

CITY COUNCIL

7:00 P.M.

Monday, December 2, 2024

Present: Mayor Wade LeBlanc via ZOOM
Richard DeRosier
Shane Hoff
Ben Bautch

Excused- Dustin Goutermont

Lana Fralich, City Administrator	
Tim Costley, City Attorney	
Cole Ernest, Chief of Police	
Joe Rhein, City Engineer, Bolton & Menk via ZOOM	
Kitty Mayo, Lake County Press via ZOOM	
Jim FitzGerald	June Talus
Erik Ollila	Gary Ollila
Nathan & Michelle Stadler	Wendy Jensen
Donny Thompson	Eva Judkins
Rick Evans, Northshore Journal	Jack Nieterg
Tammy Alcaraz	Dale Kleinman
Carolyn Hudyma	Marcia Oates
Renee Pearson	Julie Jensen
Andrea McMillen	

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

Agenda – Motion by Hoff, second Bautch to approve the Agenda with addition of Fire Department Officers. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Consent Agenda – Motion by Bautch, second Hoff to approve the meeting minutes from the November 18, 2024 Regular and August 2024 Treasurer's Report. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Petitions, Requests, and Communications –

Public Comments- Tammy Alcaraz expressed her concern regarding Mayor LeBlanc's participation on the North Shore Management Board and the Water Line Servicing mailing that community members received in the mail. Acting Mayor DeRosier stated he would share her concerns with Mayor LeBlanc. City Attorney Costley reminded attendees that Public Comment time is only for comments or concerns, without debating or questions.

Julie Jensen questioned if there was still a cable committee and franchise fees. Administrator Fralich explained that the cable committee only meets when it is time to review agreements with Mediacom and Zito.

Written comments received from Geraldine LeNoie and Marjorie Jorgenson were reviewed.

Mayor/Council Comments- Nothing at this time.

Truth In Taxation- Acting Mayor DeRosier addressed the public that property valuations and allocation of taxes are completed by the County and that this meeting is related to the proposed budget and levy for 2025.

Eric Ollila expressed concern regarding the year after year increases and suggested cuts be made to departments and better budgeting by City. There was discussion regarding possible cutting of police department, which has been discussed over the years and found to not be any cost savings to city.

Donny Thompson expressed that he feels the city has too many white elephant” properties that are not generating income and suggested fee increases for County residents participating in the programs.

City Administrator provided a summary of the proposed 2025 Budget and levy that was set at 10.7% or \$1,852,675 in September, with the final budget review and levy to be presented at the December 23rd Council meeting. There was discussion on the line-item budget process, review of the tax rate, the net tax capacity, and highlights of the General Fund and other department funds. Further review of monies set aside for the Street Improvements and consistent comments from residents to improve streets.

City Administrator –

Annual RAMS Dinner – December 19, 2024- The RAMS Annual Meeting and Dinner will be held December 19th in Virginia, MN. Councilor Hoff is the current representative but is unable to attend. Motion by Bautch, second Hoff allowing Mayor LeBlanc to attend. MOTION CARRIED.

Legislative Session Priority Dinner- January 15, 2025- Lake County Chamber has invited the Mayor and/or another representative of Silver Bay to attend the 2025 Sessions Priority Dinner event hosted by the Minnesota Chamber in St. Paul on January 15, 2025 from 4:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. in St. Paul. The cost of dinner, hotel, and event is \$495 per person. Consensus of Council is to not attend this year, but send representatives to Capital Days.

Capital Days- February 11th-13th, 2025- Capitol Days will February 11th – 13th, 2025. Motion by Hoff, second DeRosier to approve Councilor Bautch and Administrator Fralich to attend, and cover the cost of meals over the meal allowance, hotel, taxi fares, parking, and share of vendor costs. It was also noted that the Mayor would attend if one of the other two are unable to attend. MOTION CARRIED.

Boathouse Bay Change Order #1- Joe Rhein, City Engineer presented information regarding Boathouse Bay Change Order #1 to change distance between sanitary sewer pipes to 5 feet, as allowed by MN Dept of Health special conditions for lead rock areas. The distance change requires a higher class of pipe so the net result of less blasting and the cost of pipe is an increase of \$597.70. City Engineer has reviewed and signed off on the change. Motion by Hoff, second Bautch to approve change order #1. MOTION CARRIED.

Boathouse Bay Draw Request #3- Council reviewed revision to Draw Request #2 relating to change per IRRRB approval, and Draw Request #3 of \$157,495.91 with TIF and IRRRB each paying half (\$78,747.96). Motion by Hoff, second Bautch to approve withdrawal requests from First American Title Company, as the administrator of TIF funds. MOTION CARRIED.

Park State Bank Sign Update- Park State Bank is updating their signage, the City owns the property, and per Zoning Administrator no permits are needed. Motion by Bautch, second Hoff to approve Park State Bank to make signage update. MOTION CARRIED.

Police Department Equipment Purchase Requests- The Chief of Police is requesting the purchase of two semi-automatic shotguns and five silencers at an estimated total cost of \$8600. There was discussion on the need, prevention of hearing loss to police officers, department budget savings to offset the costs, repurposing existing guns to be used as less lethal, life span and use of equipment, and timing of the expense. Consensus of Council is to wait on purchase and discuss for 2026 budget, or revisit after the 2024 audit is complete for possible purchase in 2025.

Fire Department Officers- The firefighters of the Fire Department have voted and recommended the officers for 2025 remaining the same, to include: Fire Chief- Mike Rowlee, Jr. 1st Assistant- Faron Meeks, 2nd Assistant- Eric Berquist, and Captain-Bradley. Motion by Bautch, second Hoff to accept recommendation and appoint 2025 Fire Department Officers. MOTION CARRIED.

City Attorney – Nothing at this time.

OLD BUSINESS – None at this time.

NEW BUSINESS –

2025 Meeting/Holiday Dates- - Motion by Hoff, second Goutermont to approve 2025 City Council Meeting dates and Holidays. MOTION CARRIED.

Lake County Proposed Use of Airport for Clean Up Day- Lake County has requested use of the airport property for a community wide cleanup day disposal site. Discussion regarding accepted items, costs, and dates to be decided. Motion by Bautch, second Hoff to move forward and have City Attorney draft an agreement with Lake County. LeBlanc will meet with group. MOTION CARRIED.

Claims – Motion by Hoff, second Bautch to approve payment of \$567,008.03 in paid claims and \$86,450.51 in unpaid claims. MOTION CARRIED

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

Member Goutermont – Absent
Member DeRosier – Aye

Motion by Bautch, second Hoff to adjourn at 8:50 p.m. MOTION CARRIED.

Minutes taken by Lisa Christenson

Attest:

Richard DeRosier, Acting Mayor

Lana Fralich, City Administrator