

The City of Browns Valley

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CITY OF BROWNS VALLEY, MINNESOTA Resolution No. 15-11

A RESOLUTION BY THE BROWNS VALLEY CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS LEASING AND OPERATING THE VACANT 1,600-BED PRISON IN APPLETON, MN

Date: November 23, 2015

WHEREAS, according to the Minnesota Department of Corrections, the State of Minnesota's prison population exceeds capacity; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Corrections is housing 560 inmates in county jails where they cannot receive critical rehabilitation services available in State correctional facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Corrections projects the State of Minnesota's prison population will grow by at least 500 inmates by the year 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Corrections is seeking \$141.5 million in general obligation bonds to finance the construction of a 500-bed expansion at Minnesota Correctional Facility – Rush City to accommodate projected prison population growth; and

WHEREAS, the State of Minnesota would incur additional costs such as interest, debt service, maintenance, and annual operating costs associated with expanding Minnesota Correctional Facility – Rush City; and

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton is home to a vacant and well-maintained 1,600-bed prison; and

WHEREAS, 350 people from 24 surrounding counties worked at the Appleton prison when it was in use, generating an estimated \$15.2 million for the regional economy; and

WHEREAS, many ancillary businesses in the region and their workers benefitted when the Appleton prison was in use; and

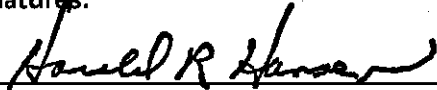
WHEREAS, the region offers robust infrastructure to provide rehabilitation services for State of Minnesota inmates and a great quality of life for working families; and

WHEREAS, the cost to the State of Minnesota to lease the Appleton prison is estimated to be \$6-8 million per year, plus annual operating costs – substantially lower than constructing and maintaining new, permanent correctional facilities; and

WHEREAS, it is practical that the State of Minnesota do its due diligence to fairly consider the costs associated with leasing and operating the Appleton prison before constructing new, permanent correctional facilities;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that on November 23, 2015 the Browns Valley City Council declared its support for a proposal for the State of Minnesota to lease and operate the Appleton prison with State of Minnesota public employees to provide much-needed jobs and economic development for the people of West Central Minnesota and to provide effective rehabilitation services for inmates needed to reduce recidivism.

Signatures:



The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

The regular council meeting of the City of Browns Valley, MN was held at City Hall. Council members present were Mike Heck, Jeanne Dusing, Tony Miller, and Ken Warren. Also in attendance were Bryon Bye, Trevor Wright, Matt Franzese, Todd Johnson, Tanya Brick, Brad Bartz, and Tom Schmitz. The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Vice Mayor Heck.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion from Warren seconded by Miller, the council unanimously approved the minutes of the October 26, 2015, Regular Council meeting.

Financial Report

Schmitz reviewed the financial report.

Bills

Following presentation and discussion of prepaid claim, claims to be paid, and employee wages, upon motion by Dusing and a second by Miller, that the council unanimously passed the following resolution:

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Browns Valley that the payment of the following city bills and payroll be and is approved as presented.

Prepaid claims: \$567.48 Claims for approval: \$101,509.33 Wages: \$17,848.29

Motion passed 4-0.

Grading Permit

Motion by Dusing with a second by Warren and approved unanimously, a grading permit for Robert Pedersen to widen the driveway at 217 East Broadway.

Visitors

Bryon Bye presented Change Order Number 8 with an increase of \$8,392.40 to the project. It consisted of temporary aggregate that was used to level out streets for the winter. In the spring, the gravel will be removed and stockpiled for the City's use.

Motion by Dusing with a second by Warren, the council unanimously approved, Change Order Number 8 in the amount of \$8,392.40.

Bye presented Pay Estimate Number 10 for work that was done during the month of October in the amount of \$368,598.75.

Motion by Heck with a second by Warren, the council unanimously approved Pay Estimate Number 10 in the amount of \$368,598.75. Documentation may be seen at City Hall.

Council members Warren and Heck reported of the discussion they had with the County's negotiating team regarding the contract for law enforcement services. Wright and Franzese contributed to the discussion with additional information and answers to questions of council members. The tentative agreement of the committee during their first meeting was not approved by the commissioners. The commissioners proposed

a counter offer that was discussed during the second negotiating team meeting. Several options to the counter offer was discussed that would still provide service to Browns Valley. Currently, at this time more information relating to the contract cannot be reported due to not knowing the decision of the commissioners. Motion by Miller with a second by Warren, the council unanimously approved to counter offer the option that was tentatively agreed upon during the second negotiating committee meeting. The counter offer will be presented to the County Board during their next scheduled meeting.

Johnson provided an update of his economic development efforts. He has decided to no longer contract his services for economic development but to volunteer his time as other EDA members. Future steps in economic development will require delegation of duties to members' area of expertise. Johnson has already started talking with EDA members regarding these duties.

Franzese reported on various activities that he has been working on.

Communication

A thank you card from the family of Pat Miller was shared.

New Business

Motion by Dusing with a second by Miller, the council unanimously approved Resolution 15-10 A Resolution By The Browns Valley City Council Requesting The Auditor Of Traverse County To Impose A Special Assessment.

Motion by Miller with a second by Warren, the council unanimously approved Resolution 15-11 A Resolution By The Browns Valley City Council Supporting The Minnesota Department Of Corrections Leasing And Operating The Vacant 1,600-Bed Prison In Appleton, Minnesota.

Motion by Heck with a second by Miller, the council unanimously approved Resolution 15-12 A Resolution Adopting Assessment For Unpaid City Provided Services And Certification To Property Taxes.

The Truth and Taxation meeting will be held at 6:00 pm. during the next scheduled meeting.

Department Reports

Fire Department

Bartz reported that he had gone to Grand Rapids to look at equipment that the Department of Natural Resources has for sale. He said that they looked at a tanker truck. When a department is interested in any equipment that the DNR is no longer using, the department is placed on a list of first come first served. The fire department is place second on that list. The tanker would fit in the fire hall. The overhead doors may need to be replaced with a large single door.

The fire department's Christmas party will be held on December 12 at the fire hall. The ambulance service will be invited.

Administration

Schmitz reported the need to have one person responsible as ambulance manager to ensure that training and maintenance requirements are done efficiently. Schmitz will research options and report back to the council.

An advertisement for ambulance staff will be placed in the Valley News three times before the end of the year.

Schmitz reported that he had applied for a grant for the food shelf from the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Tribe and that the food shelf was awarded \$1,000 for food.

Council reviewed budget material

Moved by Warren second by Miller and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Approved by:

Thomas A Schmitz, Clerk

Mike Heck, Acting Mayor