

CITY COUNCIL

7:00 P.M.

Monday, May 3, 2021

Present: Mayor Wade LeBlanc
Shane Hoff – Via ZOOM
Richard DeRosier
Dustin Goutermont
Ben Bautch

Lana Fralich, City Administrator
Tim Costley, City Attorney – Via ZOOM
Scott Kochendorfer, Police Chief – Via ZOOM – Left the meeting at 7:35 p.m.
Nick O’Toole, Police Officer
Sean Bergman, Police Officer
Ben Goutermont, Lake County Deputy

} Left the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

Dan Larson, Government Relations, MN 4-Wheel Drive Association – Via ZOOM
Rick Langness, President, MN 4-Wheel Drive Association – Via ZOOM
Karen Umphres, Administrator, Border-to-Border Touring Route – Via ZOOM
Les Morrison, Promoter, Border-to-Border Touring Route Guide – Via ZOOM
Andrew Brown, Acquisition & Development Specialist, MN DNR – Via ZOOM
Kitty Mayor – Via ZOOM

} Left the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

Mayor LeBlanc called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

Agenda – Motion by DeRosier, second Goutermont to approve the agenda with the addition of February 2021 Treasurer’s Report to the Consent Agenda and the addition of Wastewater Training for Ted Czaplicki to Administrator. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Consent Agenda – Motion Goutermont, second Bautch to approve the meeting minutes from the April 19th Regular Council meeting, the April 29th Special Council meeting, and the February 2021 Treasurer’s Report. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Public Presentation

MN 4-Wheel Drive Association – Dan Larson, Government Relations – Larson reported on the MN 4-Wheel Drive Association and the MN ATV Border to Border Touring Route that would start at the Multi-Modal Trailhead Center proposed in Silver Bay. He presented how the project got started, how they are working with the Lake County Commissioners, and how they have helped support the Multi-Modal Trailhead at the Legislature. Langness reported on the increased number of people joining the clubs and the need for the routes. Umphres reported on the work that is needed to complete the project.

Brown updated where the DNR is at in the process. Council thanks the groups for their support. Commissioner Goutermont as a key player in getting this project to our community.

Petitions, Requests, and Communications

Letter of Support for Cleveland Cliffs-Northshore Mining – Northshore Mining requested the Mayor submit a letter of support in relation to the interest Northshore Mining has on the mineral leases in Nashwauk that are currently tied to Mesabi Metallica/Essar Steel in addition to the support of the legislation sponsored by Senators Tomassoni and Bakk. A copy of the letters from other communities and the letter submitted by Mayor LeBlanc were reviewed. The Council thanked the Mayor for submitting the letter. Motion DeRosier, second Bautch to recognize the Mayors letter of support. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Recognition of Police Officer Nicholas O’Toole – Chief Kochendorfer submitted a letter recognizing Officer O’Toole for saving a life during a recent medical response. Mayor LeBlanc presented Officer O’Toole with a life-saving pin. Council thanks Officer O’Toole for his service.

City Administrator

Police Sergeant Job Description and Internal Posting – Chief Kochendorfer is requesting to do an internal posting for a Sergeant position. The Personnel Committee reviewed this option, currently in the union contract, and is recommending it’s approval. The City will not be adding staff, but it will allow for succession planning from a Police Officer, to Sergeant, to Assistant Chief, to Chief and have training to the various added responsibilities at each level. The change in pay is \$1.25/hour increase from a patrolling officer. Motion Goutermont, second DeRosier to approve an internal posting for a Sergeant position with a \$1.25/hour increase in wage as presented. DeRosier thanked the Chief for the thorough letter of reasoning behind the request. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Police Training – Hayley Mattila – Chief Kochendorfer recommends Background Investigation for Police Applicant training for Officer Mattila. This is a virtual training for a cost of \$385, with no hotels, meals, or mileage expenses. Motion Goutermont, second Bautch to approve Background Investigation for Police Applicant training for Officer Mattila as presented, for a cost of \$385. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

MN DNR State Park Road Account Funding – East Lakeview Drive – A letter from the MN DNR awarding the City \$341,800 for the East Lakeview Drive improvement project was reviewed. The City is still waiting on the response from the MN DOT Local Road Improvement Program funding award.

Fireworks Agreement – Firework agreements for the City’s 4th of July Celebration and for the Bay Day Celebration on July 9th were presented. Bay Days reimburses the city for their portion. The City received a nice increase in donations this year resulting in a larger display. Motion DeRosier, second Bautch to approve both firework agreements, with Bay Days reimbursing the City for their costs. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Council thanks The Lake Bank, North Shore Federal Credit Union, Four Season’s, D&D Services, Mary Hoffman, Janet Grahek, Steve and Shelly VanHouse, Northshore Mining, Rodney Ludolph, Thomas Ludolph, Jackson, Inc., Beaver Bay Township, and the City of Beaver Bay for their generous donations for the City’s 4th of July Celebration.

Summer Parks and Rec Fee Schedule – The Parks and Recreation Board recommends approving the Summer Parks and Recreation schedule and the fees, including the \$10 increase to baseball and softball programs. Motion Goutermont, second Bautch to approve the Summer Parks and Recreation Schedule and Fees as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Bay Days Parade – The Bay Days 2021 Parade Form was reviewed and there was discussion on which Councilors will organize the City float. Motion Bautch, second Goutermont to participate in the event on July 9th. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Cummins Planned Maintenance Agreement – The PUC recommends using Cummins to provide services for the required annual maintenance and servicing for the large generators installed at the Water and Wastewater Plants. Motion DeRosier, second Goutermont to use Cummins for the required annual maintenance and servicing as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

National Guard MOU for Training – The National Guard is requesting to use the airport property for training on May 18th with their property removed by May 24th. The MOU was reviewed and noted that the National Guard is aware the airport runway is closed. Councilor DeRosier voiced concern for using the word “airport” and wanted it noted that it is use of city land that was formerly used as an airport. Motion Goutermont, second Goutermont to approve the MOU as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

37th Degree Location and Services Agreement Amendment – An agreement was previously approved for the use of the Golf Course Road for conducting a scene for an upcoming film. Since then, they would like to also film a scene in the Mayor’s Office and the Police Department lobby. They also plan to use the Fire Department for the crash scene. They will pay for staff services at \$50/hour and plan to make a \$500 donation to the Fire Department for their volunteer services. Motion DeRosier, second Bautch to approve the amended contract to include the use of the City Hall. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Summer Hires – The Parks and Recreation Director recommends hiring Jacob Bilben the Parks and Rec Assistant position at the rate of \$13.50/hour, Nelson Stone for the Marina Aide I position at the rate of \$15.00/hour, Kerri Bilben and Anna Thompson for the Marina Aide II positions at the rate of \$12.50/hour. Motion Bautch, second Goutermont to approve the hires as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Sidewalk Request for Proposals – Council reviewed information on the 2021 sidewalk maintenance program, which will include continued repairs to Law Drive, Edison Boulevard, and Outer Drive. In addition, repairs to sidewalks that have been impacted by water breaks are included as well. Motion Bautch, second DeRosier to advertise Request for Proposals for sidewalk replacement in the City due prior to the opening of proposals at 1:00 p.m. on May 27, 2021 as presented. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Budget Workshop Meetings – Motion DeRosier, second Bautch to set a Special Council Meeting at 5:30 p.m. on May 17th, prior to the Regular Council Meeting for the purpose of discussing the 2022 budget and to set the following budget workshop meetings for 5:00 p.m. on August 16th, September 7th, and September 20th. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Wastewater Training – Ted Czaplicki – Mike Miller, Utilities Superintendent, is recommending Ted Czaplicki attend a Stabilization Pond Seminar. This is a virtual training for a cost of \$300, with no hotels, meals, or mileage expenses. It was noted that the Class D wastewater licensure training and testing that was approved at the March 1, 2021 Council meeting was full at the time of registration, but will be completed once there is availability. Motion Goutermont, second Bautch to approve Ted Czaplicki attend Stabilization Pond Seminar as presented, for a cost of \$300. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye

Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member DeRosier – Aye

City Attorney

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

Resignation of Paul Hipple from Fire Department – Paul Hipple submitted a letter of resignation from the Fire Department. Motion Goutermont, second DeRosier to accept Paul Hipple’s resignation from the Fire Department. Council thanked him for his past service. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Claims – Motion by DeRosier, second Bautch to approve payment of \$60,341.11 in unpaid claims and \$140,732.40 in paid claims. MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye
Member Bautch – Aye
Member Hoff – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye
Member DeRosier – Aye

Motion by Bautch, second DeRosier to adjourn at 8:47 p.m.

Minutes taken by Lindsey Klemmer

Attest:



Wade LeBlanc, Mayor



Lana Fralich, City Administrator