

**MINUTES**  
**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE AURORA CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY/TOWN GOVERNMENT CENTER**  
**MONDAY, APRIL 16, 2018**  
**6:00 p.m.**

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

**ABSENT:** Councilor Gregor

**ALSO PRESENT:** Wayne Thuringer, Aurora Public Works Director; Tim Kauppi, Aurora City Clerk/Treasurer; Mike Larson, SEH, Inc.; Roxi Jensen, Penny Roberts, and Keith Shatava, EVFCU; Alan Johnson, Benchmark Engineering; and Brian Maki, Lakehead Constructors

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Lislegard at 6:00 p.m.

**Moved by Lakso and supported by Cromley to adopt Resolution 2018-14 approving ordinance amendments to Chapter 153: Zoning. MOTION CARRIED**

Clerk/Treasurer Kauppi referenced Resolution 2018-05 dated February 5, 2018 that prevents Mayor Lislegard from participating in any discussion, deliberation, or vote on matters relating to Lakehead Constructors due to his employment relationship with the company. Clerk/Treasurer Kauppi noted for the record that Brian Maki from Lakehead Constructors was present to answer any questions or concerns regarding his project and new facility in Aurora. The council reviewed the Development Agreement for Lakehead Constructors and Lakehead Minnesota Properties and had no questions.

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to approve the Development Agreement for Lakehead Constructors, Inc and Lakehead Minnesota Properties, LLC contingent on approval by the Aurora HRA. MOTION CARRIED**

Clerk/Treasurer Kauppi noted for the record that Roxi Jensen from Embarrass Vermillion Federal Credit Union and Alan Johnson from Benchmark Engineering were present to answer any questions or concerns regarding the new credit union project being proposed for construction in Aurora.

**Moved by Cromley and supported by Lakso to approve the Development Agreement for Embarrass Vermillion Federal Credit Union contingent on approval by the Aurora HRA. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lakso to approve plans and specifications and ordering advertisement of bids for infrastructure, access road, and site development for Embarrass Vermillion Federal Credit Union. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Cromley and supported by Lislegard to approve the final clear cut boundary for logging the land in and around the new athletic facility project at Mesabi East School. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lakso to approve the legal description for the boundaries as presented for the land to be conveyed to Mesabi East School for the new athletic facility project. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to approve the job description for Clerk/Treasurer as presented at a starting annual salary range of \$58,000 to \$63,000 and to post the job description and solicit applications. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to approve Linda Cazin, David Lislegard, and Doug Gregor to serve on the Interview Committee for the Accounting Clerk. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to approve Linda Cazin, David Lislegard, and Dave Cromley to serve on the Interview Committee for the Clerk/Treasurer with Dave Worshek serving as alternate. MOTION CARRIED**

Discussion was held regarding the East Mesabi Water Project. The council has concerns about working with the Town of White on the proposed water project due to the high dollar cost of the project if the Lake Mine location is selected. The council members agreed that it is the city's desire to continue to cooperate and collaborate in both the short-term and long-term with neighboring communities on initiatives that produce a cost savings. However, the proposed water project started out with four communities and is now currently down to two and the council is questioning if the cost is too much to handle for only two communities. The council discussed if rehabilitation of the current City of Aurora water plant is a better option and noted that the needs of Scenic Acres and a memorandum issued to the City of Aurora from the Minnesota DNR regarding the instability of the St. James Pit need to be factored into any decision. Mayor Lislegard notified the council that Rick Crum from Northeast Technical Services in Virginia was going to stop by City Hall on Tuesday morning to interview staff about the water levels in the St. James Pit and to see if his firm can help the city in making decisions regarding the pit. Mike Larson from SEH, Inc. talked about the current bonding request for the Lake Mine project and discussed what amounts could potentially be expected from the bonding process and other sources. Based upon new developments, the council determined that a joint special meeting with the Town of White is needed to determine the ultimate direction of the water project and requested that the City Clerk work with the Town of White to set up a date and time to hold a meeting.

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek to adopt Resolution 2018-15 supporting the creation of a Dig Once Policy. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lakso to set Wednesday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. as the date and time for the temporary hiring committee to review and recommend the hires to the city council for the temporary summer worker positions. MOTION CARRIED**

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

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David Lislegard, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tim Kauppi, City Clerk/Treasurer