



**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
February 2, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm.

**Present:** Mayor: Donny Chillstrom; Council: Kurt Kaminski, Jahn Dyvik, Marty Schneider, and Liz Olson

**Staff Present:** City Administrator: Scott Weske; City Engineer: Chris LaBounty; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

**Absent:** None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**LONG LAKE NEWS UPDATE AND WORK SESSION REVIEW**

Mayor Chillstrom offered the following updates:

- In a work session prior to the regular meeting, the City Council discussed the status of the City's investments; options for addressing parking along County Road 112; an update on evaluation of the well control system; and changes to the Public Works Director position advertisement.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- A. Approve Minutes of January 19, 2016 City Council Meeting
- B. Receive Unofficial Draft Minutes of January 12, 2016 Planning Commission Meeting
- C. Receive Unofficial Draft Minutes of January 26, 2016 Park Board Meeting
- D. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll

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

**OPEN CORRESPONDENCE**

No one appeared to address the City Council during Open Correspondence.

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

**Certificate of Infiltration & Inflow (I&I) Compliance Ordinance**

City Engineer LaBounty stated that Inflow and Infiltration (or I/I) is clear water that enters the sanitary sewer system from either surface connections or from groundwater. This can be a result of damaged infrastructure, illegally connected foundation or roof drains, or directly connected surface water inlets. As increased clear water enters the sanitary sewer system it can take up needed

capacity in the system and at the water treatment plant. LaBounty presented a sample informational graphic he found on the Metropolitan Council's website that clearly depicts the I/I flow process.

The City has been working to reduce I/I since the late 1970s when the City connected to the Metropolitan Council Environmental Commission (Met Council) interceptor pipe. As the amount of excessive I/I in the Met Council regional system increased in 2004 the Met Council began the Ongoing I/I Reduction Program to address this problem. The program calculates a surcharge fee to communities that have an excessive I/I event. In 2014 Long Lake was notified by the Met Council that the City's allowable I/I surcharge amount was exceeded resulting in a \$215,800 surcharge fee to the City (or \$53,950 annually over 4-years).

The City is proposing to continue making improvements to the sanitary sewer system to address I/I, but there is limited on their ability to fully address I/I as there is no City mechanism for regulating how private sanitary sewer service pipes are repaired or monitored. City Engineer LaBounty has prepared a rough draft of an ordinance which would require that property owners have their sewer pipe inspected and repaired with the sale of or exchange of their property.

Council and staff discussed previous I/I investigation and repair efforts undertaken by the City; the experiences of other communities who have adopted point of sale and other ordinances aimed at reducing I/I; how the proposed I/I certificate program would function; cost ranges for private service repairs and the impact of potential costs on property owners; and incentive programs offered by other communities to encourage or financially assist in repair of private services.

Council members expressed interest in seeing more data depicting what impacts these types of ordinances have had in other communities, and in receiving more information about what types of loan, grant or incentive programs other communities have offered to encourage private service repairs.

LaBounty welcomed Council members to further review the draft and send any comments to staff.

### **Watertown Road Stormwater Management Update**

LaBounty reported that previously staff had indicated there were two items pertaining to the pending Watertown Road improvement project that would be appearing back before the Council in the nearby future. The first, a discussion of options for signage improvements along the roadway, will be presented to the Council at their February 16 meeting. LaBounty just completed attendance at an engineering conference at which signage was a topic of discussion.

Secondly, LaBounty indicated that there had been some discussion in terms of stormwater management regarding working with a private property owner to look at erosion issues at the creek in the area. As an update, City Engineer LaBounty confirmed that upon further review, he would not be proposing further stormwater management efforts in that area as a part of the Watertown Road project.

### **Receive Revised "Securing and Registration of Vacant Buildings" Ordinance**

City Clerk Moeller stated that staff has continued work on the draft vacant buildings ordinance presented previously to the Council at their January 19 meeting. A revised draft was distributed to the Mayor and City Council members as a bench handout. Moeller reviewed revisions made since the first draft was received, which include:

- In Chapter 8 (Buildings and Building Regulations) of City Code, Article IV. Hazardous Real Property, simplifying language regarding the enforcement and abatement of deteriorated or

hazardous structures and/or real property by referencing the State Statute that governs the abatement of those property conditions.

- Under new Article VIII. Securing and Registration of Vacant Buildings, adding language referencing section 38-33 of City Code pertaining to yard maintenance; allowing for administrative registration and collection of costs should a vacant building owner not comply with the ordinance; and adding exemptions for those buildings damaged by fire/severe weather or for buildings owned by "snowbirds".

Notice has been published giving notice of a public hearing to be held at the February 16 City Council meeting during which the Council will consider public input and adoption of the proposed ordinance. Staff will be sending a complete draft of the ordinance to the City Attorney for final review prior to the meeting.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Snowball Open 2016** – Council member Kaminski reported that the Snowball Open had record attendance in its new location, with over 500 golfers registered to participate.

**New Audiovisual Equipment** – Council member Schneider complimented staff on their efforts in coordinating the installation of new and improved audiovisual equipment in the Council Chambers.

**Ice Madness on February 20** – Council member Schneider distributed copies of a flier advertising the Ice Madness winter festival, sponsored by Orono Rotary Club, to be held in Nelson Lakeside Park and on Long Lake on Saturday, February 20. Council member Schneider reviewed events scheduled to take place during the festival, including a fat tire bike race, a 5k run, Water Patrol and Fire Department demonstrations, a ski and snowshoe demonstration, children's events including "human bowling", and others. As a finale to the event, the "Eskimo Kings" band will be playing at the Red Rooster at 2:00 pm.

**RED Lions Project** – Mayor Chillstrom indicated that one of the programs the Orono Lions Club funds through the Snowball Open event is the RED Lions project, a "read every day" program whereby first graders who read for 20 minutes a day for the month of February can earn a \$25 gift certificate to a bookstore. The program originated through the efforts of Bruce and Irma Kelley and the Orono Lions Club, and has now spread to Lions Club organizations worldwide.

**Snowplowing Efforts** – With snow falling outside, Mayor Chillstrom encouraged that courtesy be given to the Public Works crew as they work hard to clear snow.

## **ADJOURN**

*Hearing no objection, Mayor Chillstrom adjourned the meeting by general consent at 7:35 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller  
City Clerk