

**City of Moorhead
City Council Meeting
Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2010 at 5:30 PM
City Hall Council Chambers**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council Meeting was held in the City Hall Council Chambers, on January 25, 2010, at 5:30 PM.

Roll call of the members was made as follows:

1st Ward Council Member:	Luther Stueland	Present
1st Ward Council Member:	Nancy Otto	Present
2nd Ward Council Member:	Diane Wray Williams	Present
2nd Ward Council Member:	Mark Altenburg	Present
3rd Ward Council Member:	Dan Hunt	Present
3rd Ward Council Member:	Brenda Elmer	Present
4th Ward Council Member:	Mark Hintermeyer	Present
4th Ward Council Member:	Greg Lemke	Present
Mayor:	Mark Voxland	Present

City Council Meeting

1. [Call to Order and Roll Call](#)
2. [Recognitions/Presentations/Introductions](#)
 - A. [Citizen Recognition Award for Josie Green](#)

Minutes: Mayor Voxland and Chief David Ebinger, Moorhead Police Department, presented Josie Green with a citizen recognition award for her selfless and courageous efforts while attempting to save the life of a stranger who fell in the Red River on November 20, 2009.

3. Approval of November 16, 2009 Minutes

Motion by Otto, seconded by Hintermeyer to **Approve November 16, 2009 Council Minutes**

Motion Passed: **Resolution #2010-0150**

For: 8 - Stueland, Otto, Wray Williams, Altenburg, Hunt, Elmer, Hintermeyer, Lemke

4. [Citizens Addressing the Council \(Time Reserved: 15 Minutes\)](#)

Minutes: Bruce Bekkerus (207 16th Avenue S), representing A-1 Automotive, came before the Council to thank the City for working out a deal with their business to move to a new location. He stated that there will be an open house at their new location (2627 16th Avenue S) on Saturday, January 30th and invited the Mayor and Council to attend.

5. [Agenda Amendments](#)

Minutes: No amendments suggested.

6. [Consent Agenda](#)

All items listed with an asterisk (*) are enacted by one motion.

Minutes: Council Member Stueland asked that items #10, #11, and #14 be removed from the Consent Agenda.

Motion Wray Williams, seconded by Nancy Otto **Approve Consent Agenda as amended**

Motion Passed: **Resolution #2010-0151 (A-E)**

For: 8 - Stueland, Otto, Wray Williams, Altenburg, Hunt, Elmer, Hintermeyer, Lemke

7. ***Approve Licenses/Bonds**

Motion Passed: **Resolution #2010-0151-A**

8. [Mayor and Council Reports - Appointments](#)

Minutes: Council Member Otto stated that MCAT will be presenting a live broadcast of the Minnesota Legislative Session from 8:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M.

Council Member Elmer stated that the Intergovernmental Retreat hosted by the City of Dilworth was productive. Attendees received updates on internet technology and flood protection. Council Members were also able to meet with other local officials. Mayor Voxland added that the Minnesota State Economist presented information on the state of the economy.

9. [Permanent Flood Protection Discussion/Update](#)

Minutes: Michael Redlinger, City Manager, announced that there will be a time change for the Metro Flood Management Committee. It will begin at 9:00 A.M. and will be chaired by Senator Dorgan on Monday, February 1.

Community Services Department

10. [Resolution Authorizing Lease Agreement with the City of Fargo for One 30-foot Transit Coach \(Upon Recommendation of the MAT Coordinating Board\)](#)

Minutes: Council Member Stueland requested more information on the lease agreement with the City of Fargo.

Lori Van Beek, Transit Director, clarified the following for Council:

- Moorhead currently has ten fixed route buses and four spare buses. Federal transit determined that Moorhead needed to reduce its spares, which prompted this lease agreement. Instead of selling the bus, the lease would provide an opportunity to have it remain in the fleet if service in Moorhead is expanded.
- The bus for lease is the second oldest bus in the fleet. The City's oldest bus has the largest capacity and is needed for college routes.

- Moorhead has a Joint Powers Agreement with the City of Fargo for a joint operation to coordinate all aspects of transit in the FM Area. The buses are maintained and fueled together. Both cities would like to work toward the ability to share spare buses.

Council Member Wray Williams commented on the unique joint transit system shared by two City and State entities.

Motion by Wray Williams, seconded by Otto to **Approve Resolution Authorizing Lease Agreement with the City of Fargo for One 30-foot Transit Coach**

Motion Passed: **Resolution #2010-0152**

For: 7 – Otto, Wray Williams, Altenburg, Hunt, Elmer, Hintermeyer, Lemke

Against: 1 – Stueland

11. [Resolution to Approve Amendment #2 to the First Transit Contract for 2010 \(Upon Recommendation of the MAT Coordinating Board\)](#)

Minutes: Council Member Stueland requested more information regarding the safety bonus for drivers.

Van Beek stated that the bonus is intended to promote safety. Fines are assessed to the contractor after a second preventable accident. As part of this one year extension with First Transit, they have made improvements to their safety plan.

Council Member Stueland stated his concern regarding a bonus program for something that is part of a drivers' position responsibility.

Motion by Wray Williams, seconded by Hunt to **Approve Resolution to Approve Amendment #2 to the First Transit Contract for 2010**

Motion Passed: **Resolution #2010-0153**

For: 7 – Otto, Wray Williams, Altenburg, Hunt, Elmer, Hintermeyer, Lemke

Against: 1 – Stueland

12. [*Resolution Ordering an Update to the Alternative Urban Areawide Review \(AUAR\) for the South and East Growth Areas of Moorhead](#)

Motion Passed: **Resolution #2010-0151-B**

13. [*Resolution to Approve Minor Subdivision Request for 304 49th Ave SW \(58.791.0170\) and 323 48th Ave SW \(58.790.0160\)](#)

Motion Passed: **Resolution #2010-0151-C-1** and **#2010-0151-C-2**

14. [Approve Budget Adjustment to Reallocate Capital Improvement Funds from the North Dam Project to Provide a Floating Platform on the Red River for Kayaks and Canoes](#)

Minutes: Council Member Stueland requested information regarding the use of Capital Improvement funds and the cost for the project.

Holly Heitkamp, Recreation Division Manager, stated that the North Dam project is fully funded. Bids will be taken this Spring. The DNR has dedicated \$200,000 for this project. If bids come in higher than expected the project will be trimmed.

Council Member Stueland stated his concern that this project may not be a good priority of funds at this time.

Council Member Wray Williams stated that the project will be a significant safety improvement on the river and will draw citizens.

Council Member Altenburg commended the River Keepers organization in their negotiation efforts to reduce the cost of the project.

Motion by Altenburg, seconded by Elmer to **Approve Budget Adjustment to Reallocate Capital Improvement Funds from the North Dam Project to Provide a Floating Platform on the Red River for Kayaks and Canoes**

Motion Passed: **Resolution #2010-0154**

For: 7 – Otto, Wray Williams, Altenburg, Hunt, Elmer, Hintermeyer, Lemke

Against: 1 – Stueland

Police Department

15. [*Resolution to Authorize Minnesota Department of Public Safety Grant](#)

Motion Passed: **Resolution #2010-0151-D**

City Manager Reports

16. [*Resolution to Waive Bonding Requirements and Authorize Issuance of Replacement Checks](#)

Motion Passed: **Resolution #2010-0151-E**

17. Good News - Good People

18. Reports - Updates

A. [Discuss 2010 Animal Control Funding](#)

Minutes: Brian Neugebauer, City Attorney, clarified that for this pre-authorized expenditure, approval will require a simple majority vote.

Council Member Wray Williams stated that both organizations will benefit from the allocation.

Council Member Hintermeyer stated that the services of FM Humane Society appear to benefit the City the most.

Council Member Stueland stated that there are four organizations that provide animal services in the community and he would like all of them to receive equal amounts of funding.

Council Member Lemke clarified that the FM Humane Society and PAAWS have differing objectives. The allocation will significantly assist PAAWS.

Council Member Elmer stated that she would like to wait to make decisions on outside funding until the next budget cycle.

Council Altenburg stated that PAAWS funding is a good investment.

Council Member Otto stated her concern for the PAAWS mission.

Council Members discussed the larger issue of outside agency funding. They agreed that Council will need to have a broader discussion on this topic when building the 2011 budget.

Redlinger clarified that if the \$2,450 is not allocated in 2010, it will be transferred to General Fund Reserves at the end of the year.

Motion by Lemke, seconded by Altenburg to **Approve allocation of \$1,450 to FM Humane Society and \$1,000 to PAWS**

Motion Passed: **Resolution #2010-0155**

For: 5 – Wray Williams, Altenburg, Hunt, Lemke, Voxland

Against: 4 – Stueland, Otto, Elmer, Hintermeyer

B. [Federal - State Legislative - Budgetary Issues: Updates-Action](#)

Minutes: Redlinger reported that City Council will be doing a walking tour of the Rourke Art Museum and Moorhead Public Library on Monday, February 1.

The Committee of the Whole meeting originally scheduled for March 15th will be moved to March 29th.

Redlinger requested that the Mayor and Council complete a "Conflict of Interest" statement as a requirement for the upcoming City Financial Audit.

Several flood meetings have been organized by the City of Moorhead to share information with the public regarding the City's plan for interim and permanent flood protection. Press releases and public information announcements will be issued to make residents aware of these meetings. The dates will be:

- February 9 (area south of I-94)
- March 1 (area between I-94 and Main Avenue)
- March 2 (area north of Main Avenue)

These meetings will describe improvement projects already completed by the City to mitigate flood impact and how the City intends to remain responsive to the public if a flood event occurs.

Les Bakke, IT Director, stated that the February 9th meeting will be broadcasted on MCAT and published on the City's website. The City will be utilizing social media to further communicate with residents.

C. Other

Minutes: Council Members shared their concerns and suggestions regarding flood preparation:

- Good relationships with the media to draw attention to Moorhead;
- Timely and accurate information to Council Members;
- Improved "Code Red" announcements, particularly regarding evacuation information;
- Collaborative communication pieces with Moorhead Public Service;
- Enhanced communication to the public;

- Fair distribution of resources;
- Facilities that can appropriately accommodate volunteers and will not be interrupted if dually designated as a shelter site;
- Secure an indoor location in which to produce and store sandbags.

Redlinger clarified the following for the Council:

- The City would like to see neighborhood leaders step forward as points of contact in flood prone areas to assist with communication.
- A space will be designed within Moorhead Center Mall to provide a location in which to share information with the Mayor and Council more quickly and easily.
- Until such time that the City secures permanent flood protection, the City will provide sandbags to the public if there is a flood event at a level of 36 feet or higher.
- The City may have the ability to remove vacant, acquired properties prior to a flood event.

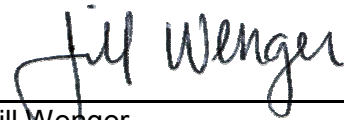
19. Executive Session (if needed)
20. Other Reports
21. New Business
22. Citizens Addressing the Council (continued, if necessary)

APPROVED BY:

ATTEST:



Mark Voxland
Mayor



Jill Wenger
City Clerk

The proceedings of this meeting are digitally recorded and are available for public review.

Respectfully submitted by:
Jill Wenger, City Clerk