

**CITY OF MINNESOTA LAKE
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 27, 2022**

Attending: Mayor Jeff Ramsley, Richard Staloch, Edie More, Joan Proehl, via Zoom Lon Stenzel.

City Staff: City Maint.: Michael Bammert, Dylan Groskreutz; **Police:** Ben Standahl; **City Clerk:** Dawn Whitehead; **Fire Dept.:** Dave Malakowsky; **Maple River Messenger:** Tamara Dicks; **Mn DNR:** Joe Stangel; **Citizens:** Matthew Hall.

Mayor Jeff Ramsley called to order the Regular City Council meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comments: Mathew Hall, a registered sex offender, asked for an exemption so that he could live in town. Mr. Hall works at Great Escape and would like to move into basement apt on 4th Ave. Original case was in 1992 when he was 19, he's 49 now. He stated he has not had any other issues. Jeff asked for written recommendations from his employers. Mr. Hall stated they don't want to put their name on the record. Joan suggested needing to speak with city attorney. Richard stated the Council needs to review our ordinance and contact the City attorney. Jeff requested documents from PO showing no re-offending.

Joe Stangel from the Mn DNR attended to address the lake's vegetation agreement and the swamp devil use. With the new machine they could do one zone a year, looking at 2N this year if the water level is high enough. It is not dredging machine, only vegetation. It would take a Public Waters Permit to dredge out a path through the Ecological Water Resources Division of the DNR; Dan Girolamo would be the contact. Richard stated City needs to do something to improve the lake shoreline and getting any help. Jeff asked Council if they wanted to continue with the Lake Vegetation Mgmt Plan, Edie said yes. Richard asked if any State help is available to pay for spraying, Joe stated there might be. Permit to spray cost \$35.00 and the City has paid for spraying previously. Richard supported the agreement. Only thing that has changed from previous agreement: Water quality has updated info, changed zone names for clarification, effective July 2022 expires 2027. Agreement is cancelable within 30 days notice. Joe suggested if the water level is low that DNR will spray/stripped at DNR's cost. Would need to be sprayed by 2nd half of August. Joe believes the DNR can strip and possibly spray in strips in 2N, depending on what their funding requirements allow.

Edie made a motion to approve the Lake Vegetation Management Plan for 3 years and apply for the Public Waters Permit, 2nd by Richard, Lon voted nay, motion carried.

Joe will have Dan Girolamo contact Dawn to meet with Dave Malakowsky and Richard. Lon asked why the lake bordering a city is designated wildlife? He stated he thought only Minnesota Lake is and believed the DNR is responsible for the lake's current issues.

Fire Dept (FD): Dave M reviewed his report. Jeff asked about the Relief charitable gambling and not being able to fund requests. Dave stated currently they are in a tax bracket that isn't making any money. The Relief 'regular' fundraising account is having to pay for activities like Sober Cab for Festag. No fire calls, 2 medical assists. The addition of 2 new members brings roster to 22.

Dispatch has been informed of low water pressure for automatic mutual aid. The DNR trailer for grain bin rescue was dropped off at city lot. Cost was \$2750.00.

The eave on west addition needs repair. Put flags at local cemeteries for Community Service. Training was hose testing.

Ambulance: No department report.

Police Dept (PD): Ben stated there were 108 calls for service. Attended firearms training in Wells and Emergency Vehicle Operations Training. Preparing for Festag. Ben submitted permit for parade to the State. Requested to State Patrol troopers for parade. Invites Sheriff's Office from Faribault/Blue Earth Counties.

Currently has 4 of Mn Lake part-timers and 5 from other agencies. Richard asked who is in charge when there are multiple agencies helping out. Joan expressed concern of officers congregating in one spot and not out moving about crowds. Richard stated he thought they were doing a better job over the last couple of years.

Public Works (PW): Central tanks began work on water tower on June 7th and should be done week of the 4th. Didn't end up welding anything. The bottom ring put an epoxy filler in it, better than welding. Covers entire ring 8" up the sides. Epoxy around base on ground.

Started pothole patching and tree trimming on Park St. Completed repairs and maintenance on boom truck. Two boulevard trees on Park needs removing. Having plow truck differential looked at. Received estimate from Central Tank to paint tower for next year of \$35,400.

Edie made a motion to approve a water license contract for \$400 per month until December 2024, 2nd by Joan, motion carried.

Lon made a motion to approve hiring John Hawker part-time at \$23.47 per hour for 10-15 hours per week, 2nd by Richard, motion carried.

Aerator was fixed, hand dryers in park bathrooms are installed. Looking into options for trail around pond. Nielsen's quote for asphalt around pond for \$78,000. Ground up asphalt was approx. \$3,000.

Todd O'Rourke stated the park shelter roof repair would be done by Festag.

Joan asked for a schedule that the park shelters are cleaned. Mike stated he will come up with a schedule. Installed some owls in the shelters to deter the nesting.

Clerk's Report: Dawn looked into a \$10,000 SMIF grant for a path around pond, but the Nielsen's option was too high at \$78,00. Dawn will check into getting a light pole on Marples Ave.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Construction Permits-

- 2022-9 - Joshua Miller – 110 Main St S – replace windows – n/c
- 2022-10 – 2022-17 – Xcel Energy – replacing street poles – n/c
- 2022-18 - Marcia Hull – 231 5th Ave – re-roof – n/c
- 2022-19 - Katie Lorentz – 207 5th Ave - replace deck – \$25

Invoices-

- Empire Pipe Services – \$5,435.00 – repair sewer liner on Minnesota Ave.
- Murphey's Food n Fuel Cigarette License Renewal

Joan made a motion to approve the Consent agenda, to include the Claims paid and Claims to be paid (Jeff Ramsley reviewed), 2nd by Richard, motion carried.

Unfinished Business: Council discussed putting in place a time limit for public comments during the public comments section of the City Council Meetings. Jeff stated speaker must give topic ahead of time, must stay on topic and 5-minute limit, Council will not make decision that evening, but will address at next meeting or hold a special meeting if necessary. Dawn will put it together and Council will vote on policy.

New business: Edie asked Dawn to send the school an email requesting info on the sale of the school.

Joan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 pm, 2nd by Richard, motion carried unanimously.

Mayor

City Clerk/Treasurer