

## CITY COUNCIL

7:00 P.M.

Tuesday, September 5, 2023

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

Absent:

Lana Fralich, City Administrator  
Tim Costley, City Attorney via ZOOM  
Joe Rhein, City Engineer, Bolton & Menk via ZOOM  
Kitty Mayo, Lake County Press via ZOOM  
Charlie Michels via ZOOM  
Rick Evans, Northshore Journal  
Nelson French  
Julie Jensen  
Carolyn Hudyma

Mayor LeBlanc called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

**Agenda** – Motion by Goutermont, second DeRosier to approve the Agenda with addition of Administrative Hearing Officer. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Consent Agenda** – Motion by Goutermont, second Bautch to approve the meeting minutes from the August 21, 2023 Regular Meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**Petitions, Requests, and Communications** –

Public Comments- None at this time.

**City Administrator** –

**Resolution 2023-#48 LRIP Grant Agreement for East Lakeview Drive-** Joe Rhein of Bolton & Menk presented information regarding the bids that were received for the East Lakeview Drive Road Construction project. Council reviewed bids and a LRIP Grant Agreement from MNDOT for funding. Based on the low bid, LRIP and SPRA will cover all but \$141,600 of the eligible costs. IRRR will cover \$250,000 and the estimated remainder of \$440,000 will be the responsibility of the city. The funds will be drawn from the Street 406 Fund Reserves. Discussion regarding timeline of bid approval and construction. Lake County is the Sponsor of the project and required to hold the contract. Motion by Goutermont, second Hoff to concur, in accordance with section 3.5 item c of the signed Joint Powers Agreement with Lake County, and recommend Lake County moves forward with awarding of bids on September 12<sup>th</sup>. **MOTION CARRIED.** Motion by DeRosier, second Goutermont to accept Resolution 2023-#48 LRIP Grant Agreement for East Lakeview Drive with the City commitment to funding the costs not covered by the LRIP, SPRA, or IRRR grants. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Mayor LeBlanc – Aye

Member Goutermont – Aye

Member Bautch – Aye  
Member Hoff – Aye

Member DeRosier – Aye

RESOLUTION 2023 – 48 WAS APPROVED: 5 aye, 0 nay, 0 excused

**Resolution 2023-#49 East Lakeview Drive Easement with Cleveland Cliffs-Northshore Mining -** Council reviewed E. Lakeview Drive easement drafted by Cleveland Cliffs-Northshore Mining. The long-term easement agreement is needed, per State requirements, and has been reviewed by the City Attorney, City Engineer, and Lake County Hwy Engineer. Motion by Bautch, second Hoff to approve Resolution 2023-#49 East Lakeview Drive Easement Agreement with Cleveland Cliffs-Northshore Mining. MOTION CARRIED.

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

Member Goutermont – Aye  
Member DeRosier – Aye

RESOLUTION 2023 – 49 WAS APPROVED: 5 aye, 0 nay, 0 excused

**Purchase of Caterpillar 305 Mini Excavator-** The City previously approved purchasing a mini-excavator, but has taken approximately two years to find one, with costs slightly higher than originally budgeted. Discussion regarding State contract pricing and purchasing ability. Motion by DeRosier, second Goutermont to approve the purchase of the mini excavator for a cost of \$87,481.11 based upon state bid pricing. MOTION CARRIED.

**MN Lottery Annual Renewal Agreement-** Council reviewed the annual MN Lottery renewal agreement. There are no changes and annual fee is \$20.00. Motion by Bautch, second Hoff to renew the annual agreement, retroactive to August 15<sup>th</sup>. MOTION CARRIED.

**Blandin Training- Librarian-** Shannon Walz is requesting to attend training thru Blandin Foundation on October 24-25, 2023 in Madison, MN. Blandin will cover costs of mileage, meals, hotel, and wages up to \$1000. Motion by Hoff, second Bautch to approve training request. MOTION CARRIED.

**Labor Negotiations-** Motion by Goutermont, second Bautch to re-open labor negotiations relating to health insurance for both the LELS and Local 49ers and also wage review with LELS. Mayor LeBlanc, Councilor DeRosier and City Administrator Fralich will conduct negotiations. MOTION CARRIED.

**PT Bartender Resignations-** Motion by DeRosier, second Goutermont to accept the resignations of part-time bartenders Natalie Nelson and Hayley Horgan. MOTION CARRIED.

**PT Bartender Hiring-** Liquor Store manager is recommending hiring Katelyn Bullock as a part-time bartender. Motion by DeRosier, second Goutermont to hire Katelyn Bullock as a part-time bartender at the PT Bartender wage of 80% or \$16.00/hour, pending successful completion of background check. MOTION CARRIED.

**Set Special Meeting-Boathouse Bay Development Review and Approvals-** Motion by Bautch, second DeRosier to set special meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing and approving final Boathouse Bay documents prior to the September 20<sup>th</sup> deadline for bid award. If documents are ready, they will be reviewed at regular council meeting on September 18<sup>th</sup> and special meeting will be canceled. MOTION CARRIED.

**Administrative Hearing Officer-** The City Attorney is recommending appointing Gary Ollila as an Administrative Hearing Officer at the Administrative Hearing Officer fee of \$50/hour. Discussion regarding qualifications of hearing officer. Motion by Goutermont, second Hoff to appoint Gary Ollila as Administrative Hearing Officer. MOTION CARRIED

City Attorney – Nothing at this time.

OLD BUSINESS – None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS – None at this time.

**Claims** – Motion by Goutermont, second DeRosier to approve payment of \$108,104.36 in unpaid claims and \$232,563.85 in paid claims. MOTION CARRIED.

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

Member Goutermont – Aye  
Member DeRosier – Aye

Motion by DeRosier, second Hoff to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes taken by Lisa Christenson



Attest:

  
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Lana Fralich, City Administrator

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Wade LeBlanc, Mayor