

**Lake City Common Council
Special Meeting
Monday, February 27, 2012
City Hall Council Chambers 5:00 p.m.**

Members Present: Mayor Jerry M. Dunbar, Andru Peters, Mary Lou Waltman
Joel Beckman, Matt Powers, Phil Gartner, Mark Spence

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: City Administrator Ron Johnson

Others Present: City Attorney Karen England, Attorney Julie Fleming Wolfe

Call to order

Mayor Dunbar called the meeting to order at approximately 5:07 p.m. in the city hall council chambers with a quorum present.

Adopt/amend agenda

Mayor Dunbar pulled item 6- Discuss Washington D.C. police fund raiser, and replaced it with Hire temporary substitute library aide.

Motion Gartner, seconded Waltman to adopt the agenda as amended. All ayes 7-0-0.

Close meeting for Attorney/Client privileged communications- threatened litigation

Motion Powers, seconded Waltman to close the meeting at 5:10 p.m. for Attorney/Client privileged communications- threatened litigation (under MN Statute 13d.05 Subd 3(b)). All ayes 7-0-0.

Mayor Dunbar reopened the meeting at 6:11 p.m. at which time Mayor Dunbar informed the public that during the closed session, Council received an update on threatened litigation regarding the termination process for Library Administrator Sherry Mooers.

Close meeting to consider offer to purchase real or personal property

Council received an offer to purchase parcels 22.00008.03 and 22.00007.00, more commonly known as the salt shed, food shelf, dog pound and storage building properties.

Motion Waltman, seconded Powers to close the meeting at 6:14 p.m. (under Statute 13d.05, Subd. 3(c)). Beckman, Spence, Peters, Dunbar, Waltman, Powers voting aye; Gartner voting nay. Motion carried 6-1-0.

Mayor Dunbar reopened the meeting at 6:47 p.m. He stated that Council was in closed session to discuss an offer from AgPartners to purchase the above mentioned city property for \$40,000.

Motion Powers, seconded Waltman to reject the offer of AgPartners for \$40,000 to purchase parcels 22.00008.03 and 22.00007.00 from the city, but if AgPartners wants to participate with the city in an appraisal process and a proper statutory process for municipal sale of property, Council would be open to consideration. Motion carried 7-0-0.

Close meeting to evaluate the performance of an individual subject to Council authority
City Attorney England stated that Council could close the meeting to discuss the performance of an individual subject to Council approval, Receptionist Beth Breuer, as per MN Statute 13d.05 Subd 3(a)). Ms. Breuer was asked if she wanted the meeting open to the public and she requested that it remain closed.

Motion Beckman, seconded Spence to close the meeting to evaluate the performance of an individual subject to Council authority. All ayes 7-0-0. Meeting was closed at 6:55 p.m.

Mayor Dunbar reopened the meeting at 7:37 p.m.

Motion Beckman, seconded Waltman, based on recommendation of the city administrator, that probationary employee Beth Breuer has not successfully completed her probationary period and that she be separated from her employment with the city effective February 27, 2012. Beckman, Spence, Peters, Dunbar, Waltman voting aye; Powers, Gartner voting nay. Motion carried 5-2-0.

Powers and Gartner felt the evaluation process was not fair.

Hire temporary substitute library aide

Temporary substitute help at the library has been requested from library employees. Administrator Johnson stated that the preferred process for hiring additional employees would begin with advertising. Due to the immediate need and situation, however, Johnson requested approval to hire a current volunteer and to advertise for an additional temporary substitute library aide.

Motion Beckman, second Gartner to approve the hiring of Charmaine Sprengelmeyer-Podien, as temporary substitute library aide at Grade 5, Step A (\$11.18/hr) contingent upon successful background. All ayes 7-0-0.

Beckman suggested that, although Johnson may find available help by advertising, allowing the city administrator to utilize a temporary employment agency if part-time help cannot be found may also be an option. Council did not object to allowing this flexibility.

Adjourn

Motion Beckman, seconded Waltman to adjourn the meeting at 7:47 p.m. All ayes 7-0-0.

Jerry M. Dunbar, Mayor

ATTEST:

Kari Schreck, City Clerk