point of contact for them and their families to provide support, maintain communication with the service members, and help keep the Chief informed regarding the needs and well-being of the service member and their family. The Rapid City Police Department is active in the Fraternal Order of Police. While the service member is out for extended military service, their dues to the FOP are paid by the Rapid City Police Department so the membership is not lost and their families can still receive support from them and utilize the facilities. The Rapid City Police Department has also created a peer support program designed to provide confidential emotional support during and after times of personal and professional crisis. Service members transitioning back to the department are encouraged to reach out for support from this group. Chief Karl Jegeris' message to all officers who have been deployed is, "Know your transition is at your own pace, our reintegration program and training days are here to help you feel ready and go back on patrol. You need to take care of yourself and your family, take a breath, and come back when you are ready. Our culture here is, when duty calls, you go and we will support you." Assistant Chief of Police, Don Hedrick stated it has been a privilege to support our employees that serve in the Guard and the Reserve. It is a tremendous honor to have our efforts recognized for that commitment and we will strive to offer a great workplace for our employees that serve our country. Wright would like to emphasize how important it is for employers to support active military members. It is essential for our soldier's to able to perform their call of duty and being recognized for this today extraordinary.

CONSENT ITEMS

Motion was made by Modrick second by Wright and carried to approve Items 1-10 as they appear on the Consent Items with the exception of item numbers 6 and 7.

- 1) Approve Minutes for March 29, 2017

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

- 2) Acknowledge the Following Volunteers for Worker's Compensation Purposes: Maureen Maroney, Lori Desalvo
- 3) LF041217-01 – Acknowledge February 2017 General Cash Balance Report
- 4) LF041217-02 – Approve Request for Property Tax Abatement as Follows: Pamela Adamson, 2016, \$207.85; (Total for City of Rapid City: \$207.85)
- 5) LF041217-03 – Approve Resolution No. 2017-027A a Resolution Fixing Time and Place for Hearing on Assessment Roll for Cleanup of Miscellaneous Property
- 6) LF041217-04 – Laurenti would like the public to know that the situation looks even more bleak. At this point, it looks like we will be in the negative for the first quarter unless something major happens in the month of March. He would like to note that the Council along with the Mayor is understanding the situation, knowing that we set the 2017 budget based on an assumption of sales tax increases at a much higher level than where we are sitting right now. He realizes staff is making adjustments within their budgets as necessary but he want wants to make sure the Council members are prepared to make cuts in our budget so we live within our means. Wright moved to Acknowledge February 2017 Sales Tax Report. Second by Modrick. Motion carried.
- 7) LF041217-05 – Wright asked Dale Tech if this has to do with the President's Plaza study from several months ago? Tech stated yes, this is the first piece of the planning process that City staff outlined to the Council after their trip to Sioux Falls. Laurenti does not support this item but primarily as a fundamental principal that we keep wanting to insert ourselves in parking downtown when in reality we are taking away private sector jobs by inserting government in an area where we don't belong. Other cities' parking areas are not owned by government they are owned by private parties. He does not feel that the tax payers should have to suffer because we have bonds that we have to pay. There have been a couple of parking studies where they have looked at the downtown. We do not have a parking need issue, there is plenty of parking surrounding the downtown sector. He feels we have greater infrastructure needs and public needs that need to be addressed. Modrick wants to support buy local and the downtown area is growing in events, activities and apartments. She does not want to stunt that growth by not considering the need for additional parking. She would be interested to see the previous parking studies so we can find out where our baseline lies. She feels like we are creating a false vision that we do not have a parking issue. Wright stated the historical fact is that we have a Central Business District that by zoning and policy since it was built it has never required off-street parking of the developer of the buildings. That's how we got to where we are today. The vast majority of parking is in the right of way which inherently gives it to the City. If we were to change that policy, we would have to change who has that authority. Meaning to turn the entire downtown basically to the owners. But until we do that we have the obligation because it is ours. Wright moved to send Authorize Staff to Issue Request for Proposals for Downtown Parking Study/Strategic Plan to Council without recommendation. Second by Modrick. A vote was taken with Wright, Modrick and Roberts voting "yes" and Laurenti voting "no". Motion carried.

LEGAL AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

April 12, 2017

- 8) LF041217-07 – Approve Application for Abatement of Stormwater Drainage Utility Fee Assessment for Parcel ID Number 52769
- 9) LF041217-08 – Approve Application for Abatement of Stormwater Drainage Utility Fee Assessment for Parcel ID Number 58540

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

- 10) LF041217-06 – Authorize Mayor and Finance Officer to Sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Chapter 3 of the Disabled American Veterans to Pay for the Installation of a Flag Pole and Memorial with Funds from the City's Vision Account

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, motion was made by Laurenti second by Wright and carried to adjourn the meeting at 12:53 p.m.