

**MINUTES  
YEAR-END MEETING OF THE AURORA CITY COUNCIL  
CITY/TOWN GOVERNMENT CENTER  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2018  
5:30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Councilors Worshek, Lislegard, Cromley, Lakso, Mayor Hess

**ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Wayne Thuringer, Public Works Director; Tim Kauppi, City Clerk/Treasurer; Mike Kearney, City Attorney; Tim Soular, East Range Police Chief; Paula Chapman, Librarian

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Hess at 5:30 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to approve the following minutes as presented: Regular City of Aurora Council Meeting held on December 5, 2017. MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lakso to approve the receipts for December 2017 in the amount of \$132,815.42 as presented. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lislegard to approve the disbursements for December 2017 in the amount of \$150,109.48 and Payroll in the amount of \$65,819.00. MOTION CARRIED**

American Bank of the North	\$344.17	East Range Police Department	\$1,185.62
American Bank of the North	\$64.41	East Range Shopper	\$295.94
Americhem	\$2,623.00	Econo Signs LLC	\$600.10
APG Media of MN	\$79.05	Edwards Oil Inc.	\$486.07
AT&T Mobility	\$282.31	Emergency Response Solutions	\$1,356.32
Baker & Taylor	\$376.50	Essentia Health	\$313.44
BlueCross & BlueShield of MN &		Essentia Health Virginia Clinic	\$515.00
BluePlus	\$108.30	Frontier	\$987.09
Bradach Lumber	\$173.20	Gale/Cenage Learning	\$105.96
CarQuest Aurora	\$354.51	Gopher State One Call	\$6.75
Casper Construction Inc.	\$61,010.66	H&H Industries Inc.	\$284.59
Celebrate Aurora	\$246.23	Holiday Heritage Festival	\$200.00
Christensen Parts	\$8.84	Innovative Office Solutions LLC	\$109.32
City of Hoyt Lakes	\$711.52	K & K Cleaning	\$495.00
City of Hoyt Lakes	\$350.00	Loancare	\$68.00
Climate Air Inc.	\$1,692.10	MailFinance	\$204.75
Colosimo Patchin Kearney LTD	\$1,201.61	MCFOA Region II	\$30.00
Demco	\$81.84	McMasater-Carr Supply Company	\$184.25

Menards- Virginia	\$808.93	Shred Right	\$15.00
Mesabi East Schools	\$12,548.05	Smart Apple Media	\$17.95
Metro Sales Inc.	\$332.82	Southeastern Libraries Cooperating	\$92.00
Minnesota Energy Resources	\$4,307.00	St. Louis County Auditor	\$7.56
Minnesota Power	\$8,994.35	St. Louis County Recorder	\$20.00
Minnesota Telecommunications	\$349.80	Synchrony Bank/Amazon	\$148.86
OSI Environmental Inc.	\$85.00	Taconite Tire	\$140.30
Overhead Door of Hibbing	\$290.00	The Control Company LLC	\$2,893.04
Pace Analytical Services Inc.	\$1,271.50	Tomahawk Ford Inc.	\$25,402.96
Perpich TV & Appliance	\$29.95	Town of White	\$2,496.99
Petty Cash	\$197.65	U.S. Post Office	\$373.35
Pike River Dem/Rec Inc.	\$2,773.00	U.S. Postal Service	\$373.35
Portable John	\$101.00	Ultimate Body & Frame	\$36.00
Praxair Distribution Inc.	\$105.01	Verizon	\$15.42
Range Office Supply	\$182.96	Verizon Wireless	\$79.35
Range Paper	\$1,943.37	Wells Fargo Advisors	\$5,000.00
RMS Tritec LLC	\$60.00	Williams, Charles F.	\$121.45
Roger's Online Corporation	\$896.00	Z-tech	\$368.06
Scott's Underground Sound	\$95.00		

#### MOVING PERMITS

NONE

#### APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

NONE

#### CORRESPONDENCE

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek to receive and file the following correspondence: League of Minnesota Cities 2017 Property/Casualty Dividend; RAMS Correspondence; Minnesota Energy Resources regarding Notice of and Order For Hearing; Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Biosolids Inspection Follow-up; St. Louis County Land and Minerals Department regarding proposed sale of State Tax Forfeited Land; Minnesota Department of Health regarding 2016 Water Fluoridation Quality Award; St. Louis County Planning and Community Development Department regarding Subdivision Ordinance 60 Proposed Safe Routes to School program language amendments; FEMA Minnesota Department of Natural Resources regarding Carlton County Modernization Workshop; Minnesota Pollution Control Agency regarding Public Notice of intent to deny the Application of U.S. Steel Minntac for a Variance to Water Quality Standards; Notice-Local communities receive Iron Range Resources & Rehabilitation grants for residential blight removal. MOTION CARRIED**

#### TRAVEL AND TRAINING REQUESTS

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek to approve the travel and training requests for Tim Kauppi to attend MCFOA Region II Meeting on January 12, 2018 at the Loon Lake Community Center in Palo, the MCFOA Annual Conference March 20-23, 2018 in Bloomington, MN, and the MCFOA Clerk's Institute on April 30-May 4, 2018 in St. Cloud, MN. MOTION CARRIED**

PUBLIC FORUM  
NONE

REPORT FROM STAFF MEMBERS

Paula Chapman from the Aurora Public Library presented the library report. The library has already hosted our first Legacy event of 2018, a story of history and detective work called "Capitol Stories." 16 adults attended. The next Legacy event is coming up on Friday, January 19, at 10:30 am, an art metal tooling workshop. Because this is a hands-on program, there is a limit of 20 participants. If you're interested in participating, please contact the library to reserve a spot! On Friday, February 2, at 4:00 pm, the Duluth playhouse will present a family-friendly interactive play called "Mad Science." Legacy events are primarily funded through Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, with additional support provided by the Aurora Public Library, the Aurora Friends of the Library, and the Arrowhead Library System.

Locally, the low-key "Hot Reads for Cold Nights" adult winter reading program will begin on Monday, January 15. Adults are invited to sign-up and receive a small sign-up packet; read library books, magazines, audiobooks and e-books; and enter drawings. We just ask that at the end, participants report their total number of titles read. This program is funded by the Aurora Public Library, the Aurora Friends of the Library, and the Arrowhead Library System.

Also, on Thursday, January 18, the Early Childhood Coalition will host a "Winter Beach Party" with a light meal and beach-themed activities for young children and their families. That event will be held at Mesabi East Schools on Thursday, January 18, from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. It is funded by the Mesabi East Early Childhood Coalition, in which the Aurora Public Library participates. Paula Chapman closed her report by thanking Mayor Hess for her many years of service.

Chief Tim Soular of the East Range Police Department reported on the preliminary statistics for his department for 2017 stating that there were between 3,500 and 4,000 calls for service. Chief Soular noted that felony drug activity has increased and that the ERPD is willing to provide help to those with addiction issues. Chief Soular closed by thanking Mayor Hess for her service. City Attorney Kearney and Public Works Director Thuringer also thanked Mayor Hess for her service to the community.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Mayor Hess reviewed the list of reports from Boards & Commissions.

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lislegard to receive and file the following reports from Boards and Commissions: East Range Joint Powers Board – November 28, 2017 Minutes; Aurora Volunteer Fire Department - December 13, 2017; Election of Officers Meeting – December 13, 2017 Minutes; Animal Control Officer – December 2017 Monthly Report; Joint Labor-Management Safety Committee Meeting – December 20, 2017 Minutes; East Range Public Safety Board, November 13, 2017 Minutes; Aurora Chamber of Commerce; November 21, 2017 Minutes; Ambulance Report – October 2017 Corrected and November 2017; Range Association of Municipalities and Schools Board Meeting, November 30, 2017 Minutes; Aurora Housing and Redevelopment Authority – October 17, 2017 Minutes. MOTION CARRIED.**

## REPORT FROM COUNCILORS

Councilor Worshek asked if the city should log off the land that will be going to the school in the land exchange. Councilor Worshek stated that this item should be on the agenda at the next meeting. Councilor Worshek also acknowledged the support of the East Range Police Department in regards to the recent shooting in Gilbert and was Councilor Worshek then thanked Mayor Hess for her service.

Councilor Lislegard stated that he felt that Polymet is moving in the right direction and that there will be a public meeting at Mesabi East school on February 7<sup>th</sup> and encouraged everyone to attend. He also closed by stating that it was a privilege to work with Mayor Hess and that she will be missed.

Councilor Lakso thanked Mayor Hess for her outstanding service over the past ten years of service and acknowledged her commitment to the community. Councilor Cromley also thanked Mayor Hess for her service to the city and acknowledged her commitment to the community and thanked her for helping him as a councilor.

## REPORT FROM MAYOR

Mayor Hess congratulated Butch and Joanne Ceglar on their anniversary today. The mayor also thanked the public works staff and how much she appreciated the lunch she had with that department recently. She thanked all of the city staff and the entire community for its support while in office.

## MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Chris Shuck reported that former mayor Bill Ojala passed away last week.

## OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Hess provided background on the 10% Charitable Gambling withholding and how it came about with the main concern that the gambling profits were going out of town instead of staying in Aurora. The mayor stated that she is very concerned that if the 10% withholding was changed that many youth programs would be discontinued. Chasica Rasmusson spoke on behalf of Celebrate Aurora and explained that the mission of their group is to keep the youth in town and keep them here with small events in our community and the Celebrate Aurora group is grateful for the funding it receives through this program and hope that this funding will continue. Mayor Hess then read the letter written by Ms. Rasmusson that detailed the reasons for wanting to keep the current program in place.

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek to leave the 10% Charitable Gambling requirements as is. MOTION CARRIED.**

## NEW BUSINESS

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lislegard to approve the payment of \$700 for RAMS 2018 Membership dues. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to approve the payment of \$250 for Aurora Chamber of Commerce dues for 2018. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lakso to approve the proposal of The Control Company, LLC for Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Maintenance and Monitoring for 2018. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek to approve the request from the Pepsi Challenge Race Coordinator for the assistance of two public works employees on Friday, March 2, 2018 at Giants Ridge. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lislegard to complete and return the Liability Coverage – Waiver Form to the League of Minnesota Cities indicating that the City of Aurora does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes, Section 466.04. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Hess and supported by Lislegard to post an ad now in the East Range Shopper explaining the city snow policy and to have the city clerk and city attorney to work on amending the city ordinance to include sections regarding snow plowing and removal for streets. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Lakso to send a deposit check in the amount of \$1,000 for the purchase of a 1996 International Fire Truck. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek to allow the city clerk to begin the process to sell the lot owned by the city at 309 W 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Hess and supported by Worshek to approve the payment of \$150 total for three Mesabi East students to attend the Young Leaders Conference: Make a Difference 2018 on February 12, 2018 at Fortune Bay Resort. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to have Mary Hess attend the Young Leaders Conference on behalf of the City of Aurora. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek to declare January 31, 2018 as Omphaloccele Awareness Day in the City of Aurora and to publish the proclamation in the East Range Shopper. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to accept the resignation of David Lislegard from the Aurora City Council. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lakso adopt Resolution 2017-27 Accepting Resignation and Declaring a Vacancy on the Aurora City Council. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Cromley and supported by Lislegard to adjourn the meeting.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

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Mary Hess, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tim Kauppi, City Clerk-Treasurer