

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF MOORHEAD, MINNESOTA
August 17, 2009**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Moorhead, Clay County, Minnesota, was duly held in the Council Chambers, City Hall, August 17, 2009, at 5:30 PM.

The following were present for roll call:

Committee of the Whole Meeting

Minutes: The following members were present for roll call: **5:29 PM**
Mayor Voxland, Council Members Otto, Bohmer (via video conferencing), Wray Williams, Rowell, Hunt, Winterfeldt, Hintermeyer, Lemke; and the following were absent: none.

1. **Dog Ordinance Discussion - Council Member Lemke**

Minutes: Council Member Lemke reviewed the information distributed regarding possible amendment concepts to the City's dog ordinance. The discussion covered such topics as: ear cropping, tail docking, chaining and tethering animals for long periods of time, spaying and neutering animals, permits for backyard animal breeders, selling or giving away animals on street corners, public events, etc., and safety rules for dogs transported in the back of vehicles. **6:27 PM**

Council Member Wray Williams felt these issues were a matter of public safety and should be addressed through public education. Council Member Bohmer countered if spaying or neutering were requirements for licensing, people won't license the animal. Council Member Hunt expressed concern regarding City costs relative to picking up animals, boarding them, releasing them to the owner, or euthanizing them.

Deputy Police Chief Monroe pointed out ordinances with such regulations are difficult to enforce, and that much of it would rely on willing citizens to come forward and make the complaints. He also commented on the difficulties to follow through with the court system. Council Member Otto contemplated the utilization of administrative fees to address such instead of pursuing action through the court system.

The general consensus was to research other ordinances (inclusive of the City of Fargo's),

rescue organizations, and state statutes to determine possible development of an ordinance amendment.

Minutes: Moorhead Public Service General Manager Schwandt announced, on August 11, 2009, the Moorhead Public Service Commission signed an Asset Lease/Purchase Agreement that sells GoMoorhead to VAL-ED Joint Venture, LLP (dba:702 Communications), who will begin operation of GoMoorhead on September 1, 2009. **6:45 PM**

702 purchased GoMoorhead from Moorhead Public Service for \$1.2 million. 702 will acquire all GoMoorhead customers, including nearly 2,500 business and residential customers and 1,500 Minnesota State University-Moorhead resident hall customers. MPS and 702 have also entered into contracts leasing MPS facilities to 702 for the operation of GoMoorhead for the next five years.

In response to citizen concerns raised regarding the propriety of the sale, Council Member Rowell conveyed several attorneys were involved in the discussions and emphasized there were no improprieties in the transaction.

2. [City Manager Reports](#)

A. [Budget Updates/Discussion](#)

Minutes: City Manager Redlinger reviewed the proposed 2010 capital improvement and supplemental budget requests. **7:04 PM**

Minutes: Meeting adjourned. **7:08 PM**

The proceedings of this meeting are digitally recorded and said electronic file is available for public review.

APPROVED:

MARK VOXLAND, Mayor

ATTEST:

KAYE BUCHHOLZ, City Clerk