

Minutes
Regular Meeting of the Aurora City Council
City/Town Government Center
Tuesday, May 7, 2019
5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor Gregor, Councilors Worshek, Cromley

ABSENT: Councilors Jofs and Lakso

ALSO PRESENT: Karin Kruger, Aurora Deputy City Clerk; Wayne Thuringer, Aurora Public Works Director; Mike Kearney, Aurora City Attorney

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

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Cromley and supported by Worshek to approve the following consent agenda items:

- | | |
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| 5. Approval of Minutes – | Regular City of Aurora Council Meeting – April 2, 2019
Special City of Aurora Council Meeting – April 16, 2019
Public Hearing – April 29, 2019 |
| 6. Approval of Receipts – | April 2019 – \$193, 807.40 |
| 7. Approval for Payment – | Disbursements for April 2019 – \$168,797.22
Payroll for April 2019 – \$57,639.90 |
| 8. Correspondence – | Kraus-Anderson – Notice of possible defraud attempts.
Waste Management – Recycling information.
Minnesota Pollution Control Agency – Notice of Mercury limits.
St. Louis County, Planning and Community Development –
CDBG, HOME, and ESG Programs requalification.
Colosimo, Patchin & Kearney – Blight notice to Judges.
St. Louis County, Land and Minerals Department – Proposed
sale of State tax forfeited land.
Minnesota Power – Compliance filing for the Business
Development Incentive Rider.
Minnesota Power – Annual reports containing forecasted fuel
information and data. |
| 9. Travel and Training – | Jim Gentilini – Type IV Land Application License with the MPCA
in Baxter, MN, May 28-30, 2019. |
| 12. Community Comments – | 03/13/2019 – Blight complaint – 107 N. 4 th St. W.
<u>Resolution:</u> ERPD has attempted to make contact with the home
owners numerous times. Case will remain open until they can
speak with owners. |

03/19/2019 – Pigeons and recycle containers.

Resolution: A letter has been sent to the property owner requesting they board the open area.

03/26/2019 – Blight concerns – 318 W. 2nd Ave. N.

Resolution: ERPD spoke with the homeowner; they will monitor the property.

03/26/2019 – Deer population concern.

Resolution: The ERPD and City Council met to discuss a possible DNR Sponsored Deer Hunt to reduce the number of deer in town.

04/01/2019 – Drainage issue near Lakehead Constructors.

Resolution: The City has spoken with Lakehead in regard to drainage in the area.

04/05/2019 – Drainage issue at 214 W. 2nd Ave. N.

Resolution: Public Works advises the homeowner to landscape the property to allow better drainage to the south.

04/08/2019 – Blight complaint on E. 3rd Ave. N

Resolution: ERPD has received the complaint and is investigating.

04/10/2019 – Loose tar on road near 219 W. 1st Ave. N.

Resolution: Public Works will clean road as snow and ice melt.

13. Reports from Boards and Commissions –

Aurora Housing and Redevelopment Authority – March 19, 2019

East Range Joint Powers Board – March 26, 2019

East Range Public Safety Board – April 8, 2019

Aurora Volunteer Fire Department – April 10, 2019

East Range Public Safety Board – April 16, 2019

Aurora Library Board – April 18, 2019

Aurora Cemetery Board – April 24, 2019

Tri-City Ambulance Hiring Committee – April 29, 2019

Motion carried unanimously.

AMERICAN BANK OF THE NORTH	2,520.21
AMPTEK INC.	1,685.00
APG MEDIA OF MN	67.42
AT&T MOBILITY	362.09
BAKER & TAYLOR BOOKS	556.73
BISS LOCK INC.	135.00
BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF MN	118.70
BOBCAT OF DULUTH INC	226.70
BRADACH LUMBER	4,969.20
BRADACH LUMBER	1,670.63
CARQUEST AURORA	572.46
CELEBRATE AURORA	5,000.00
CHRIS VREELAND	201.18
CHRISTENSEN PARTS SERVICE INC	62.90
CINTAS	46.80
CITY OF HOYT LAKES	392.19
COLOSIMO, PATCHIN, KEARNEY	1,218.75
CULLIGAN OF NORTHEAST MINNESOTA	39.00
CW TECHNOLOGY	3,456.75
DISTINGUISHED TROPHY COMPANY	141.10
EAST RANGE POLICE DEPT	33,234.96
EAST RANGE SHOPPER	889.55
EMERGENCY RESPONSE SOLUTIONS	14.43
ESSENTIA HEALTH	627.00
EVELETH FLORAL CO. & GREENHOUSE, INC	83.00
FRONTIER	867.59
GALE/CENGAGE LEARNING	24.69
GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	16.20
GUARDIAN PEST SOLUTIONS INC.	35.00
HAWKINS INC.	2,271.60
HIBBING COMMUNITY COLLEGE	375.00
HOMETOWN FOCUS.US	14.30
JOSEPH FURRY	902.52

K & K CLEANING	495.00
KEVIN JOHNSON	375.00
L & M - VIRGINIA	378.00
LAWSON PRODUCTS INC.	398.06
LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES	125.00
MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT	942.26
MCFOA REGION II	30.00
MENARDS - VIRGINIA	49.96
MESABI EAST SCHOOLS - ISD 2711	3,125.91
MESABI SIGN COMPANY	2,805.00
METRO SALES	342.62
MIDWEST TAPE	34.99
MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (MDH)	55.00
MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCES	3,799.93
MINNESOTA POWER	9,636.62
MINNESOTA TELECOMMUNICATIONS	349.80
MINNESOTA UI	1,352.39
MITEL	171.78
MN JACK SPARROW	355.00
MN RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION	275.00
MPCA	1,450.00
NARDINI FIRE EQUIPMENT COMPANY	1,709.86
NORTHERN ENGINE & SUPPLY INC.	382.95
NORTHLAND FIRE & SAFETY	475.00
PAPPAS MACHINE SHOP	2,238.00
PORTABLE JOHN	97.00
PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION INC.	99.05
PRINTING SYSTEMS INC.	342.29
RANGE OFFICE SUPPLY	263.41
RANGE PAPER	217.25
RAPID ROOTER SEWER & DRAIN INC	520.00
RMB ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORIES	1,672.00

SERVICE SOLUTIONS INC	56.00
SHRED RIGHT	30.00
SPEE DEE DELIVERY SERVICE INC.	15.60
SYNCHRONY BANK	293.66
AMAZON	
THE CONTROL COMPANY	480.00
TOMAHAWK FORD	13,381.29
TOWN OF WHITE	2,402.98
U. S. POSTAL SERVICE	250.00

U.S. POSTMASTER 1	210.40
U.S. POSTMASTER 1	210.40
USA BLUE BOOK	952.87
VERIZON	15.05
VERIZON WIRELESS	35.01
VIVID DESIGN	36.00
WISCONSIN CENTRAL	305.58
ZIEGLER INC.	52,970.00

APPEARANCES / PUBLIC FORUM

Alan Johnson – Benchmark Engineering

Mr. Johnson reviewed the bid opening for the Cemetery Turn Lane / Watermain Improvement Project held earlier in the day. He also reviewed the scope of the base bid and each alternate presented.

Jan Moore – Spruce Up Aurora

Thank you to everyone who donated. New pots are being delivered tomorrow. Blight is a concern, please clean up.

REPORT FROM STAFF MEMBERS

Library – Dave Worshek

The Aurora Public Library will offer two special programs in May.

On Thursday, May 9, at 6:00, the Sutter Brothers will present “Sons and Daughters of the Northern Lights.” The program will be held at Carefree Living, Aurora, and the public is warmly invited to come and enjoy a 50-minute program of music and stories, poetry and song that explore the experiences of Scandinavian immigrants, their ancestors, and their descendants.

On Thursday, May 23, at 1:00 pm, Faith Clover will present a hands-on program about Scandinavian Wireworking at the library. She will present the history and background of this unique art form, along with some pieces of work. Those who attend will have an opportunity to create a couple of small pieces of their own at the end of the program.

Both programs are sponsored by Arrowhead Library System, and are funded in part with money from Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund, in partnership with the Aurora Public Library and the Aurora Friends of the Library.

The children’s and teen’s summer reading programs will start right up on June 3; children from birth up through students who just graduated can sign up at any point during the program to read (or be read to) and win prizes. Mark your calendars: on Tuesday, June 4, from 4:00-6:00 pm, “Minnesota Jack Sparrow” will present a program about pirate and nautical history. We’re hoping for fair weather, in which case the program will be held at Pine Grove Park, complete with treasure hunts for both children and teens. The back-up program location will be the Aurora Community/Senior Center.

REPORT FROM COUNCILORS

Councilor Cromley –

Burn bans are currently active. The Fire Department has done some burning around town. There are two new members recently added to the Fire Department. The pancake feed went well; please support these and area fundraisers.

REPORT FROM MAYOR

Mayor Gregor recently attended the Mayor's Association in Stillwater, where two areas of focus were child care and workforce development proposals. He attended the art show at the Library. The water project is coming along; the City is in talks with Biwabik. There are continuing broadband meetings. Mayor Gregor met with Representative Lislegard at the Capitol.

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion took place on organizational structure and city administrator.

Discussion took place on mailboxes. No action taken.

City Attorney Kearney spoke about the changes being made to the animal and rental ordinances. Requested the items be placed on the June agenda. No action taken.

Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to approve the Lake County Franchise Agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to table the request to purchase land by Steve Scheuring. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to deny request from Shon and Mary Thompson to purchase parcel no. 100-0068-00080. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Gregor supported by Worshek to authorize City Clerk Lammi, Public Works Director Thuringer, and City Attorney Kearney to draft an easement agreement to Shon and Mary Thompson to use the green space on parcel no. 100-0068-00080. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to approve the purchase of services agreement for the Youth Activities Coordinator with Mesabi East School District, City of Biwabik, City of Hoyt Lakes, and Town of White. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Worshek supported by Gregor to appoint Norma Jean Jofs to the Youth Activities Coordinator Joint Advisory Committee.

Aye: Worshek, Gregor

Nay: none

Abstain: Cromley

Absent: Jofs, Lakso

Moved by Gregor supported by Cromley to appoint Dave Worshek as alternate to the Youth Activities Coordinator Joint Advisory Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Gregor supported by Worshek that the City authorize and direct City Clerk Lammi and Police Chief Soular, in the interests of promoting public health and safety and on the basis of the comments made at the prior public hearing, to proceed to take any and all steps necessary, in coordination with officials of the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, to schedule and conduct a bow hunt of deer within the City limits starting in the fall of 2019 and repeated each year thereafter until such time as the Council shall direct the discontinuance of further hunting or such officials shall collectively deem further organized hunting unnecessary. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Cromley asked about the sale of parcel no. 100-0053-00360. City Attorney Kearney gave a brief update.

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Gregor supported by Worshek to authorize City Clerk Lammi and City Attorney Kearney to submit a response letter to the MPCA. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Worshek supported by Gregor to approve Charles Cossette as lead summer worker at \$11.00 per hour; STUDENT NAMES as summer workers at \$10.00 per hour; schedule is to be determined by City Clerk Lammi and Public Works Director Thuringer.

Aye: Worshek, Gregor

Nay: none

Abstain: Cromley

Absent: Jofs, Lakso

Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to accept the donation from Caring for Kids in the amount of \$34,645.57 and to earmark the funds for renovation of East End Park. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Cromley supported by Worshek to appoint City Clerk Lammi to the HRA Board as the non-voting secretary. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to adopt Resolution 2019-09 Establishing Local Board of Appeal and Equalization pursuant to MN Statute 271.014, subd. 3, paragraph C. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to table St. Louis County permit to allow use of ATVs on county roads in City limits. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Gregor supported by Worshek to donate \$300.00 of gambling funds to Team Triumph of the Special Olympics. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to approve the 2019 contract for Green Again Lawn and Landscape in the amount of \$594.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Cromley supported by Worshek to accept the retirement letter of Chris Shuck with regret. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Cromley supported by Worshek to dedicate May 20th and May 21st as spring clean up and pick up dates. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place on the road for the Kicking Off the Fourth event. Public Works will place the barricades on the sidewalk the Friday before; Rudy's will be responsible for putting them out on June 8th and taking them down that night.

Moved by Cromley supported by Worshek to approve barricading streets for the June 8, 2019 Kicking Off the Fourth event being held at Rudy's Bar and Grill. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Cromley supported by Worshek to approve public works to assist in setting up, tearing down, barricading, electrical box setup, and providing garbage cans and clean up on July 3 and 4, 2019 (Patriotic Days). Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Gregor supported by Cromley to allow Celebrate Aurora to use the vacant lot next to the post office for carnival games or extra seating for Patriotic Days 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to allow Celebrate Aurora to use the parking lot at the North Main Business Center for a car show on July 3, 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to allow Celebrate Aurora to use the vacant lot between The Bar and the old Tacora for the sawdust piles. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to have the City pay for the disclaimer in the East Range Shopper and porta potties for Patriotic Days 2019. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to close City Hall on Friday, June 7, 2019 from 7:30 to 9:00 am for training. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Cromley supported by Worshek to table forming a contract negotiation committee. Motion carried unanimously.

Moved by Gregor supported by Worshek to approve \$150.00 donation to Spruce Up Aurora. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Worshek requested Chuck Williams be allowed to speak. Mr. Williams had concerns about his alley. It was suggested he submit a complaint form with any concerns he had.

Next Special Meeting: Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 5:30 pm at the City/Town Government Center

Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday, June 4, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the City/Town Government Center

Moved by Cromley and supported by Worshek to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Doug Gregor, Mayor

ATTEST:

Becky Lammi, City Clerk