

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Hoyt Lakes City Council
Hoyt Lakes City Hall Council Chambers
Monday, January 8, 2024
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Zins; Councilors Kramar, Grams, Beauregard, Scott

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Becky Lammi, Public Works Director Ken Snetsinger, Fire Chief Tony House, EMS Director Melanie Olmstead, City Attorney Mitch Brunfelt.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Zins at 5:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Kramar supported by Beauregard to approve the following consent agenda items:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

- 4.1 Regular City Council Meeting – December 26, 2023.

CORRESPONDENCE –

- 5.1 Hoyt Lakes Public Library Minutes – November 2023.
- 5.2 Hometown Focus – Notice of publication rates.

APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT – CLAIMS

- 6.1 Disbursements - \$208,358.93
- 6.2 Payroll - \$75,302.45
 - 6.2.1 Payroll - \$66,037.94
 - 6.2.2 Benefits - \$9,264.51
 - 6.2.3 Insurance - \$43,531.45

Motion carried unanimously.

APPEARANCES/PUBLIC FORUM

Marge Thompson – 332 Kent Road.

Her sewer has backed up in basement for the 2nd time. She stated Jake said if in the City's line the City would pay. She called Roto-Rooter and they said it was the City's line. She requests that the Rotor-Rooter bill be covered. The City will discuss with Public Utilities Director Berndt and get back to her. The cost is \$340.

Bob Turk – Ranger Snowmobile Club.

Thanked the Mayor, Council, Attorney and City Administrator regarding the Floe Building. Thanks to Stuart for the grant writing. Special thanks to Becky Lammi for all the administrative work. The Club is currently working on expanding trails.

Mitzie Moe – 321 Fairfax Road.

Questioned why the City is looking to add a position that never existed before? Mayor Zins responded that is not true, there have been numerous people in this position in prior years.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

City Administrator Lammi shared we have not heard back from the owners of the trailer court regarding who they are going to have plow the private roads. This may pose a public safety risk as emergency services won't be able to access the residents on the private property.

Public Works Director Snetsinger advised they just finished with their first snow event. Reminder there is no parking on the street between 2 am and 8 am. Also, please remove all items from your curbs as they could be damaged when the City snow blows. The outdoor rink has re-opened.

EMS Director Olmstead stated they had 972 runs in 2023.

Fire Chief House shared they had 29 calls in 2023.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Councilor Grams informed everyone that we have multiple grant writers for the city. Administrator Lammi, Cherie Grams, Stuart Beauregard along with East Range Joint Powers Board (Northspan). She also stated that many grants are project based and require matching City grants.

Communications were provided regarding emails between Councilor Grams and Andrea Carr. She apologized to any Council and/or City staff that may have received emails that they were sending threatening messages. She also requested the petition not use the City of Hoyt Lakes logo.

The following statement was made by Councilor Beauregard:

Open letter to the council and citizens of Hoyt Lakes. There have been a number of posts made on Facebook regarding city functions and employees. While some of these posts may be true, others are missing additional information, false or misleading. While Facebook is a great tool for bringing a community together, the recent conversations are not productive.

Many of the statements made are hurtful to the employee specified in the comments but also to other city employees. Comments like these will and have caused morale issues throughout multiple departments in the city.

Due to limitations of open meeting law, most council members will not comment on social media posts as it opens them personally and the city to legal liabilities. With this in mind, I would encourage any member of the community to contact the city hall office or a member of the council if there is a question or concern. The email address for each of the council members is listed on the city website. Please consider contacting one of us with issues, questions, or concerns before resorting to social media.

As a member of the council, I would like to hear about complaints against any city employee. There is a process that should be followed for these complaints. I encourage any resident with a complaint against an employee to complete the complaint concern form. These can be found at city hall or can be shared by request digitally. These forms must be complete, including name, address, and signature. Forms can be submitted in a box at city hall. Forms that are incomplete will not be processed as the information cannot be verified. All complete forms will be processed and employee complaints will be reviewed by the personnel committee or legal counsel as needed. This form is the first step in addressing any problem with city actions or employees.

Please try to keep in mind the point of these forms as you are filling them out. The goal is to improve the service of the city, not to attack any person or group. Include details of what was said or done and on

what date. Explain how you thought the interaction should have gone and what could have been done better.

Thank you all for your time. I look forward to working together to keep Hoyt Lakes a great and growing community.

Councilor Scott attended the Youth In Action meeting last week. Grades 7 – 12 are encouraged to get involved. They historically gave out scholarships.

Mayor Zins commented on the number of comments on social media stating you're only hearing one side of the story. He advised that a public forum is provided at the beginning of every meeting for this reason.

OLD BUSINESS

Moved by Grams supported by Kramar to approve 2024 committee assignments. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Scott supported by Beauregard to approve Resolution 2024-001 to appoint everything. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Kramar supported by Scott to approve LG555 Gambling funds donation from VFW to Ranger Snowmobile/ATV Club. Motion carried unanimously.

Presentation on the Can-Am 5M Project presentation, A Canadian-American space project.

Presentation on pickleball. Fees were discussed. City Administrator Lammi will bring a draft ordinance to the next meeting.

Moved by Zins supported by Grams to approve St. Louis County request for Letter of Support re: Kennedy Memorial project. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Beauregard supported by Kramar to approve special event permit to BAM. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Scott to table Ordinance no.XXX repealing chapter 13 to first meeting in February.

Moved by Kramar supported by Beauregard to approve update to Hoyt Lakes Fire Department job descriptions – Secretary & Captain. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Beauregard supported by Scott to change HLFHD hiring policy. Ayes: Zins, Scott, Beauregard, Grams. Nays: Kramar. Motion carried.

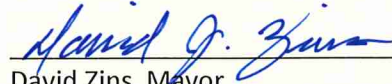
Moved by Scott supported by Kramar to approve EMS Director request to provide EMR training. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Zins supported by Beauregard to update Administrative job description and position posting up to 14 hours per week. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Kramar supported by Grams to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 p.m.



David Zins, Mayor

ATTEST:



Becky Lammi, City Administrator