

CITY COUNCIL

7:00 P.M.

April 7, 2014

Present: Joanne Johnson
 Steven Marolt
 Carlene Perfetto
 Dustin Goutermont

David Gustafson – excused

Lana Fralich, City Administrator
 Pete Morris, City Attorney
 Chad Steriff, Noel Lillis, Police Officers
 BJ Kohlstedt, Lake County Emergency Management Director
 Nathan Stadler, Lake County Sheriff Deputy
 Kitty Mayo, North Shore Journal
 Ken Vogel, Lake County News Chronicle
 Dave Johnson, Ken Hertz, Tom Harris

Mayor Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Agenda – Motion by Perfetto, second Goutermont to approve the agenda as presented.
MOTION CARRIED.

Consent Agenda – Motion by Goutermont, second Perfetto to approve the minutes of the March 17, 2014 regular Council meeting, the December 2013 year end, and the January 2014 treasurer's reports. MOTION CARRIED.

Marolt arrived at this time.

Petitions, Requests and Communications

Lake County Code Red Program – Kohlstedt presented information about this phone and e-mail based program to notify residents in emergency situations. There was discussion about who will be notified in various situations, and it was noted that there is no cost to the City, and that residents can sign up with the County for notification.

Lake County Board of Equalization Meeting – It was noted that the County Auditor's Office will hold the board of equalization meeting at the Mary MacDonald Center on April 17 from 9:00a.m. until 11:00a.m. Property owners can discuss or appeal their property valuations at this time.

Lake County Committee of the Whole – It was noted that the next Lake County Committee of the Whole meeting will be held at City Hall on April 15 at 6:00p.m. It has been posted that a quorum of the Council will attend.

City Administrator

Heavy Equipment Trailer – It was noted that due to rust holes in the frame that cannot be fixed, the heavy equipment trailer no longer passes DOT inspection, and that this replacement is not in the 2014 budget. The Public Works Commission recommends purchase of a new trailer. The Council reviewed two quotes for a trailer. Motion by Goutermont, second Marolt to approve the purchase of a Towmaster T-40 equipment trailer from Nortrax of Duluth for \$16,865.25. MOTION CARRIED.

EDA Appointment – The EDA recommends approval of an application from JT Starkovich for the vacancy on the EDA. Motion by Perfetto, second Marolt to appoint JT Starkovich to the EDA. MOTION CARRIED.

Full Time Bartender Position – The Personnel Committee and the Liquor Store Manager have interviewed three candidates for this position and recommend hiring Owen Klinker, and it was noted that Klinker currently works as a part time bartender. Motion by Marolt, second Perfetto to hire Owen Klinker as a full time bartender, with a one year probationary period of 80% of full time wage. MOTION CARRIED.

Biosolids Training – The Utilities Supt. is requesting to attend this training to receive the needed wastewater and biosolids continuing education credits. Motion by Perfetto, second Goutermont to approve for Mike Miller to attend the biosolids training in Mankato on April 15-17 for \$300 plus hotel of \$74.99 per night plus tax and regular meals and mileage. MOTION CARRIED.

Resolution 2014-14 – The Council reviewed information about an IRRRB Grant to update the comprehensive and strategic planning, and it was noted that starting in 2015 the IRRRB requires an updated comprehensive plan to receive grants funds. It was noted that the \$20,000 in matching funds has been budgeted, and that the EDA recommends submitting an application for this grant. Motion by Marolt, second Perfetto to adopt Resolution 2014-14 authorizing to make application to and accept funds from the IRRRB comprehensive plan grant program.

Member Perfetto – aye

Member Goutermont – aye

Member Marolt – aye

Mayor Johnson – aye

Member Gustafson – absent

RESOLUTION 2014-14 WAS ADOPTED. 4 aye, 0 nay, 1 absent

AWAIR Safety Training – The Safety Committee recommends contracting with Advanced Minnesota (formerly Hibbing Community College) for this training. Motion by Goutermont, second Perfetto to approve to contract with Advanced Minnesota for the AWAIR safety training on April 16, for \$865. MOTION CARRIED. It was noted that the Veteran's Home and the City of Beaver Bay will be contacted to participate in this training and share in the cost.

Waterworks Operator School – It was noted that Larry Carter did not attend the MRWA Conference, and is, instead, requesting to attend the waterworks operator school, and that the PUC recommends this training. Motion by Perfetto, second Marolt to approve for Larry Carter to attend the waterworks operator school in Ely on May 14-16 for \$135, plus \$359.85 for three nights lodging, and regular meals and mileage. MOTION CARRIED.

Safety Eyewear Reimbursement – The Safety Committee is recommending increasing the annual reimbursement to \$244 to cover the cost of the eyewear, including necessary options. Motion by Goutermont, second Marolt to set the annual safety glass reimbursement at \$244. MOTION CARRIED.

Safety Boot Reimbursement for Blood Borne Boots – The Safety Committee is recommending an annual boot allowance of \$200 for employees that are required to wear blood borne pathogen boots. Motion by Marolt, second Goutermont to increase the annual work boot allowance to \$200 for employees who require safety boots that protect against blood borne pathogens. MOTION CARRIED.

County Airport Aid – It was noted that Lake County is proposing cutting 50% (\$4,000) of the aid to the Municipal Airport, and to cut all aid to the Two Harbors airport. This subject will be brought up at the Committee of the Whole meeting on April 15.

MIAMA Conference – The Council reviewed information about the spring MIAMA conference. Motion by Perfetto, second Marolt to approve for Don Thompson to attend the MIAMA conference in Chaska on May 6 for \$15, plus one nights lodging of \$83 plus tax, and regular meals and mileage. MOTION CARRIED.

Closed Meeting for Labor Negotiation – The Local 49ers Union is requesting for the City to enter into labor negotiation revision for the Marina Managers position. Motion by Marolt, second Perfetto to hold a closed meeting on April 14 at 10:30 a.m. to review the labor negotiation request for the Marina Manager position. MOTION CARRIED.

Resignation of Police Chief – The Council reviewed a resignation letter from Police Chief Mitch Dow that stated that he is retiring from law enforcement, as of April 18. The Council thanked Dow for his service to the City. Motion by Perfetto, second Marolt to accept the resignation of Police Chief Mitch Dow. MOTION CARRIED.

City Attorney – No other business was presented by the attorney.

OLD BUSINESS

Detachment Review – The Council reviewed information from the September 16, 2013 meeting about a request from a group of land owners who live on Rocky Wall Road, off of Mt. Rockwood Road, to detach from the City or to establish a special taxing district, and to form a committee of the Mayor, Councilor Gustafson, the Administrator and the Attorney to review this subject. This committee reported that on their findings and recommended that no action is required at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

City Website – The Council reviewed a proposal from Megan Timm to upgrade the City web site with training, and upgrades for social networks. The EDA recommends approval of this proposal, using EDA funds. Motion by Perfetto, second Goutermont to approve the proposal from Megan Timm to upgrade the City web site, and to use EDA funds for this project. MOTION CARRIED.

Law Enforcement Services – The Council reviewed the discussion from the December 23, 2013 meeting about this subject. There was discussion about three options for law enforcement services: continuing with a City police department and searching for a new Police Chief, maintaining a two officer police dept. which would work days and contract with the County Sheriff Dept. for evening services, and contracting with the County Sheriff Dept. for all law enforcement services. There was discussion about the benefits and short comings of each option, and about City control of law enforcement. Motion by Marolt, second Perfetto to move forward with continuing with a City police department and searching for a new Police Chief. MOTION CARRIED. There was discussion about Police Civil Service Commission, and developing a transition plan for the Police Department. Motion by Marolt, second Perfetto to hold a special meeting on April 14 at 10:30 a.m., after the closed meeting, to review and take action on law enforcement services within the City. MOTION CARRIED.

Claims – Motion by Goutermont, second Marolt to approve payment of \$106,354.28 paid claims and \$71,569.85 in unpaid claims. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Marolt, second Perfetto to adjourn at 7:54 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes taken by Lance K Beachem

Joanne Johnson, Mayor

Lana Fralich, City Administrator