

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Hoyt Lakes City Council
Hoyt Lakes City Hall Council Chambers
Monday, September 11, 2023
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Vice Mayor Grams, Councilors Kramar, Beauregard, Scott

ABSENT: Mayor Zins

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Becky Lammi, Library Director Sue Sowers, Public Works Director Ken Snetsinger, City Attorney Mitch Brunfelt.

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-

- 4.1 Regular City Council Meeting – August 28, 2023.

CORRESPONDENCE –

- 5.1 East Range Public Safety Board Minutes – July 2023.
- 5.2 East Range Joint Powers Board Minutes – July 2023.
- 5.3 Minnesota Pollution Control Agency – Notice of biosolid land application approval.
- 5.4 Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Notice of suspension of water permit at Hoyt Lakes Golf Course.
- 5.5 Minnesota Department of Health – Notice of quarterly report.

APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT – CLAIMS

- 6.1 Disbursements - \$96,521.55
- 6.2 Payroll - \$79,361.35
 - 6.2.1 Payroll - \$69,461.66
 - 6.2.2 Benefits - \$9,899.69
 - 6.2.3 Insurance - \$26,933.87

Motion carried unanimously.

APPEARANCES/PUBLIC FORUM

Vice Mayor Grams addressed several questions/concerns recently expressed on social media.

Questions:

Is it common practice to provide tuition? Yes, numerous public and private entities provide educational opportunities to their employees, including tuition.

Why isn't Hoyt Lakes joining in the East Range Water efforts and meetings? At the initial onset, it was not financially viable for Hoyt Lakes to participate in the project, due to the project taking place at the Waste Water Treatment Facility. The Council will meet to discuss further in detail in the future.

Why is the Dollar Store being built in that area? The developers were provided all of the available locations in the City owned by the City, and wished to purchase the parcel on Dorchester/Kennedy Memorial.

Why were there no dollars donated for the Christmas program? Who decides this? The City cannot donate monies to other entities, including the Hoyt Lakes Fire Relief Association. That was decided by the State of Minnesota Auditor. The City is required to follow all laws and regulations regarding monetary donations.

Is it normal to make decisions without the input of the community? City Attorney Brunfelt explained how a representative democracy works – the people elect a mayor and council to make decisions for the people. Members of the public can speak during the public forum section of the regular council meetings, or speak individually to a councilor regarding their concerns. Public hearings are required, by law, in specific instances.

How long since council was elected? The last election was in 2022.

What is the advantage of the Administrator getting a Master's degree? Educated employees greatly benefit the communities in which they serve. Additionally, there are opportunities to learn more about grants and establish contacts within other communities and departments. The better a person is at their job, the better a person can serve the community.

Where is the accountability for the Campground Bathhouse? All invoices are approved by the council, as required by Minnesota State Statute.

Why are water shut off rates so expensive? Due to the increased workload of snow removal during the winter months. The council will consider this during budgeting time.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Library Director Sue Sowers shared the Public Forum meeting had great discussion and ideas. Sue can be contacted for involvement in focus groups. There was a Falcon Program last Saturday. Staff will be attending the National Conference next week. The library will be closed during this time.

Public Works Director Ken Snetsinger provided updates on storm clean up and thanked the many City Departments, ATV Club, City of Aurora and citizens of Hoyt Lakes for the overwhelming amount of help.

City Attorney Brunfelt stated the purchase agreement on Floe Building has been signed.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Councilor Kramar thanked the many departments and outside agencies that assisted with storm clean up.

Councilor Beauregard thanked everyone for help during storm clean up. Ranger ATV/Snowmobile Club will be hosting Ride & Rally September 22 – 23.

Councilor Scott thanked everyone for help during storm clean up.

OLD BUSINESS

Moved by Beaugard supported by Scott to approve 2023-2024 AFSMCE Ambulance Collective Bargaining agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of resident concern regarding garage sales.

Moved by Scott supported by Kramar to approve request to write off utility bill 1003-32501-00. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Beaugard supported by Scott to approve purchase of items from Dan Darbo - Hoyt Lakes Golf Course for \$725.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Beauregard supported by Kramar to approve request from Kimball Elementary School to waive rental fee for the Hoyt Lakes Community Building on May 9 & 10, 2024. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Kramar supported by Scott to approve pay request no. 36 from Gridor Construction in the amount of \$203,164.00 for the Waste Water Treatment Facility project. Ayes: Grams, Kramar, Scott. Abstain: Beauregard. Motion carried.

Moved by Beaugard supported by Kramar to approve items listed on request from Hoyt Lakes Fire Department. Motion carried unanimously.


Moved by Scott supported by Kramar to approve purchase agreement from Floe to City of Hoyt Lakes for parcel no. 142-0070-01308. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion on ordinance prohibiting use of cannabis in public places.

ADJORNMENT


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

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.



Cherie Grams, Vice Mayor

ATTEST:


Becky Lammi, City Administrator