

**MINUTES
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

SEPTEMBER 14, 2015

Mayor Jeff Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council members present were Jean Soine, Neil Herzberg, and Donovan Mayer. Kay McDaniel was absent. Others present were Renee Eckerly, City Administrator; Ron Mergen, Public Works Director; Jennifer Welling, Administrative Assistant/Zoning Specialist; Chuck DeWolf, Bolton & Menk, Inc.; Bill Spooner, City Attorney; Ellarry Prentice, Press (6:15 p.m.); JoLyn Lindquist, Social Media Specialist; Dick Johnson, Bill Madigan, Kevin Farnum, and Karen Langmoe.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Council members gave verbal activity reports.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion to approve the minutes from the following meetings: August 14, 2014 Ad Hoc Liquor Store Building Committee May 27, 2014 Ad Hoc Liquor Store Layout Committee, May 15, 2014 Ad Hoc Liquor Store Layout Committee, October 1, 2014 Ad Hoc Council Chambers Design Committee, March 4, 2014 Ad Hoc Council Chambers Design Committee , October 6, 2014 Ad Hoc Council Chambers Design Committee, October 31, 2014 Ad Hoc Council Chambers Design Committee, June 17, 2015 Ad Hoc Enhancement Committee, October 22, 2014 Special Ad Hoc Enhancement Committee, November 5, 2014 Special Municipal Off-Sale Retail Liquor Board, October 7, 2014 Municipal Off-Sale Retail Liquor Board, and September 2, 2014 Municipal Off-Sale Retail Liquor Board,

Motion to approve the following vouchers:

8/25/2015	Voucher	91065	\$10,879.35
9/3/2015	Payroll	91066 - 91071	\$4,412.72
9/3/2015	Payroll Taxes	91072 - 91076	\$1,531.12
9/3/2015	Payroll Direct Deposit		\$17,398.33
9/3/2015	Payroll - Fed		\$5,870.46
9/3/2015	Payroll - State		\$1,029.70
9/3/2015	Payroll - Blue Cross		\$4,901.57
9/3/2015	Payroll - TASC		\$392.28
9/3/2015	Payroll - PERA		\$5,752.82
9/3/2015	Payroll - AFLAC		\$139.41
9/3/2015	Payroll - SELECT		\$207.70
9/9/2015	Voucher	91077	\$589.65
9/10/2015	Vouchers	91078-91156	\$146,393.04
		TOTAL	\$199,498.15

Motion to approve the resignation from Christine Flugga – Schlangen from the Park & Tree Board, effective immediately.

Motion was made by Soine to approve the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Herzberg and unanimously carried.

GAMBLING PERMIT – RIVER LAKES HOCKEY, INC.

A MN Lawful Gambling LG220 Application For Exempt Permit from River Lakes Hockey, Inc. to hold a raffle on March 1, 2016 at Queen Bee's Bar & Grill, 121 James St. W., Paynesville, MN was presented.

Motion was made by Soine to approve the MN Lawful Gambling LG220 Application For Exempt Permit for River Lakes Hockey, Inc. to hold a raffle on March 1, 2016. Seconded by Mayer and unanimously carried.

GAMBLING PERMIT – PAYNESVILLE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

A MN Lawful Gambling LG220 Application For Exempt Permit from Paynesville Area Chamber of Commerce to hold a raffle on February 14, 2016 at Paynesville Area Chamber Office, 220 Washburne Ave., Paynesville, MN was presented.

Motion was made by Soine to approve the attached MN Lawful Gambling LG220 Application For Exempt Permit from Paynesville Area Chamber of Commerce to hold a raffle on February 14, 2016. Seconded by Herzberg and unanimously carried.

AIS

Farnum reported to the Council that the DNR has acknowledge the infestation of Starry Stonewort in Lake Koronis. This AIS is more aggressive than milfoil and it affects the fish population. There is a meeting set up with the Stearns County AIS group and DNR. The Lake Association has three goals:

1. What can be done on Lake Koronis to stop the spread (only lake in MN that currently has it)?
2. How can we stop it from spreading or slow it down within the lake?
3. What can be done to keep something else from happening to the lake?

Information received so far:

- The location of the infestation is close to the Hwy. 55 access
- The strategy is to close all the launches
- To date the DNR will not close the Hwy. 55 access
- Inspectors are seeing the AIS on all boats coming out at the Hwy. 55 access
- If the access can't be closed; may want to put out buoys and channel the boats and establish "A No Wake Zone"
- May want City support in the future
- DNR has agreed to have an inspector at the Hwy. 55 access through October 3, 2015
- KLA has the funding for an inspector, but no personnel
- Treating the infestation (chemicals) can kill native species
- Continue to try and protect the lake
- The meeting with the DNR is set for September 23, 2015
- The DNR has never closed a launch for an AIS
- DNR is willing to treat the lake later this Fall
- This is a protected plant in the United Kingdom
- Public communication; including PO Box, website, email, etc.
- It was suggested to post signs telling boaters to use other accesses

SEPTEMBER NATIONAL RECOVERY MONTH – SERENITY PATH

Bill Madigan, Serenity Path was in attendance to address the Council regarding September being National Recovery Month.

Motion was made by Soine to proclaim September as National Recovery Month for Paynesville. Seconded by Mayer and unanimously carried.

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE

Eckerly has verified with Ann Antonson, Springsted how to proceed with the State minimum wage increase with the pay scale to stay in compliance. Antonson said to move the employees from Grade 1/Step 1 (\$8.78) to Grade 1/Step 2 (\$9.05). This effects four staff members that will need retro pay back to August 1, 2015.

Motion was made by Soine to increase the hourly wage from Grade 1/Step 1 (\$8.78) to Grade 1/Step 2 (\$9.05) to comply with the State minimum wage requirement for Whitney Muetzel (Part-Time Liquor Store Clerk), Trevor Thompson (Part-Time Liquor Store Clerk), Grant Fuchs (Part-Time Public Works) and Devon Savage (Part-Time Public Works) retroactive to August 1, 2015. Seconded by Herzberg and unanimously carried.

PUBLIC HEARING TO CERTIFY PAST-DUE GARBAGE, WATER & SEWER, SNOW REMOVAL, & MOWING BILLS

The City's contract with West Central Sanitation specifies that the City will certify past-due bills to the County to be collected with the following year's property taxes. The State law also allows the City to place past-due water and sewer, mowing, and snow removal bills on the tax rolls.

Motion was made by Mayer to set a Public Hearing for 6:30 p.m. on Monday, October 26, 2015, for the purpose of certifying past-due garbage, water and sewer, snow removal, and mowing bills to the County. Seconded by Soine and unanimously carried.

SNOWPLOWING CONTRACT

Mergen reviewed the Snowplowing Contract between the City of Paynesville and D & D Snowplowing for the term of one year commencing October 15, 2015 – October 14, 2016. The payment for services increased from \$115.00 per hour to \$120.00 per hour and dump truck time was also added at the same rate. The monthly retainer is \$1,000.00. The Public Works Committee has reviewed this and recommends approval.

Motion was made by Soine to approve the Snowplowing Contract between the City of Paynesville and D & D Snowplowing for the term of one year commencing October 15, 2015 – October 14, 2016. Seconded by Herzberg and unanimously carried.

2016 PRELIMINARY PROPERTY TAX LEVY AND BUDGET

Eckerly reviewed the proposed 2016 Budget which is at an 18% increase; however, cuts are being made to get to 8%. In accordance with Minn. Stat. § 275.065, cities must adopt their proposed budget and certify their proposed levy to the county auditor by September 30.

Motion was made by Soine to set the 2016 Preliminary Property Tax Levy at:

Current Real & Personal Property	\$630,354.00
Market Value Credit	.00
Mobile Home Homestead Credit	\$.00
Total Preliminary Property Tax levy	\$630,354.00

and certify such to the Stearns County Auditor. Seconded by Herzberg and unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Herzberg to set the 2016 Preliminary General Fund Budget at \$1,989,623.00. Seconded by Soine and unanimously carried.

Motion was made by Soine to approve Resolution 2015 – 14 Adopting Proposed 2016 Tax Levy Collectible in 2016. Seconded by Herzberg and unanimously carried.

TRUTH IN TAXATION PUBLIC HEARING

It has been suggested to set the Truth In Taxation Public Hearing for Monday, December 14, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. during the regular scheduled Council meeting. If the levy is not adopted on December 14, 2015 the Council will have to hold a special meeting the week of December 21, 2015 to do so. The Council is also no longer required to publish a public hearing notice.

Motion was made by Mayer to set the Truth In Taxation Public Hearing for Monday, December 14, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. Seconded by Soine and unanimously carried.

APARTMENT PROPERTY ON HWY. 55 – COMMUNITY PARK LUXURY APARTMENTS

Eckerly reported that the property was closed on last week and the documents are being recorded. The owners have applied for a building permit to start construction.

REGIONAL POND – EXTENSION OF PURCHASE AGREEMENT

Mergen reviewed the email and Extension of Purchase Agreement between the City of Paynesville and Savage Land Partnership, LLC for the purchase of 1.5 acres for a regional pond in the amount of \$33,750.00. The Public Works Committee will be reviewing this and making a recommendation. This is being presented as information only at this time.

INFORMATIONAL

Thompson reviewed the following informational items: LMC New Executive Director – David Unmacht, West Central Sanitation July & August Garbage Rates, LMC 2015 Regional Meetings – If you wish to attend, please let Renee know so that registrations can be made.

Koronis Lake Association & Stearns County Coalition of Lakes Association – Starry Stonewort Infestation Letters To DNR, and Morgan Stanley Investment Report (page 94)

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Renee Eckerly, City Administrator