

**City of Cologne  
October 6, 2014**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regularly scheduled council meeting was held on Monday, September 15, 2014 at the Cologne Community Center. Mayor Matt Lein, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmembers Scott Williams, Kyle Evenski, Don Meyer and Jeff McInnis were present. City Administrator John Hendel, and Deputy Clerk Sue Mueller were present.

**ADOPT AGENDA**

***Motion by Evenski, seconded by McInnis to adopt the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.***

**ADOPT CONSENT AGENDA**

- a) Sept 15, 2014 Council Meeting Minutes
- b) October 6, 2014 Expenditures
- c) September 23, 2014 Payroll

***Motion by Meyer, seconded by Williams to adopt the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously.***

**VISITORS PRESENTATIONS, PETITION AND CORRESPONDENCE**

**COUNCIL BUSINESS**

- a) **First Amendment to Easement Agreement-Requested Modifications**  
City Administrator John Hendel reviewed recommended modifications to the First Amendment to Easement Agreement. Modifications were to the number of parking spaces and use of the parking lots.

***Motion by Meyer, seconded by Evenski to approve the modified First Amendment to Easement Agreement. Motion passed unanimously.***

- b) **2015 Prosecution Contract**

***Motion by Williams seconded by Meyer to approve the 2015 Prosecution Contract. Motion passed unanimously.***

- c) **2015 Police Contracts**  
City Administrator John Hendel recommended approval of the 2015 Police Contract, he stated the contract is 4% higher than the 2014 contract.

***Motion by Williams seconded by Evenski to approve the 2015 Police Contract. Motion passed unanimously.***

d) **Potential addition to Ord. 95.1 (B) Snow, ice, dirt, and rubbish**

Administrator Hendel reported the Public Works department is requesting an amendment to Ordinance 95.01 (B) (1) to include fire hydrants. The amendment would make the clearing of snow around fire hydrants the responsibility of the property owner on which the hydrant is located.

Administrator Hendel explained that some cities send a reminder/request notice to the property owners to request they clear the snow from the hydrants.

Councilmember Scott Williams stated the older property owners would not be able to remove the snow around the fire hydrants and suggested a request notice be sent.

***Motion by Williams seconded by Evenski to have staff send request notices to the property owners to remove the snow around fire hydrants. Motion passed unanimously.***

e) **Council 2015 Budget Workshop**

City Administrator Hendel suggested a Budget Workshop be scheduled for November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30 p.m.

***Motion by Evenski seconded by McInnis to set a Budget Workshop for November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:30. Motion passed unanimously.***

f) **Skating Rink Benton Lake**

Administrator Hendel reported the administrative staff and the public works department have discussed moving the skating rink from Louis St W to Benton Lake. Staff is proposing moving the warming shelter to the land by the lake. Hendel provided insurance information regarding issues that should be considered before approving.

- Berkley Risk – there is no additional premium for having an ice rink, however if there are additional losses, it does have the potential to increase your experience.
- The League of Minnesota Cities does not prohibit the cities from using frozen lakes for recreational activities. Chris Smith, League of MN Cities, in an e-mail stated it is likely the city would be immune from liability under the doctrine of park and re immunity. Chris Smith provided guidelines for the city to follow if the Council approves moving the rink from Louis St W to Benton Lake.

Administrator Hendel also recommended a light fixture be installed at the entrance to the fishing pier this season if possible or next winter.

Administrator Hendel provided parking options for people to use. Hendel reported the Public Works department would be responsible for monitoring the depth of the ice.

***Motion by Meyer seconded by Evenski to approve moving the skating rink from Louis St W to Benton Lake. Motion passed unanimously.***

**g) Silver Leaf Flour Flower Planter**

City Administrator Hendel reviewed information regarding having flower planters made for the downtown businesses and city properties. The planter would have the Silver Leaf Flour emblem on the front of them. Hendel provided pictures of the flour sacks that were used by the Silver Leaf Flour mill from 1881 to 1916. Hendel reviewed the historical significance of the Silver Leaf Flour mill to the City of Cologne. Hendel reported the downtown area would benefit with creating a more aesthetically pleasing downtown area. Residents may walk around more downtown if it was prettier.

Hendel estimated 10 to 15 planters could be sold to local businesses. The cost to create the cement mold is reported, between \$5,000- \$6,000. The cost for each planter is \$275 to \$300.

Council recommended staff proceed with approaching businesses to see if they would be interested with purchasing a planter.

***Motion by Meyer seconded by McInnis to table the Silver Leaf Flower Planter until further information is obtained. Motion passed unanimously.***

**h) City Office Closure Request**

City Administrator Hendel requested approval to close the city office on Friday, December 26<sup>th</sup> and Friday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Employees would be able to use vacation or take the time off without pay.

***Motion by Williams seconded by Meyer to close the city offices on December 26<sup>th</sup> and January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.***

**i) HHI Hotel Feasibility Study-Revisit**

Administrator Hendel requested direction on whether to proceed with the HHI Hotel Feasibility Study. Council tabled any action at this time.

**j) Existing Irrigation Equipment**

Administrator Hendel presented a Proposed Easement Description for the existing irrigation equipment. The easement is for Outlot L.

***Motion by Meyer seconded by McInnis to approve the Proposed Easement Description for the existing irrigation equipment. Motion passed unanimously.***

**BOARD REPORTS**

1. Staff Meeting - Tuesday, September 30<sup>th</sup>

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURN MEETING**

***Motion by McInnis, seconded by Evenski to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,

*Susan Mueller*

Susan Mueller, Deputy Clerk

ATTEST:

*M. A. V.*

Matt Lein, Mayor