

City of Loretto
Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting
279 N. Medina Street, Council Chambers
January 12, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Koch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Members present: Mayor Kent Koch, Council Members Cari Girk, Brenda Daniels, Henry Pepin and John Neumann.

Also present: City Attorney Paula Callies, Medina Police Sergeant Jason Nelson, City Clerk Treasurer Mary Schneider.

There were five people in the audience.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. PRESENTATIONS

- a. Representative Jerry Hertaus gave a brief legislative update to the Council. Hertaus also discussed state funding for Quiet Zones and rail safety improvements.

4. SET AGENDA

The agenda was approved as submitted.

5. APPROVE MINUTES

On a motion by Koch, seconded by Daniels, to approve the December 8, 2015 City Council Meeting Minutes as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. MEDINA POLICE REPORT

Medina Police Sergeant Jason Nelson gave the December police report, stating there were one hundred twenty-three total calls, with eighty general patrol hours. Nelson stated the no-parking signage on Medina Street North was reviewed and found to be adequate. Nelson noted there was one sign that is partially blocked by tree limbs. Nelson also reported there is one vehicle on the A to Z Auto lot that is in violation of city code.

7. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Resolution 2016-02, Amending Trade Name for Montague's Jamaican Grill Co.
- b. Resolution 2016-03, Authorizing City Hall Security Improvements
- c. Open Book Meeting – Date Approval

On a motion by Neumann, seconded by Girk, to approve the CONSENT AGENDA as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

8. ACTION/PLANNING

- a. Shared Parking of City Parking Lot

Council discussed the possibility of allowing businesses on West Railway Street to use the City's public parking lot to satisfy its off-street parking requirements.

Input from the public:

John Gorder, 115 Railway Street West: expressed his appreciation to the Council for exploring this issue; would like to be able to open up more seating space for the new Montague's Kitchen and Bar; expected opening date is early March.

Barry Anderson, 160 Railway Street West: would love for the City to open up more public parking; has made many improvements to Choo Choo and been denied variances for off-street parking in the past; more business in town is good for everyone; doesn't want to see Loretto become like Excelsior where parking has become such a problem.

Council directed Clerk Treasurer Schneider to put together an inventory of current off-street and on-street parking along West Railway Street and for Detour 19; determine compliance for businesses along West Railway and for Detour 19; get bids for paving existing city parking lot and a portion of the Lions Park. Council Member Neumann volunteered to meet with Lions Club representatives to discuss this issue.

b. Randy's Environmental Services Rates

Deb Gatz of Randy's Environmental Services addressed the Council, explaining the State will be enforcing restrictions on waste disposal that is in state statutes. The purpose of the restriction is to increase waste processing as opposed to landfilling. Gatz reported Randy's will now be charged increased tipping fees that significantly changes how the company can conduct its business. The increase to Randy's equals nine dollars per ton. Gatz stated that a residential household is estimated to produce one ton of trash each year. Randy's is requesting an additional seventy-five cents increase per household per month, which equals nine dollars per year per household.

On a motion by Neumann, seconded by Girk, to amend the contract with Randy's Environmental Services to allow a seventy-five cent rate increase per household per month for all trash sizes. Motion carried unanimously.

c. Resolution 2016-01, Setting Annual Appointments

Council went through each item in the Resolution appointing members to various commissions.

On a motion by Girk, seconded by Pepin, to approve Resolution 2016-01, A RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE ORGANIZATION AND ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS FOR THE CITY OF LORETTO FOR 2016.

Motion carried unanimously.

d. LMCC Audio Visual Improvement Program

Council reviewed a memo from staff showing three options for audio visual improvements to the council chambers. Council directed Clerk Treasurer Schneider to find out more information about option three, the wall mount display monitor and look at the budget to see if there would be any funds available in the 2016 budget to cover a possible thousand dollar overage of the LMCC allocated amount of \$2,120.

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

a. Holiday Train Update

Clerk Treasurer Schneider reported the 2015 Holiday Train event brought in donations to the food shelves of \$27,109.79 and 7,500 pounds of food. Schneider stated the event went very well, with great support from law enforcement to manage the crowd. Schneider noted the operations expenditures were kept under budget, with the help of donations from the Lions Club to cover the Christmas Trees, string lights to decorate the Lions Park pavilion, and the reindeer appearance; and the LORAM donation to cover the hospitality (canopy, cookies, hot coco and cider, and supplies). The Council expressed their appreciation to the planning committee for their continued hard work on this event.

b. Property/Casualty Dividend

Council reviewed a memo from the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust notifying the City of dividend returns of \$3,970.

- c. Hennepin County Youth Sports Facility Grant
LCAA Representative Herb Koch addressed the Council to announce the award to the City of a Hennepin County Youth Sports Facility Grant to fund the installation of infield synthetic turf at the Arnold Klaers Baseball Field. Koch noted the grant is a matching grant of \$150,000. Koch stated the LCAA is excited to work together with the City on this project and will be working to set up committees to begin the planning stages.

Mayor Koch called for a five minute recess. Koch reconvened the meeting at 8:57 p.m.

- d. A to Z Auto
Council Member Neumann reported there is a court date set for the A to Z Auto code violation from June of 2015. Neumann stated that the property has been cleaned up somewhat since December.

10. MONTHLY REPORTS

- a. City Hall
 - 1) Complaint/Concern/Request/Suggestion
No items were brought forward.
- b. Streets
Council Member Pepin stated he would like to see a public hearing at the March or April meeting to address issues with the Chippewa Road drainage project.
- c. Water
No items were brought forward.
- d. Wastewater
No items were brought forward.
- e. Parks
No items were brought forward.
- f. Stormwater
No items were brought forward.

11. FINANCIAL

- a. 2015 Year-end Bills
On a motion by Koch, seconded by Daniels, to approve electronic check numbers 2211E-2232E and paper check numbers 21444-21478 for a grand total of \$75,990.99.
Motion carried unanimously.
- b. January Bills
On a motion by Koch, seconded by Girk, to approve electronic check numbers 2233E-2241E and paper check numbers 21479-21498 for a grand total of \$31,241.53.
Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Monthly Balance Sheet
Council reviewed.
No action taken.

12. OTHER

Mayor Koch reported on the Highway 55 Coalition meeting he attended, noting he would leave information with Clerk Treasurer Schneider if anyone is interested in reviewing the documents.

Koch reported on the North Hennepin League of Municipalities meeting he attended in December, stating there were representatives from the Met Council present to discuss the process for Comprehensive Plan updates. Koch stated he would leave more information with Schneider if anyone is interested.

Koch also reported on meetings he had with Medina representatives to work on a proposal for legislative funding for Quiet Zones.

13. ADJOURN

On a motion by Pepin, seconded by Daniels, to adjourn at 9:13 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Mary K. Schneider, City Clerk Treasurer

Kent Koch, Mayor