

**CITY OF INDEPENDENCE
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 21, 2008 AT 5:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CONFERENCE ROOM**

Vice Mayor Jim Riley called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Present were Mayor Gregory Kurtz and Council Members Dave Grendel, Tom Narduzzi, Jim Piteo, Jim Riley and Anthony Togliatti. Also present were Finance Director John M. Veres, Financial Analyst Vern Blaze and Economic Development Director Ron White. Absent were Councilman Jim Crooks and Councilman George Klepacz.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-147 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO PURCHASE HAYDITE GRIT FROM DIGERONIMO AGGREGATES, LLC AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Moved by Riley, seconded by Grendel, to read by title only. Council polled: 5 yes/0 no; motion carried.

Moved by Riley, seconded by Grendel, to suspend the rule requiring two separate readings. Council polled: 5 yes/0 no; motion carried.

Moved by Riley, second by Grendel, to adopt.

Discussion: Councilman Togliatti asked if we can talk about this a little bit.

Mayor Kurtz replied, I can't. I will exclude myself any discussion, but anybody else can.

Councilman Togliatti continued, has anyone talked with any of the snowplow drivers or service guys about the use of the haydite last year, their thoughts on it, some of the resident concerns, St. Michael's concerns and things like that?

Councilman Narduzzi responds, no, but David Snyderburn, I remember on our walk through, said that it worked out fine when they were short on salt.

Vice Mayor Riley replied, it is dirty, but Dave Snyderburn asked for this.

Councilman Togliatti replied, I wish David Snyderburn was here today because I looked into it. I talked some of the City guys and they'd prefer not to use it. They said it damaged their trucks. They had to clean it out with the backhoe. It beat up the trucks. It gets caught in the salt spreader itself. Apparently haydite retains water and over a 24 hour period it absorbs ten percent (10%) of its weight in water and clumps together and freezes up. They said it causes tunneling in the trucks. I guess when it gets mixed with the salt it causes tunneling, so that the salt doesn't come out properly.

Mayor Kurtz replied, do you want to keep it on first reading? He is out of town, I apologize.

Finance Director John Veres stated, I found this out today that we are limited by the salt mines by 7,000 tons this season, period. We can get anything else.

Councilman Togliatti asked, how many tons did we use last year?

Finance Director John Veres replied, 10,000.

Councilman Narduzzi replied, I think that is why we bought it as an emergency last year because we were running low.

Finance Director John Veres responded, we are limited; we can't get more than 7,000 tons.

Councilman Piteo responded, I wonder if that was an increase usage toward the end, in other words, we used more of the haydite toward the end. Maybe if you blended it sooner, if you made it a little leaner and just kind of supplement it rather than throw it out on the roads.

Councilman Togliatti replied, the price is more expensive than what we paid for salt, a couple dollars more per ton.

Finance Director John Veres stated, like I said, I just found out today, we are limited to 7,000 tons.

Vice Mayor Riley commented if I had a salt substitute, I'd raise my prices this year too.

Mayor Kurtz stated, we will leave it on first reading. Dave Snyderburn will be able to answer any questions.

Councilman Grendel responded, is the price higher this year than last year?

Finance Director Veres replied I didn't check. We'll look into that.

Mayor Kurtz continued, Dave will answer any questions that Council has.

Council polled: 5 yes/0 no; motion carried.

Resolution 2008-147 was placed on First Reading without objection.

RESOLUTION NO. 2008-148 A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE BIDS FOR SNOW PLOWING SERVICES FOR MUNICIPAL LOTS AND SENIOR CITIZENS/DISABLED PERSONS/ACTIVE MILITARY RESIDENTS FOR THE 2008/2009 SNOW SEASON AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Moved by Riley, seconded by Grendel, to read by title only. Council polled: 5 yes/0 no; motion carried.

Moved by Riley, seconded by Grendel, to suspend the rule requiring two separate readings. Council polled: 5 yes/0 no; motion carried.

Moved by Riley, second by Grendel, to adopt.

Discussion: Vice Mayor Riley responded, everyone has the new ordinance and on the back it shows the list of the contractors they will be using. There are no City employees getting any routes, correct?

Finance Director Veres replied.

Vern Blaze added, from the City.

Vice Mayor Riley replied, we worry about who the contractors are – I found out if the contractor doesn't do the driveway, we have to send out a City crew. We shouldn't pay the contractor and we should keep track of them.

Mayor Kurtz replied, if they breakdown or something and we go in and take care of the service, there is no way we should pay the contractor for us doing the service. It is just not going to happen. That is an accounting issue, so what we have to do is to make sure that if we get a call to send out a jeep, one of our vehicles to take care of a driveway or a bank of driveways that are on our senior program, our Service Department needs to keep track of that. When they come back in, Marie or the person in the office is the one that goes through the accounting, deduct that from that invoice. That is the way it is going to be done. I am not sure of the past practices, but that is the practice we are going to implement this year. Any questions on the adoption?

Council polled 5 yes/0 no; motion carried.

Moved by Riley, seconded by Narduzzi, to adjourn the Special Council meeting. Council polled: 5 yes/0 no; motion carried.

There being no further business to discuss, the Special Council Meeting was adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Gayle Rudary, Pro Tem Clerk of Council
