

MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 3, 2012
5:30 PM
Council Chambers

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Stiehm. Council Members Brian McAlister, Jeff Austin, Steve King, Roger Boughton, Judy Enright, Marian Clennon and Council Member-at-Large Janet Anderson.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Jim Hurm, Tom Dankert, Jeanne Howatt, Craig Hoiium, Steven Lang, David Hoversten, Mickey Healey, Kim Underwood and Brian Krueger.

OTHERS PRESENT: Post Bulletin, Austin Daily Herald. Jerry Boland. Public.

Added to the agenda: **CONSENT AGENDA:** Food: George's Pizza, 209 N. Main St. and Exempt Gambling (raffles): Mower Co Habitat & Pheasants Forever @ Holiday Inn, February 25; a motion granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 802 14th Street NE, Leuning property and 1306 12th Street NW, Obub property; a resolution approving 3.2 Beer On-Sale License for George's Pizza; and a resolution approving 3.2 Beer On-Sale License for Vietnamese Top Noodle. Removed from the agenda: a resolution approving Sunday Hard Liquor ON-Sale License for Moose Lodge, 208 S. Main.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Boughton, adopting the agenda as amended. Carried.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member King, approving the minutes of December 19, 2011. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member King, approving the consent agenda as follows:

License Renewals for 2012:

Cab Driver: Jacqueline Thompson, Austin

Cigarette: Lefty's Bar, 421 10th Street NE, Austin

Concrete: Dobbs Construction, Inc., Dodge Center, MN

Concrete: Innovative Contractors, Oronoco, MN

Concrete: MasTec North America, Rochester, MN

Concrete: Wagner Construction, 2209 4th Street NW, Austin

Excavation: S&S Waterworks, Austin, MN

Exempt Gambling (raffle): Cedar River Longbeards Chapter of MN @ Holiday Inn, Jan 28, 2012

Exempt Gambling (raffles): Mower Co Habitat & Pheasants Forever @ Holiday Inn, Feb 25

Food: Austin Dairy Queen, 1200 W. Oakland Avenue

Food: George's Pizza, 209 N. Main St.

Food: Jo-Ann Fabric & Craft Stores, 1700 17th Street NW, Austin
 Food: Kentucky Fried Chicken, 1403 18th Avenue NW,
 Food: Lefty's Bar, 421 10th Street NE, Austin
 Food: Mayo Clinic Health Systems-Austin Auxiliary Coffee Shop
 Food: Mayo Clinic Health Systems-Austin, Austin, MN
 Food: Moose Lodge, 208 S. Main
 Food: Piggy Blue's Bar-B-Que, Inc., 323 N. Main Street, Austin
 Food: Schwan's Home Service, Inc., Marshall, MN
 Massage Therapist: Rebecca Flaherty, Austin
 Premise Amusement Device: Lefty's Bar, 421 10th Street NE, Austin
 Sign Installer: LaCrosse Sign Co., Onalaska, WI

Claims:

- a. Credit card report and pre-list of bills.

Carried.

Council is requested to approve an annual resolution designating depositories for checking and investments for 2012. One change has been made to the depositories which is closing the payroll account; the one remaining direct deposit account will be re-routed to another account.

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member Enright, adopting a resolution designating depositories for checking and investments of public funds for 2012. 7-0. Carried.

The Austin Post Bulletin and Austin Daily Herald have submitted quotes to be the City's official newspaper for 2012. The circulations of the two newspapers within the 55912 zip code are:

	<u>Austin Daily Herald</u>		<u>Austin Post Bulletin</u>
Sunday:	3494	Saturday:	9920
Monday-Friday	3202	Monday-Friday	2241

Bids are as follows:

Austin Daily Herald:	\$4.95 per column inch
Austin Post Bulletin	\$1.74 per column inch

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member McAlister, designating Austin Post Bulletin as the official newspaper for the City of Austin for the year 2012. Carried.

Council is also requested to approve an annual resolution setting the licensing and operational fees for 2012. Council Member Enright questioned why the fees weren't more consistent. City Attorney David Hoversten said that pursuant to state statute, the city council must fix fees with a reasonable relationship to the cost. For example, some licenses require investigations while others do not.

Council Member Clennon believes we are lenient with the animal licenses considering they are permanent. She suggests raising the non-spayed dog and cat licenses to \$50. Mayor Stiehm said one requirement for dog park visitors will be city licensing, and they would need to be renewable annually.

Council Member King questioned the disparity between spayed and non-spayed licenses since these licenses require the same amount of work. Mr. Hoversten said that is an argument, but the general principle applies.

Council Member Austin said perhaps we should change this license to non permanent. The discussion should be brought to a work session.

Council Member McAlister felt that licensing animals is primarily for identification and he guesses that most animals are not licensed. He believes that if we raise the fee, people will be less likely to get a license for their animal. And if they aren't permanent, people will be even *less* likely to obtain a license.

Mayor Stiehm said he would like to receive input from organizations that have done this, and we should schedule this discussion as soon as possible.

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member McAlister, adopting a resolution establishing and fixing license and miscellaneous operational fees for 2012. 6-1. Carried. Council Member Clennon voted nay.

The Committee-of-the-Whole had an extended discussion at the last work session regarding hirings for two vacant positions: full-time children's librarian and Street Department employee. The Committee-of-the-Whole recommended filling the positions.

Moved by Council Member Boughton, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, authorizing the hiring for a full-time children's librarian. 4-3. Carried. Voting nay: Council Members Enright, Clennon and McAlister.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, authorizing the hiring for a Street Department employee. 4-3. Carried. Voting nay: Council Members Enright, Clennon and McAlister.

Moved by Council Member Austin, seconded by Council Member Enright, authorizing an estimated \$10,000 from 2011 Contingency Fund for Riverside Arena boiler repair. Carried.

The Committee-of-the-Whole has discussed and recommended approval of amendments to the Policy for Authorized Uses of Fire Department Vehicles.

Council Member Clennon moved to table this matter to look at other departments' use of city vehicles being used for other things. She believes this policy should be made more comprehensive instead of just one department. Motion seconded by Council Member Enright. Carried. 4-3. Voting nay: Council Members McAlister, Austin and King.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution granting Sunday Hard Liquor On-Sale License for Hormel Historic Home, 208 4th Avenue NW. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member McAlister, adopting a resolution granting a Hard Liquor On-Sale and 3.2 Beer Off-Sale License for Lefty's Bar, 421 10th Street NE. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member McAlister, seconded by Council Member King, granting 3.2 Beer On-Sale License for Austin Bruins at Riverside Arena. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, seconded by Council Member Boughton, adopting a resolution approving purchase agreement for wetland credits. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member McAlister, adopting a resolution approving 3.2 Beer On-Sale License for Piggy Blue's. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution accepting donations to Austin Park & Recreation. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 802 14th Street NE, Leuning property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member-at-Large Anderson, granting the Planning and Zoning Department the power to contract for the removal of junk and/or illegally stored vehicles at 1306 12th Street NW, Obub property. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution approving 3.2 Beer On-Sale License for George's Pizza. 7-0. Carried.

Moved by Council Member Enright, seconded by Council Member King, adopting a resolution approving 3.32 Beer On-Sale License for Vietnamese Top Noodle. 7-0. Carried.

REPORTS

Council Member-at-Large Anderson invited everyone to hear Nontombi Naomi Tutu, a speaker sponsored in part by the Human Rights Commission for the Martin Luther King Jr. event. The event will take place on January 16 at 7:00 at the Riverland theatre. No admission fee. In addition, some Human Rights awards will be presented.

Council Member Clennon wished everyone a Happy New Year. She inquired about the handicapped parking space across the street from (the south) McDonald's. Assistant City Engineer Steven Lang said he would look into it. The Street Department occasionally receives requests for handicapped spaces. If determined to be the best option, a sign is placed. And if the ground is frozen, a temporary sign will be placed.

Council Member Clennon recently found that the Humane Society was full, as was the animal control. She urged that the pound project to move ahead or we will have many homeless animals.

Mayor Stiehm thanked everyone for a very good year.

Moved by Council Member King, seconded by Council Member Boughton, adjourning the meeting to January 17, 2012.

Adjourned: 5:54 pm

Approved: January 17, 2012

Mayor: _____

City Recorder: _____