

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Hoyt Lakes City Council
Hoyt Lakes City Hall Council Chambers
Monday, August 26, 2024
5:30 p.m.

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

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Becky Lammi, City Attorney Mitch Brunfelt, Public Utilities Director Jake Berndt, Recreation Director Wayne West.

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

CORRESPONDENCE –

- 5.1 Hoyt Lakes Public Library Minutes – July 2024.
- 5.2 Town of Colvin – Letter regarding CSAH 100.

APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT – CLAIMS

- 6.1 Disbursements - \$236,802.81
- 6.2 Payroll - \$88,937.42
 - 6.2.1 Payroll - \$78,046.25
 - 6.2.2 Benefits - \$10,891.17
 - 6.2.3 Insurance - \$26,405.84

Motion carried unanimously.

APPEARANCES/PUBLIC FORUM

None.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

City Administrator Lammi received one RFP for Golf Course Manager and will meet with the Personnel Committee & Recreation Director West regarding the application. Up North Quilt Guild presented the city with a thank you painting for use of the Community Building. We received a proclamation of thanks from St. Louis County for our letter of support for the RAISE Grant Program; they were awarded \$25 million for the Rice Lake Road (highway 4) corridor project.

Recreation Director West shared the golf season is winding down and fall recreation program sign-ups are taking place now.

Public Utilities Director Berndt discussed color problems at the Water Treatment plant. There are chemistry issues with chlorine and manganese. They have identified a solution. Hydrant flushing should help and there are no health issues, only cosmetic. He also discussed money savings with new chemicals.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

Councilor Kramar welcomed Councilor Dave Jarvela. She stated the food pantry is being heavily used but has received recent vandalism and she gave a reminder to please not donate outdated food. The East Range Public Safety Board has an open officer position.

Councilor Beauregard welcomed Councilor Dave Jarvela.

Councilor Scott commented on the Garden Club Summer BBQ held on August 21.

Councilor Jarvela thanked everyone for their welcome.

Mayor Grams also welcomed Councilor Jarvela and stated the Mesabi East Youth Hockey concession stand agreement at the arena will soon be determined.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC HEARING

Moved by Kramar supported by Grams to recess the regular meeting at 5:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Public hearing called to order by Mayor Grams at 5:38 pm for public comment period regarding proposed tax abatement pledge for Hoyt Lakes Wellness and Recreation Center Financing (arena).

Staff Comments: Shannon Sweeny shared this is the local financing for the renovation. Placement agent security proposals: 4.63% over a 20-year term.

Public against: None

Public for: None

Other agencies: None

Moved by Scott supported by Kramar to adjourn public hearing at 5:44 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Grams called the regular meeting back to order at 5:44 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Grams supported by Beauregard to approve Resolution 2024-018 approving property tax abatement and tax levy pledge for the 2024A General Obligation Bonds. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Beauregard supported by Kramar to approve Resolution 2024-019 awarding sale of the 2024A General Obligation Tax Abatement Bonds. Motion carried unanimously.

Simon Charter with NewRange Copper Nickel presented an update to the City Council.

He stated over the past year they have been working on merger – with Teck & Glencore. The 404 permit was revoked by the State; NewRange is planning as to how to continue forward in the best way possible. They have completed significant work over the past year, including mitigating 24,000 tons of steel, 19,000 tons of which has been recycled; 65,000 tons of concrete; for a total of 57,000 man hours. NewRange currently has 62 employees. A press release last week regarding what they're going to do over the next year, including:

1. Tailings dam study
2. Water treatment study (committing to meeting wild rice standards)
3. Throughput study
4. Ore transport on-site

In being more open and transparent, they are hoping to secure all permits and break ground in the next 3 to 4 years.

Jacob Crispo with Bolton and Menk Engineering presented a draft of the water study to the City Council. He provided information regarding the current water facilities and six potential options moving forward:

1. Rehabilitation of Existing Facilities, est. cost \$13-17 million
2. Regionalization (East Range Joint Water Project), est. cost \$20-27 million
3. New Water Treatment Plant with a Colby Lake Intake, est. cost \$23-31 million
4. Rehabilitation of Current Water Treatment Plant with a Whitewater Lake Intake, est. cost \$14-19 million
5. New Water Treatment Plant with a Whitewater Lake Intake, est. cost \$24-33 million
6. New Wells and Groundwater Water Treatment Plant, est. cost \$19-26 million

Mayor Grams, Councilor Beauregard, Public Utilities Director Berndt, and City Administrator Lammi met with Jacob to review the first draft of the water study. The recommendation was to pursue more in-depth information regarding regionalization and groundwater wells.

Moved by Jarvela supported by Beauregard to pursue additional information regarding regionalization and groundwater wells. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Grams supported by Jarvela to approve 2025 Seasonal Fisherman's Point Campground Application with lake sites at \$3,000 and non-lake sites at \$2,500. Motion approved unanimously.

Moved by Kramar supported by Beauregard to approve Resolution 2024-020 support for the CSAH 100 railroad crossing grade separation project.

Ayes: Grams, Kramar, Beauregard, Scott.

Nays: Jarvela.

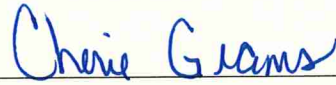
Motion carried.

Moved by Grams supported by Kramar to approve the agreement to supply free golf course guides. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Beauregard supported by Scott to approve final pay application to Lenci Enterprises in the amount of \$44,825.00 for the Midway Shelter project. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Kramar supported by Beauregard to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
Meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.



Cherie Grams, Mayor

ATTEST:



Becky Lammi, City Administrator