



**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
August 17, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm.

**Present:** Mayor: Randy Gilbert; Council: Sam Rettinger, Sharon Henderson, Brian Carpenter, and Liz Olson

**Staff Present:** City Administrator: Terrance Post; Fire Chief: James Van Eyll; City Engineer: Dan Boxrud; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

**Absent:** None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**APPROVE AGENDA**

*A motion was made by Carpenter, seconded by Henderson, to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: all.*

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- A. Approve Minutes of August 3, 2010 City Council Work Session
- B. Approve Minutes of August 3, 2010 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Minutes of August 11, 2010 City Council Work Session
- D. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- E. Accept the Donation From RMG "Refer a friend, Build your community"™ Program and Nicholas Schmitt for Deposit into the 110 Special Fire Fund

*A motion was made by Olson, seconded by Henderson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes: all.*

**OPEN CORRESPONDENCE**

**Mike Bash, 1680 Bollum Lane**

Mr. Bash congratulated the Council on a wonderful Corn Days Parade, commenting that it was a great effort of a joint community process. Mayor Gilbert complimented the Chamber of Commerce, as they were the event sponsor.

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

**Selection of 2011 Law Enforcement Services Provider from RFP Respondents**

Post reported that the City had sent Requests for Proposals for Police services out to four Police service providers and had received three back from the Orono Police Department, Wayzata Police Department, and Hennepin County Sheriff's Department. Since the receipt of the three proposals, staff and the City Council have researched and compared factors that would assist in the selection process. The Council had also sought input from Long Lake taxpayers by having three public meetings. All three departments have shown their professionalism throughout the process and are

committed to continuing to work together. The Council held a work session prior to the regular meeting to receive additional information and discuss questions with the three department heads.

At the Council's request, Post also provided a detailed review of the timeline and circumstances that had led to the City Council's decision to issue RFP's for Police services.

Mayor Gilbert thanked the three departments for their professionalism and expressed his confidence that Long Lake will be well served. He requested individual Council members comment on their positions and share their opinions regarding the three departments to choose from.

Council member Rettinger stated that for him it comes down to response time, clearance rate and costs – those are his concerns. He considers the departments equal but is definitely leaning towards Wayzata.

Council member Henderson indicated that for her there were emotions that can't be measured, it is difficult to determine what is right for Long Lake, and change is so hard. She said that the history of Orono having served Long Lake for over 40 years, and the relationship the department has to the community made her decision difficult. Another factor for her was considering responsibility with taxpayer dollars and wanting the best service for the least amount of money. For her it came down to how the City could look to the future and be economical while providing Police services at a quality similar to what Long Lake has had, and that led her to being in favor of Wayzata's proposal.

Council member Carpenter said that he had looked at the situation to determine what was "broken", and it was not the Orono Police Department. They have delivered what the City has asked. Part of what is broken is the economy, and State policies forcing cities to make cuts. Budgets become a key issue, but as a Council member he is very proud of the City's budget and the minimal increases the City's achieved during a difficult time. He did not feel the City needs to make a financial decision at this time. What was broken in the situation was the negotiation between a service provider and a consumer - he noted he was referring to the City of Orono as the service provider and contracting agency, not the Orono Police Department. He sees a quandary in that the Orono Police Department does not deserve to lose Long Lake as a customer. He places a premium on community and the Orono Police Department serves Long Lake in a variety of intangible ways such as presence at Corn Days type events that are worth a premium; however, he does not know if Long Lake can afford that premium long term. He also referred to how the cities of Orono and Long Lake are intertwined geographically, referred to the tagline of the City's recent rebranding exercise, and noted "community" was a big way of how people describe Long Lake. He expanded on the intangibles affecting decision making including the questions of what is basic service, what is community, and what is the cost in making a change in service providers not just in monetary terms but also the cost to the citizens. He felt that the additional cost of Orono's service, using an example of an extra \$116 per month versus what the Sheriff's Department cost might be broken down per household, is worth it for the sense of certainty he thinks Long Lake is getting with Orono. He would suggest looking to Orono for a one year contract, and to begin discussing how to take down costs taking into account the services Long Lake's actual needs and wants, rather than debating formulas.

Council member Olson commented that this process had begun as a financial issue a year ago, but turned into an opportunity to explore other options for Police service for the community. She is attracted to Wayzata, and thinks an officer traveling west to the community would be a wonderful thing. All governments are looking for ways to cut costs – Wayzata came out with a report last December about working together, and the two cities have a lot in common. She is also attracted to the Sheriff's Department as it would save significant dollars. She said the community will not change regardless of who the Council chooses for Police services. Commenting on the community

being Orono and Long Lake together, with the “making life better together” rebranding effort, despite offers sent to the City of Orono and Orono Schools to participate in the process it was only the City of Long Lake that spent the money to improve the community's profile for all parties. She would be torn between selecting Wayzata or Hennepin County as a service provider, but if making a decision, her thoughts would lean towards Wayzata.

Mayor Gilbert stated that when the process had begun he was leaning towards Orono, as he has been advocating for many years that the City needs to work with Orono. Ultimately his decision making process led him to look to the future. After the candidate interviews, Wayzata's proposal had sold him on Wayzata; however, he had begun to think about the County's proposal and realized that the County could provide more services than the other departments. Additionally the County would offer the City flexibility in its service levels during a contract – if the City desired 12 extra coverage hours, the change could be made quickly. He gave thought to the organizations behind each of the service providers. Wayzata went through a budget crunch the previous year, and if they did so again while providing service to Long Lake it could negatively impact the City. If Orono is restricted by levy limits in the future, how would that impact the service Long Lake receives. The County is a larger organization and their budget will not shift much. He believes that tougher times lie ahead for all cities, and that budget constraints could make small cities like Long Lake, Spring Park or Deephaven go away. Mayor Gilbert said he loves Long Lake and does not want to see that happen. Stating that he can no longer see the difference in quality between the three responding service providers, he would go with the lowest dollar amount and be in favor of the Sheriff's Department proposal.

Council members continued to discuss their viewpoints and questioned whether any of their opinions could be changed through further debate.

*A motion was made by Henderson, seconded by Olson, to accept the Request for Proposal (RFP) for Law Enforcement Services from the City of Wayzata and to direct the City Administrator and the City Attorney to work with this provider to develop a mutually acceptable contract for services to be later approved by the elected officials of both organizations. Ayes: Rettinger, Henderson, Olson. Nays: Carpenter, Gilbert. Motion carried.*

Mayor Gilbert thanked the Council for making an extremely well thought out decision.

### **Approve Scope and Fee Proposal for City Engineer SEH for 2010 Well and Well House No. 2 Rehabilitation Project and Authorize Solicitation of Construction Quotes**

Post reported that earlier in the year, Council gave direction to staff to focus expending remaining funds in TIF District No. 2 on infrastructure projects that would support future economic development activity in the city. The projects selected were the replacement of the Willow Drive Water Main currently underway and the rehabilitation of Well and Well House No. 2. Staff has estimated that there will be approximately \$200,000 available to the well rehabilitation project.

Public Works Director Wurzer and City Engineer Boxrud have each been advised on the funding limitation for the well rehabilitation project. Together, they have identified project elements that accomplish the primary goal and stay within the project funding parameter. He noted that this project was earlier identified in the City's long range CIP as being in the \$450,000 to \$500,000 range. The primary scope reductions have included not rebuilding the well house, not cutting in a new access driveway, and not regrading the site because of severe slope issues.

The project is somewhat time sensitive in that Well No. 2 would not be in service during this construction activity. The ideal construction month would be October, although the purchase of such a large pump and motor require months of lead time from the manufacturers.

Staff recommends the acceptance of the SEH engineering services contract proposal in support of the 2010 Well and Well House No. 2 Rehabilitation Project and also authorize the solicitation of quotes for the various project element construction packages.

*A motion was made by Henderson, seconded by Olson, to approve the Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH) scope and fee proposal, estimated to be \$30,000, for engineering services in support of the 2010 Well and Well House No. 2 Rehabilitation Project and to authorize it's execution by the City Administrator; as well as authorizing the solicitation of quotes for the various project scope construction packages. Ayes: all.*

### **Long Lake Fire Department Memorial / Monument**

Fire Chief Van Eyll stated that the Long Lake Fire Department has desired to build a monument/memorial for some time now at Station 1. Before Steve Becker passed away he had drew up a few concept sketches. Mike Brown and Steve Becker showed them to staff and it was decided a committee should be formed to start moving towards making a memorial project a reality. The committee - made up of staff, Marv Wurzer, Jim Cox, Butch Loomis, Doug Johnson and Dave Nalls - spoke with an architect who donated his time to create the plans. After many meetings and a few different concepts the committee selected the design presented before the Council for consideration, and it is the consensus of the committee that it represents a very solid plan. The committee met with Orono staff to discuss the permitting process and they were very supportive of the plan as well. The LLFD will be paying for the memorial/monument construction project through the use of donated labor and donor funds received.

Council members and staff discussed elements of the plan such as memorial pavers, landscaping and maintenance, and publicizing of the project to help raise funds.

*A motion was made by Henderson, seconded by Carpenter, to approve the Long Lake Fire Department Firefighters Monument/Memorial per the submitted plans for construction at Long Lake Fire Department Station 1 pending approval by the Orono City Council and the acquisition of funds through fundraising. Ayes: all.*

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Transition to Wayzata Police Service** – Council member Carpenter questioned what the next step will be towards completing the Police services RFP selection process. Post responded that he will be sending an award letter to Wayzata and then the cities' Administrators and attorneys would work towards drafting the contract. Mayor Gilbert commented he believes it is very important to emphasize that it will be Wayzata's responsibility to make the transition as smooth as possible. Council members discussed ideas and options for how best to communicate the change in Police service coverage to Long Lake residents and taxpayers.

**Implementation of New City Logo** – City Clerk Moeller informed the Council that she was in the process of designing and obtaining quotes for new City stationary and envelopes that would use the City's new logo developed through the rebranding process.

**Elections Update** – City Clerk Moeller provided an update on the final list of candidates for the City offices of Mayor and two Council member seats that will be on the November State General Election ballot, and commented on State Primary Day voter turnout. She complimented the City's election judges on a job well done.

**Thank You to City Staff** – Mayor Gilbert thanked the City staff for the time and pride the staff puts into their work, stating that “thank you” doesn’t seem to be enough.

**Metropolitan Council Comprehensive Plan Review Meeting** – Mayor Gilbert stated that he, Administrator Post, and City Engineer Boxrud had attended a Metropolitan Council meeting reviewing Orono’s Comprehensive Plan. Long Lake was able to speak to state that while both cities have adequate supplies for drinking water, Long Lake does not have the water capacity to provide for fire protection for both cities if high density housing were to be located within Long Lake’s water service area. Two of the Metropolitan Council members commended Long Lake for utilizing the review process as it was intended. Orono’s Comprehensive Plan was passed with the comment that if Orono establishes high density housing, Orono has to provide for the water service to cover fire protection. Post noted that the issue of water capacity for fire protection had not been raised before the Metropolitan Council before.

**Upcoming Work Session Topics** – Mayor Gilbert stated that upcoming work session topics would need to include Administrator Post’s performance review and reviewing the RFP’s received for the City’s legal services.

**Closing Statement** – Mayor Gilbert thanked all of the Council members for their work through the Police services RFP selection. In his eight years he had never seen the Council undertake a more thoughtful process, and he appreciated that the public had been aware of the matter throughout the discussion. Mayor Gilbert intends to attend Orono’s next City Council meeting, knowing that Orono may be taking Long Lake’s decision personally.

**ADJOURN**

Hearing no objection, Mayor Gilbert adjourned the meeting by general consent at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller  
City Clerk