

CITY OF WALKER
COMMISSION/STAFF MINUTES
January 18, 2010

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

Present: Mayor VerHeulen, Commissioners: Holt, Parent, Kent, Deschaine, Versluis and Stek. Also Present: Assistant City Manager Schmalzel.

Bonnie Broadwater and Scott Connors, Engineering Department, showed the Commission a map of what sidewalk connections in Chesterfield Heights area would be approved for CDBG Grant funds use.

Motion by Commissioner Versluis, seconded by Commissioner Stek, to approve Resolution 10-117 Community Development Block Grant Funding in the amount of \$88,235.17 toward Chesterfield Heights sidewalk connections. Motion carried 7-0.

Motion by Commissioner Parent, seconded by Commissioner Kent, to approve Resolution 10-118 Community Development Block Grant Funding in the amount of \$5000 toward Walker Historical Museum (Edison House) handicap restroom accessibility improvements. Of which \$4,391 of 2006-2007 CDBG funds eligible for recapture will be used first, and the remaining \$601 will come from 2010 fund balance. Motion carried 7-0.

Commissioner Stek stated the Historical Commission will be bidding the handicap ramp entrance and the handicap bathroom as one project. The project will be completed this year.

Mayor and Commissioners congratulated Bill Schmidt, Fire Chief, on his announced retirement and wished him well.

Bill Schmidt, Fire Chief, spoke about the Fire Equipment Exchange Agreement with the City of Grand Rapids. The City of Grand Rapids has asked the City of Walker to allow the City of Grand Rapids to use one Quint fire truck, for a period of up to 120 day, while their truck is in for repair. In exchange, the City of Grand Rapids will lend one 2004 Seagrave fire engine to the City of Walker for the same time period.

Discussion was held in regards to where the City of Walker fire truck will be stationed in the City of Grand Rapids.

Motion by Deschaine, seconded by Versluis, to approve the Fire Equipment exchange agreement with the request to place our fire truck at the least busy fire station in the City of Grand Rapids. Motion carried 4-3, Ayes: VerHeulen, Deschaine, Stek and Versluis, Nays: Holt, Parent, and Kent.

Commissioner Versluis stated this is the way of the future, working with our surrounding communities.

Commissioner Holt stated this is not in the best interest of the City of Walker, due to the high cost of this equipment and the high use it could get while at the City of Grand Rapids.

Mayor / Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Parent stated he spoke with Mr. Keller and he would like to support the Walker Memorial Day Parade again this year. It was suggested to have a banner at the beginning of the parade stating who sponsored the parade.

Assistant City Manager asked the Commission about the Easter egg hunt and Memorial Day parade. The Commission would like to meet with Marcy from the Recreation department next Monday, to discuss these events.

Commissioner Deschaine gave an update from the Festival Committee. The committee decided to do a one day event on Saturday, June 19, 2010. There will be no fencing and no admission charge to the festival. Wristbands will be sold to anyone five years and older for \$5.00 to enjoy unlimited activities. Four years old and younger can also participate free of charge.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Bydalek
City Clerk