

**INVER GROVE HEIGHTS CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2013 - 8150 BARBARA AVENUE**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL The City Council of Inver Grove Heights met in regular session on Monday, February 11, 2013, in the City Council Chambers. Mayor Tourville called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Present were Council members Bartholomew, Madden, Mueller, and Piekarski Krech; City Administrator Lynch, Assistant City Administrator Teppen, City Attorney Kuntz, Parks & Recreation Director Carlson, Community Development Director Link, Public Works Director Thureen, Finance Director Smith, Police Chief Stanger and Deputy Clerk Kennedy

3. PRESENTATIONS: None.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilmember Bartholomew removed Item 4E from the Consent Agenda.

- A. i) Minutes – January 28, 2013 Council Study Session
- ii) Minutes – January 28, 2013 Regular Council Meeting

B. Resolution No. 13-15 Approving Disbursements for Period Ending February 6, 2013

C. Approve Purchase of Capital Equipment

D. Approve Sentence to Serve Contract

Motion by Madden, second by Bartholomew, to approve the Consent Agenda

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

E. Personnel Actions

Councilmember Bartholomew questioned which departments the seasonal/temporary hires were assigned to work for.

Ms. Teppen stated one of the individuals was hired to work at the child care center at the VMCC. She indicated she would check on the other two (2) individuals and provide Council with the information.

Mayor Tourville suggested the department information be included on all personnel action items going forward.

Motion by Bartholomew, second by Madden, to approve personnel actions.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jerry Kahlert, 6885 Benton Way, asked the Council to think about the financial and social impacts on the community of the recent cutbacks in state and federal funding. He opined the City has lost considerable amounts of money from cutbacks caused by increased spending on national security measures. He noted the purpose is not to take anything away from those individuals who serve in the military. He expressed concern that members of Congress were calling for exotic weapons systems and hardware that have not been requested by the Pentagon. He opined the U.S. is paying for weapons that may have little or no use and as a result residents and citizens suffer because of spending cuts. He asked the City to total up the recent funding cutbacks and their impact on services and to consider adopting a resolution asking Minnesota's congressional delegates to stand up for those citizens at the local level whose way of life has been eroded by out of control spending. He noted similar resolutions were adopted in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth, and has been supported by other religious and civic groups throughout the State.

Mayor Tourville stated his understanding was that a majority of the resolutions being signed by other cities referenced all federal spending from a more general perspective rather than focusing solely on the Department of Defense.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS:**A. CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS;** Consider Temporary On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor License for the Church of St. Patrick Taste Extravaganza on May 3, 2013

Ms. Kennedy explained the Church of St. Patrick applied for a temporary on-sale intoxicating license in conjunction with a one-day event on May 3, 2013. The applicant submitted all required documentation and the appropriate license fee.

Councilmember Madden stated the applicant had applied for and received temporary permits in the past and there had been no issues during the events.

Motion by Madden, second by Mueller to close the public hearing

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion by Madden, second by Mueller, to approve a temporary on-sale intoxicating liquor license for the Church of St. Patrick Taste Extravaganza on May 3, 2013

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

7. REGULAR AGENDA:**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT:****A. RAHUL KANSARA;** Consider a Resolution relating to a Planned Unit Development Amendment to Amend the Approved Site and Elevation Plans for the property located at 5653 Bishop Avenue

Mr. Link explained the request was for a PUD amendment to change the approved site and elevation plans to upgrade the exterior of the hotel and implement a covered pick-up and drop-off area at the entrance that would be approximately 700 square feet in size. The exterior siding would be replaced with stone and stucco in neutral colors. He stated the site improvements would meet setbacks and access to the property would not change. No additional impervious surface would be added to the property. He noted the new pick-up/drop-off area would result in the loss of six (6) parking spaces. The parking was originally approved on a shared basis with the restaurant and the reduction in parking was not expected to impact either the hotel or the restaurant. Both Planning staff and the Planning Commission recommended approval of the request.

Motion by Piekarski Krech, second by Madden, to adopt Resolution No. 13-16 approving a Planned Unit Development Amendment to Amend the Approved Site and Elevation Plans for the property located at 5653 Bishop Avenue

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION:**B. CITY OF INVER GROVE HEIGHTS;** Consider Advisory Board Applications and Appointments

Mr. Kuntz stated annual appointments are typically made at the Council's second meeting in May. Because a number of commissions have vacancies the administration has brought forth consideration to fill those vacancies for the remainder of each respective term. One (1) vacancy exists on the Planning Commission, one (1) vacancy exists on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission, and several vacancies remain on the Airport Relations Commission. He questioned if the Council wanted to proceed by debate and motion or if they wanted to proceed by way of the ballot process.

Councilmember Piekarski Krech stated she would prefer to proceed with the ballot process because there were three (3) applicants for the vacancy on the Planning Commission.

The Council agreed to proceed with the ballot process and to consider applications for the Planning Commission first.

Mr. Kuntz explained some time ago the City Council, when faced with the exercise of appointing members to a commission, acknowledged very clearly the importance of the positions and the desire to have as many volunteers come forth as possible and to have them all considered by the Council. It was recognized that the usual method of appointment whereby there is debate can sometimes preclude a candidate from being considered by the entire Council. As an alternate approach to the debate and motion process, the Council has considered a public ballot process. He stated when a position is vacant or up for consideration because the term expired, all candidates who have come forth to apply are listed on the ballot. With respect to the Planning Commission three (3) persons have applied for the vacant position. The individuals are listed on the ballot in alphabetical order. On the first ballot Council members cast a number of votes equal to the vacancies that exist. In this instance the Council would vote for one (1) candidate on the first ballot. Any person on the first ballot receiving at least one (1) vote is automatically placed on the second ballot. Any individual receiving no votes on the first ballot does not appear on the second ballot. The Council then proceeds on the second ballot by voting for an amount equal to one (1) fewer than the number of names remaining. After the balloting process the results are shared with the Council and the protocol has generally been that a motion is made to appoint the remaining individual to the vacant position. He noted that all of the ballots are public information, become part of the public record, and are made available for inspection upon request.

The Council proceeded with the first round of balloting for the Planning Commission vacancy.

Mr. Kuntz tallied the votes from the first ballot and announced that two (2) names remained on the second ballot. He directed the Council to vote for one (1) individual on the second ballot.

Following the second round of balloting it was announced that Bill Klein had received the highest number of votes.

Motion by Piekarski Krech, second by Madden, to appoint Bill Klein to the vacant Planning Commission term expiring May 23, 2013

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

Motion by Piekarski Krech, second by Mueller, to appoint Mark Freer to the vacant Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission term expiring May 23, 2014

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0 Motion carried.

8. MAYOR & COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Bartholomew stated the Lions Club hosted their "Moonlight Bowl" event at Drkula's over the weekend and it was very well attended. He thanked all of the merchants that donated prizes and sponsored the event.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

A. Discuss Collective Bargaining

Mayor Tourville announced the Council would move to a closed session to discuss the City Hall mediation process with the City's legal counsel.

10. ADJOURN: Motion by Bartholomew, second by Mueller, to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned by a unanimous vote at 8:22 p.m.