BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS Fargo, North Dakota

Regular Meeting: Monday: October 12, 2015:

The Regular Meeting of the Board of City Commissioners of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was held in the City Commission Room at City Hall at 5:00 o'clock p.m., Monday, October 12, 2015.

The Commissioners present or absent were as shown following:

Present: Gehrig, Piepkorn, Sobolik, Williams, Mahoney.

Absent: None.

Mayor Mahoney presiding.

Order of Agenda Approved:

Commissioner Williams moved the Order of the Agenda be approved, omitting Item No. "22" from the Consent Agenda.

Second by Sobolik. All the Commissioners voted age and the motion was declared carried.

Minutes Approved:

Commissioner Sobolik moved that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held on September 28, 2015 be approved as read.

Second by Piepkorn. All the Commissioners voted aye and the motion was declared carried.

Consent Agenda Approved:

Commissioner Williams moved the Consent Agenda be approved as follows:

- 1. 2nd reading, waive reading and final adoption of the following rezoning Ordinances; 1st reading, 9/28/15:
 - a. Rezoning Certain Parcels of Land Lying in Hector's Subdivision to the City of Fargo, Cass County, North Dakota.
 - b. Rezoning Certain Parcels of Land Lying in Hinks Addition to the City of Fargo, Cass County, North Dakota.
 - c. Rezoning Certain Parcels of Land Lying in Timber Creek Fifth Addition to the City of Fargo, Cass County, North Dakota.
- 2. Waive requirement to receive and file an Ordinance one week prior to 1st reading and 1st of an Ordinance Amending Section 12-1506, of Article 25-15 of Chapter of the Fargo Municipal Code Relating to the Alcoholic Beverages (Class FA-Entertainment License).
- 3. Receive and file Year to Date Budget to Actual Report for September 2015.
- 4. Recommendation from the PEC to reclassify the vacant Plan Reviewer I position from a grade 12 to a grade 11 effective immediately.

- 5. Designate \$15,000 in matching CDBG funds for a Storefront Rehab project at 614 Main Avenue.
- 6. Proposal to redevelop the vacant lot at 1209 4th Avenue North and sell the property for \$56,900.00.
- 7. Taxicab License for Orange Cab.
- 8. Deny Taxicab License for Yeboah Cab.
- 9. Police Department budget adjustments and NDDOT Grant, in the total amount of \$51,930.00, for Seat-Belt, Impaired Driving and Distracted Driving Enforcement, and Education Activities and Under-Aged Drinking Enforcement (CFDA #20.616).
- 10. Memorandum of Agreement regarding mitigation for five historic houses in the Oak Grove Residential Historic (in connection with the Mickelson levee).
- 11. Contract with the North Dakota Department of Health in the amount of \$445,000.00 for the WIC program (CFDA #10.557).
- 12. Change Order No. F-2, for a decrease of \$50.20, for the Fargo Cass Public Health Remodeling Project.
- 13. Change Order No. G-13 for an increase of \$8,934.65 for the Fargo Cass Public Health Remodeling Project.
- 14. Receive and file Third Quarter Financial Status Report for Major Operating Funds through September 30, 2015.
- 15. Applications for 5-year tax exemptions for improvements made to buildings:
 - a. Joshua and Stacy Duncan, 458 Elmwood Avenue South.
 - b. Paul and Karen Fleming, 2314 11th Street South.
 - c. David Kirsch, 1537 22nd Avenue South.
- 16. Site Authorizations for Games of Chance:
 - a. Fargo Youth Hockey Association at the Teamsters Arena.
 - b. American Gold Gymnastics, Inc. at Sidestreet Grille and Pub.
- 17. Applications for Games of Chance:
 - a. Bethany Auxiliary for a raffle on 10/22/15.
 - b. Brenda Kraft Benefit for raffle boards and a raffle on 11/7/15; Public Spirited Resolution.
 - c. United Way of Cass-Clay for a raffle on 10/20/15.
- 18. Change Order No. 1 for a reduction of \$12,253.80 for Project No. WA1301.
- 19. Change Order No. 1 for an increase of \$45,547.83 for Project No. WW1403.

- 20. Proposal from Horsley Specialties, in the amount of \$69,375.00, for asbestos abatement in connection with Phase I of Project No. WW1403.
- 21. Irrigation repair policy amendment for repairs to private irrigation systems to allow approval by the Project Manager up to \$1,000.00 and by the Division Engineer or City Engineer up to \$5,000.00.
- 22. Amendment to Edgewood Estates Development and Assessment Agreement for the Edgewood Estates development with a \$50,000.00 deposit (Project No. VN-14-A) (omitted).
- 23. Conduit Sale Agreement with Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services, Inc. for the Union Storage Building (NP Avenue from University Drive to 10th Street North).
- 24. License Agreement with Xcel Energy Services Inc. on behalf of Northern States Power to allow soil borings and monitoring wells at NP Avenue and 11th Street and 12th Street North.
- 25. Contract time extension for Project No. TR-15-B1 to 11/24/15.
- 26. Bid advertisement for Project No. HD-15-B.
- 27. Bills in the amount of \$10,196,838.31.

Second by Gehrig. On call of the roll Commissioners Williams, Gehrig, Sobolik, Piepkorn and Mahoney voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

Right of Way and Easement Agreement with Cenex Pipeline, LLC for Improvement District No. BN-15-N Approved:

The Board received a communication from the Public Works Projects Evaluation Committee stating they reviewed a communication from City Engineer April Walker regarding the need to execute an agreement with Cenex Pipeline to secure an easement. They said the easement is necessary to service the Commerce on 12th development area with utilities on the east side of the development to provide sanitary sewer and water and on the north side to install a storm sewer.

Commissioner Williams moved the right of way and easement agreement with Cenex Pipeline, LLC for Improvement District No. BN-15-N be approved.

Second by Gehrig. On call of the roll Commissioners Williams, Gehrig, Sobolik, Piepkorn and Mahoney voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

<u>Purchase Agreement with Fargo Commercial Properties, LLC in connection with Improvement District No. NN-15-B1 Approved:</u>

The Board received a communication from the Public Works Projects Evaluation Committee stating they reviewed correspondence from Division Engineer

Brenda Derrig regarding the purchase of property necessary to provide for a storm water retention pond in Commerce on 12th. They said this is a unique property due to the fact that it is part of the City of Fargo even though it lies within the Sheyenne River tie back levee that provides flood protection to West Fargo. Through the development of a plan to service this area it was determined that it would be most efficient to connect this storm sewer into the West Fargo storm sewer, they said. The costs of the purchase will be assessed back to the properties that benefit from the pond, they said.

Commissioner Williams moved the purchase agreement with Fargo Commercial Properties, LLC for Lot 1, Block 3 of Commerce on 12th, in the amount of \$502,972.95, in connection with Improvement District No. NN-15-B1 be approved.

Second by Gehrig. On call of the roll Commissioner Williams, Gehrig, Sobolik, Piepkorn and Mahoney voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

<u>Bids Received for Sanitary Sewer, Water Main, Storm Sewer, P.C. Concrete Paving,</u> Street Lights and Incidentals Improvement District No. BN-15-N1:

The bids for Sanitary Sewer, Water Main, Storm Sewer, P.C. Concrete Paving, Street Lights and Incidentals Improvement District No. BN-15-N1 in the City of Fargo, North Dakota were opened at 11:30 o'clock a.m., October 7, 2015 and the bids were found to be as follows:

Dakota Underground Company, Inc.	Fargo, ND
Bid:	\$3,648,132.70

Master Construction Company, Inc.	Fargo, ND
Bid:	\$3,999,021,90

H & S Contracting, Inc.	Moorhead, MN
Bid:	\$4,395,700.95

KPH, Inc.	Kindred, ND
Bid:	\$4,396,789.50

Ryan Contracting, Inc.	Shakopee, MN
Bid:	\$4.397.094.45

R.L. Larson Excavating, Inc.	St. Cloud, MN
Bid:	\$4,744,122.30

Northern Improvement Company	Fargo, ND
Bid:	\$4,797,384.20

Robert Gibb & Sons, Inc.	Fargo, ND
Bid:	\$4,897,973.20

Sellin Brothers, Inc.	Hawley, MN
Bid:	\$4,989,471.75

Duininck, Inc. Prinsburg, MN Bid: \$5,356,429.70

Contract for Sanitary Sewer, Water Main, Storm Sewer, P.C. Concrete Paving, Street Lights and Incidentals Improvement District No. BN-15-N1 Awarded to Dakota Underground Company, Inc. in the Amount of \$3,648,132.70:

Commissioner Williams offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The City Engineer has prepared and filed a detailed statement of the estimated costs of Sanitary Sewer, Water Main, Storm Sewer, P.C. Concrete Paving, Street Lights and Incidentals Improvement District No. BN-15-N1; and

WHEREAS, The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Fargo has considered the bids received October 7, 2015 for Sanitary Sewer, Water Main, Storm Sewer, P.C. Concrete Paving, Street Lights and Incidentals Improvement District No. BN-15-N1 in the City of Fargo, North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, The City Engineer's tabulation of the bids received for Sanitary Sewer, Water Main, Storm Sewer, P.C. Concrete Paving, Street Lights and Incidentals Improvement District No. BN-15-N1 shows the bid of Dakota Underground Company, Inc. of Fargo, North Dakota, in the sum of \$3,648,132.70 to be the lowest and best bid received.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of City Commissioners finds and declares the bid received from Dakota Underground Company, Inc. in the sum of \$3,648,132.70 is the lowest and best bid received.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the contract for Sanitary Sewer, Water Main, Storm Sewer, P.C. Concrete Paving, Street Lights and Incidentals Improvement District No. BN-15-N1 in the City of Fargo, North Dakota, be and the same is hereby awarded to Dakota Underground Company, Inc. for the sum of \$3,648,132.70, subject to the supervision, inspection and approval of the City Engineer, and in accordance with the Plans and Specifications filed in the office of the City Auditor.

Second by Gehrig. On the vote being taken on the question of the adoption of the Resolution Commissioners Williams, Gehrig, Sobolik, Piepkorn and Mahoney voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the Resolution was adopted.

No Protests Received for Traffic Signal Improvements and Incidentals Improvement District No. TN-15-B1:

The Statutory Resolution of Necessity for the construction of Traffic Signal Improvements and Incidentals Improvement District No. TN-15-B1 in the City of Fargo, North Dakota, was duly published in the official newspaper for the City of Fargo, North Dakota on September 7 and 14, 2015 and no protests have been filed in the office of the City Auditor within the legal protest period.

Commissioner Williams moved that the Board declare that no protests have been filed to the construction of Traffic Signal Improvements and Incidentals Improvement District No. TN-15-B1.

Second by Gehrig. On call of the roll Commissioners Williams, Gehrig, Sobolik, Piepkorn and Mahoney voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

Bids Received for Traffic Signal Improvements and Incidentals Improvement District No. TN-15-B1:

The bids for Traffic Signal Improvements and Incidentals Improvement District No. TN-15-B1 in the City of Fargo, North Dakota were opened at 11:30 o'clock a.m., October 7, 2015 and the bids were found to be as follows:

Fritz Electric, Inc. Fargo, ND Bid: \$295,770.25

Strata Corporation Grand Forks, ND Bid: \$328,812.85

Fargo Electric Construction, Inc. Fargo, ND Bid: \$329,185.40

Contract for Traffic Signal Improvements and Incidentals Improvement District No. TN-15-B1 Awarded to Fritz Electric, Inc. in the Amount of \$295,770.25:

Commissioner Williams offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The City Engineer has prepared and filed a detailed statement of the estimated costs of Traffic Signal Improvements and Incidentals Improvement District No. TN-15-B1; and

WHEREAS, The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Fargo has considered the bids received October 7, 2015 for Traffic Signal Improvements and Incidentals Improvement District No. TN-15-B1 in the City of Fargo, North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, The City Engineer's tabulation of the bids received for Traffic Signal Improvements and Incidentals Improvement District No. TN-15-B1 shows the bid of Fritz Electric, Inc. of Fargo, North Dakota, in the sum of \$295,770.25 to be the lowest and best bid received.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of City Commissioners finds and declares the bid received from Fritz Electric, Inc. in the sum of \$295.770.25 is the lowest and best bid received.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the contract for Traffic Signal Improvements and Incidentals Improvement District No. TN-15-B1 in the City of Fargo, North Dakota, be and the same is hereby awarded to Fritz Electric, Inc. for the sum of \$295,770.25, subject to the supervision, inspection and approval of the City Engineer, and in accordance with the Plans and Specifications filed in the office of the City Auditor.

Second by Gehrig. On the vote being taken on the question of the adoption of the Resolution Commissioners Williams, Gehrig, Sobolik, Piepkorn and Mahoney voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the Resolution was adopted.

<u>Change Order No. 3 and Contract Time Extension for Improvement District No. BN-14-71 Approved:</u>

Commissioner Williams moved approval of Change Order No. 3 for an increase of \$212,607.70 and contract time extension to October 6, 2015 for Improvement District No. BN-14-71.

Second by Gehrig. On call of the roll Commissioners Williams, Gehrig, Sobolik, Piepkorn and Mahoney voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

<u>Change Order No. 1 and Contract Time Extension for Improvement District</u> No. BN-15-L1 Approved:

Commissioner Williams moved approval of Change Order No. 1 for an increase of \$2,824.45 and contract time extension to November 19, 2015 for Improvement District No. BN-15-L1.

Second by Gehrig. On call of the roll Commissioners Williams, Gehrig, Sobolik, Piepkorn and Mahoney voted ave.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

Relocate Utilities and Incidentals Improvement District No. BN-15-M (Fire Department Headquarters):

Commissioner Williams moved the following action be taken in connection with Relocate Utilities and Incidentals Improvement District No. BN-15-M:

Adopt Resolution Creating Improvement District No. BN-15-M:

WHEREAS, The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, deems it expedient that Improvement District No. BN-15-M in the City of Fargo, North Dakota, be created

Fire Station #1, located at 637 NP Avenue.

COMPRISING:

Lots 19 through 21, Block 1, Roberts Addition.

All of the foregoing located in the City of Fargo, Cass County, North Dakota.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That Relocate Utilities and Incidentals Improvement District No. BN-15-M in the City of Fargo, North Dakota, be and the same is hereby created.

Request Report and Estimate of Cost From the City Engineer for Improvement District No. BN-15-M:

Direct City Engineer to report as to the general nature, purpose and feasibility relative to the construction of Improvement District No. BN-15-M in the City of Fargo, North Dakota; as well as an estimate of the approximate cost of said construction. (The Engineer's estimate of cost is \$381,263.37.)

Order Plans and Specifications for Improvement District No. BN-15-M:

Direct City Engineer to prepare Plans and Specifications for the construction of Improvement District No. BN-15-M in the City of Fargo, North Dakota.

Adopt Resolution Approving Plans and Specifications and Engineer's Report for Improvement District No. BN-15-M:

WHEREAS, The Board of City Commissioners of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, has created Improvement District No. BN-15-M in the City of Fargo, North Dakota, as required by law; and

WHEREAS, Plans and Specifications and the Engineer's Report prepared by the City Engineer, have been considered.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Plans and Specifications and Engineer's Report for the construction of Improvement District No. BN-15-M in the City of Fargo, North Dakota, be and the same are hereby approved and ordered filed in the Office of the City Auditor.

Adopt Resolution Declaring Relocate Utilities and Incidentals Improvement District No. BN-15-M Necessary:

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF CITY COMMISSIONERS OF THE CITY OF FARGO:

That it be and is hereby declared necessary to construct Relocate Utilities and Incidentals Improvement District No. BN-15-M in the City of Fargo, North Dakota, according to the Engineer's Report for this district and the Plans and Specifications approved by the Board of City Commissioners of the City of Fargo, North Dakota, filed in the Office of the City Auditor, and open for public inspection. A map of the district is attached hereto and incorporated as if fully set forth herein.

That the entire cost of said improvement be specially assessed against the benefited property in said improvement district in amounts proportionate to and not exceeding the benefits to be derived by them respectively from said improvement.

Protests against the proposed Relocate Utilities and Incidentals must be in writing and must be filed with the City Auditor's Office within thirty days after the first publication of this Resolution.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the City Auditor's Office is hereby instructed to publish this Resolution, as required by law.

<u>Direct City Auditor's Office to Call for Bids for Improvement District No.</u> BN-15-M:

Direct City Auditor's Office to publish a Notice, as required by law, calling for bids for the construction of Improvement District No. BN-15-M in the City of Fargo, North Dakota.

Second by Gehrig. On call of the roll Commissioners Williams, Gehrig, Sobolik, Piepkorn and Mahoney voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

<u>State Water Commission Request for Cost Reimbursement for FM Diversion Flood</u> Project Costs Approved:

Commissioner Williams moved the cost reimbursement request to the State Water Commission for FM Diversion Flood Project costs in the amount of \$885,633.00 be approved.

Second by Piepkorn. On call of the roll Commissioners Williams, Piepkorn, Sobolik, Gehrig and Mahoney voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

Request from the Downtown Community Partnership to Use a Portion of the City Parking Lot Located at the Intersection of Main Avenue and Broadway for a Temporary Downtown Ice Rink Approved:

The Board received a communication from Planning Director Jim Gilmour and Planner Derrick LaPoint stating the Planning Department has received a request from the Downtown Community Partnership (DCP) to construct a temporary Downtown Ice Rink. They said the ice rink would use the west portion of the public parking lot located at the intersection of Main Avenue and Broadway. They said the Fargo Park District has approved the use of the Island Park pool lot to offset additional parking needs. The Downtown Ice Rink would be open from December through February, weather permitting, they said, and the proposed hours of operation are weekdays from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and weekends from 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. They stated the Downtown Ice Rink has approval from the Fargo Park Board and the Fargo Parking Commission, and the DCP is seeking City Commission approval to add the amenity to Downtown. Mr. LaPoint said this parking area contains 42 parking spots and with the addition of the rink, would eliminate about 24 of those spots. He said they have worked with the Fargo Park District to obtain some additional parking in the Island Park pool lot, which is approximately 100 spots. He said the rink will be managed and maintained by the Fargo Park District. Mr. LaPoint said this is a privately funded project.

In response to a question from Commissioner Piepkorn about the number of parking spaces being lost and who the responsible party will be to make up that lost revenue, Operations Manager of Interstate Parking in Fargo Andy Renfrew said the current lot has 75 spaces, 87 of which are rented as of today. He said it is a unique parking lot since they only see about 50% occupancy. The tenants of that lot work nontraditional work hours for the most part, he said, therefore on average during a typical day about 35 spaces are not being used even though they are being paid for. He said this is not a desirable location due to it being so close to the railroad tracks.

Commissioner Piepkorn said this is a taxpayers' parking lot and if the City is not being reimbursed for these spots someone should compensate the City.

Commissioner Williams said the 87 renters are still paying, they just are not all there at the same time.

Brad Wimmer said he has watched the lot and it only stays about a third full and two-thirds empty, therefore, those individuals should be able to move to the east side of the lot. He said half of the third floor and all of the fourth floor in the Island Park Ramp are typically empty, so those individuals could go there as well as the Island Park pool lot.

Commissioner Sobolik said this is just temporary partly due to the fact that there have been discussions about the new City Hall's plaza and one of the things that was brought up is a more permanent place for an ice rink in Downtown. She said she feels that this would be a good precursor to see how it works out and to determine if there is interest before the City invests in anything permanent for the plaza.

Commissioner Williams moved the use of a portion of the City parking lot located at the intersection of Main Avenue and Broadway for a temporary Downtown Ice Rink be approved and the City Attorney be directed to prepare a lease agreement.

Second by Sobolik. On call of the roll Commissioners Williams, Sobolik, Gehrig, Piepkorn and Mahoney voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

David Todd Appointed Police Chief:

Commissioner Piepkorn moved the recommendation of the Police Chief Selection Committee to appoint David Todd Police Chief be approved.

Second by Williams. On call of the roll Commissioners Piepkorn, Williams, Sobolik, Gehrig and Mahoney voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

Hearing on a Request for Rezoning and Planned Unit Development Overlay, Planned Unit Development Master Land Use Plan and Plat of Amity South at Cottagewood First Addition Continued to November 23, 2015 (3801 and 4101 51st Avenue South):

A Hearing had been set for July 20, 2015 on a Request for Rezoning and Planned Unit Development Overlay, Planned Unit Development Master Land Use Plan and Plat of Amity South at Cottagewood First Addition.

At the July 20, 2015 meeting, the Hearing was continued to August 31, 2015.

At the August 31, 2015 meeting, the Hearing was continued to this day and hour; however, Planning Administrator Nicole Crutchfield is requesting the Hearing be continued to November 23, 2015.

Commissioner Sobolik moved the Hearing be continued to 5:15 o'clock p.m., November 23, 2015.

Second by Piepkorn. On call of the roll Commissioners Sobolik, Piepkorn, Williams, Gehrig voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

Appeal of the Board of Adjustment's Denial of a Request for a Variance at 1005 South Drive South: Variance Granted:

A Hearing had been set for this day and hour on the appeal of a September 22, 2015 ruling of the Board of Adjustment denying the variance request from Aaron and Amy Liesinger to allow a building addition to encroach into the interior-side setback area in the SR-2 zoning district at 1005 South Drive South.

No written protest or objection to the granting of the variance has been received or filed in the office of the City Auditor.

The Board determined that no person is present at this Hearing to protest or offer objection thereto.

The Staff recommended the Board of Adjustment's denial be upheld.

Planning Administrator Nicole Crutchfield said this was a tough case. She said the applicants are requesting to add on to their existing garage and according to the LDC, primary structures need to be set back at least 10 feet or 10% of the lot width from the interior side property line in an SR-2 zoning district. She said the property is 76 feet wide, which would, therefore, require an interior side setback of 7.6 feet; however, the applicant would like to construct the addition as close as 5.5 feet from the eastern interior-side lot line. Accordingly, she said, the applicant is requesting a variance in order to encroach 2.1 feet into the required interior-side setback area.

Amy Liesinger, owner of the property, said this has been a process that started in May and has taken nearly five months and now to lose out on the construction window for the season is a little frustrating. She said she does not feel that she is asking for a lot considering a neighbor a couple of blocks over asked for the same thing and received approval.

Commissioner Sobolik moved the variance be granted.

Second by Gehrig. On call of the roll Commissioners Sobolik, Gehrig, Williams, Piepkorn and Mahoney voted aye.

No Commissioner being absent and none voting nay, the motion was declared carried.

Resolution Adopted Recognizing the Second Monday of October as Indigenous Peoples Day:

The Board received a communication from Cultural Planner Willard Yellow Bird stating the City established the Native American Commission to strengthen the Native American community by promoting understanding, recognition and respect for cultures. He said the purpose of the Native American Commission is to enrich the community as a whole and support empathy, integrity, humility and good stewardship of resources and fostering fellowship and familial cohesion. In order to help close the equity gap, he said, government entities, organizations and other public institutions should change their policies and practices to better reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples and uplift the country's Indigenous roots, history and contributions. The Native American Commission, he said, in conjunction with the Fargo Human Relations Commission and other private and public entities, will develop an action plan for ongoing community education.

Native American Commission Member Clinton Alexander said he grew up not knowing his culture and feels very strongly about reclaiming his heritage. He said he believes what the Native American Commission is doing is serving the purpose of the Commission's mission and their intent is not to denigrate any group of people or anyone's spiritual beliefs it is more focused on the contributions of Indigenous Peoples of the world and this country. It is also to talk honestly about the austerities that the man who is being honored on this day committed, he said, and an acknowledgement of the very troubled history. He said it is not a guilty plea, but it is a move forward together and let the pain of the past become just that. He said this is also an opportunity for the City to once again lead the State and the United States.

Chair of the Human Relations Commission Rachel Hoffman said the Human Relations Commission strongly supports the adoption of this resolution primarily due to the fact that it is an opportunity to celebrate a fuller history and understanding of what the Indigenous Peoples have done for the community.

Native American Commissioner Crystal Gonzales said it is not the Commission's intention to demonize any particular group and although the US does federally applaud Columbus via Columbus Day, North Dakota does not. The purpose of Indigenous Peoples Day is to educate the community every year about the Native American culture which is left out of text books. There is a growing number of American cities that have already answered the call for historical accuracy, she said, such as Minneapolis, MN; St. Paul, MN; Berkley, CA; Grand Rapids, MN as well as others. Now is the time, she said, for the City of Fargo to act responsibly and make a stand to support a true history.

NDSU Professor Dr. Donald Warne said it was in the early 70's when he was first exposed to this holiday and it turns out that everything he learned was wrong. He said the City needs to recognize and honor the beauty and strength of the Indigenous Cultures. He said he has lived all over the country, and the relationship within Fargo is the best relationship that he has seen in terms of racial relationships with the Native American population.

NDSU Professor Dr. Michael Yellow Bird said he has had a chance to follow this resolution and a lot of the important language has been removed and he does not support the Resolution in its current form. He said he feels that there needs to be more conversation with the City of Fargo and the Native American community about the facts of who Columbus was.

Scott Jacobson; Jamie Holding Eagle; Ruth Buffalo Zarazua; Sharon White Bear; Sandy Berlin; and Kathy Hogan spoke in favor of the passage of this Resolution.

Joe McCormick, 1038 11th Street North, said he feels that the City needs to celebrate the discovery of America. He said he feels that instead of making a decision tonight, this should be voted on at the next election. He said he feels that something that has been in existence for so long should be put to a vote.

Mayor Mahoney said this is not a holiday the City of Fargo recognizes.

Commissioner Sobolik offered the following Resolution and moved its adoption:

WHEREAS, The City of Fargo established the Native American Commission to strengthen the Native American community by promoting understanding, recognition and respect for cultures and to enrich the community as a whole and support empathy, integrity, humility, good stewardship of resources, fostering fellowship and familial cohesion; and

WHEREAS, The Fargo Native American Commission unanimously supports abolishing Columbus Day and replacing said day with Indigenous Peoples Day with the intention of bringing awareness and understanding to the City of Fargo's community; and

WHEREAS, The City of Fargo recognizes that Fargo is built upon the homelands and villages of the Indigenous Peoples of this region, without whom the building of this city would not have been possible; and

WHEREAS, The City of Fargo understands that in order to help close the equity gap, government entities, organizations and other public institutions should change their policies and practices to better reflect the experiences of Indigenous Peoples and uplift our country's Indigenous roots, history, and contributions; and

WHEREAS, Indigenous Peoples Day was first proposed in 1977 by a delegation of Native Nations to the United Nations-sponsored International Conference on Discrimination Against Indigenous Populations in the Americas; and

WHEREAS, In 1990 representatives from 120 Indigenous nations at the First Continental Conference on 500 Years of Indian Resistance unanimously passed a resolution to transform Columbus Day into an occasion to strengthen the process of continental unity and struggle for liberation, and thereby use the occasion to reveal a more accurate historical record; and

WHEREAS, Columbus Day is celebrated throughout the United States and the United States has recognized the second Monday of October -- Columbus Day -- as a federal holiday since 1937; and

WHEREAS, Evidence has been presented alleging that Christopher Columbus and those under his command mistreated Indigenous People with a number of brutally violent acts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the City of Fargo shall continue its efforts to promote the wellbeing of the Fargo Native American and Indigenous community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Indigenous Peoples Day shall be an opportunity to celebrate the thriving cultures and positive values of the Indigenous Peoples of our region; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Fargo Public Schools and other educational institutions are encouraged to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the businesses, organizations, and public institutions are encouraged to recognize Indigenous Peoples Day; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That Fargo's Indigenous Peoples Day shall serve as an occasion to reflect upon the ongoing struggles and positive contributions of Indigenous Peoples of this land, and to celebrate the culture and value that Anishinaabe, Dakota, Lakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arikara and all Indigenous Peoples add to our community so as to enhance understanding and promote harmony; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Fargo Native American Commission shall, in conjunction with the Fargo Human Relations Commission and other private and public entities, develop an action plan for ongoing community education.

THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, That the City of Fargo shall henceforth proclaim the second Monday of October to be Indigenous Peoples Day.

Second by Williams. On the vote being taken on the question of the adoption of the Resolution Commissioners Sobolik, Williams, Gehrig and Mahoney voted aye.

Commissioner Piepkorn voted nay.

The Resolution was adopted.

Commissioner Williams moved that the Board adjourn to 5:00 o'clock p.m., Monday, October 26, 2015.

Second by Sobolik. All the Commissioners voted age and the motion was declared carried.

The time at adjournment was 6:04 o'clock p.m.