

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE AURORA CITY COUNCIL  
CITY/TOWN GOVERNMENT CENTER  
TUESDAY, JUNE 5, 2018  
5:30 p.m.**

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

**ABSENT:** Councilor Lakso; Paula Chapman, Librarian

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

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Gregor to approve the following minutes as presented: Regular City of Aurora Council Meeting held on May 1, 2018; Special City of Aurora Council Meeting held on May 14, 2018; Special City of Aurora Council Meeting held on May 21, 2018; Special City of Aurora Council Meeting held on May 30, 2018. MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to approve the receipts for May 2018 in the amount of \$121,697.78 as presented. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Gregor and supported by Cromley to approve the disbursements for May 2018 in the amount of \$121,245.29 and Payroll in the amount of \$112,917.87. MOTION CARRIED**

Advanced Minnesota	\$1,175.00
Alex Air Apparatus Inc.	\$159.36
American Bank of the North	\$181.29
American Bank of the North	\$23.00
American Bank of the North	\$77.83
American Water Works Association	\$315.00
AmericChem	\$355.00
Amptek Inc.	\$8,830.24
APG Media of MN	\$1,639.09
AT&T Mobility	\$344.67
Auto Value Virginia	\$29.16
Baker & Taylor	\$512.43
BlueCross & BlueShield of MN & BluePlus	\$108.30
Bobcat of Duluth	\$988.55
Bradach Lumber	\$245.96

Bureau of Criminal Apprehension	\$15.00
CarQuest Aurora	\$190.27
Christensen Parts	\$181.82
Cintas	\$46.80
City of Hoyt Lakes	\$636.28
Climate Air Inc.	\$1,775.85
Coldspring Memorial	\$480.00
Colosimo Patchin Kerney LTD	\$470.00
Culligan of Northeast MN	\$77.50
East Range Police Department	\$30,666.45
East Range Shopper	\$1,418.81
Fire Safety USA Inc.	\$143.50
Frontier	\$898.17
G men Environmental Services	\$8,190.00
Gopher State One Call	\$49.95
Grande Ace Hardware	\$69.99

Guardian Pest Solutions Inc.	\$105.00
Hawkins Inc.	\$460.44
Hometown Focus	\$35.10
jobsHQ	\$846.04
Junior Library Guild	\$27.95
K & K Cleaning	\$495.00
L & L Rentals Inc.	\$178.74
L&M Virginia	\$31.73
Lawson Products Inc.	\$200.48
LMCIT	\$180.80
MacQueen Equipment	\$19.56
McMaster-Carr	\$99.43
Menards Virginia	\$419.65
Mesabi East Schools ISD 2711	\$865.21
Mesabi Elm Utilization Authority	\$1,207.50
Metro Sales Inc.	\$457.80
MicroMarketing	\$19.99
MicroMarketing LLC	\$97.48
Minnesota Energy Resources	\$2,595.18
Minnesota Power	\$9,402.12
Minnesota Pump Works	\$1,120.00
Minnesota Telecommunications	\$349.80
MN Department of Health	\$1,416.00
MN DNR Ecological and Water Resources	\$288.40
MN Pollution Control Agency	\$260.00

MN Pollution Control Agency	\$23.00
MTI Distributing Inc.	\$307.49
Northern State Bank	\$6,250.23
NTS	\$926.04
Pace Analytical Services Inc.	\$1,476.85
Pappas Machine Shop	\$630.00
Portable John	\$85.00
Praxair Distribution Inc.	\$107.34
Printing Systems Inc.	\$143.59
Range Office Supply	\$327.39
Range Paper	\$371.95
Red Top Construction LLC	\$140.00
Service Solutions Inc.	\$178.00
Shred Right	\$15.00
Spruce Up Aurora	\$150.00
St. Louis County Auditor	\$13,522.50
The Control Company LLC	\$480.00
Tomahawk Ford Inc.	\$13,320.16
U.S. Post Office	\$314.82
U.S. Postal Service	\$250.00
ULINE	\$27.96
United Electric	\$62.17
USABlueBook	\$409.54
Verizon	\$15.40
Verizon Wireless	\$35.01
Vreeland, Chris	\$201.18

MOVING PERMITS  
NONE

APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT  
NONE

CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to receive and file the following correspondence: Robert Wagstrom, Engineering Specialist Sr., Minnesota Department of Revenue regarding Annual Hearing on Unmined Iron Ore Assessments for 2018; Karen Zeisler, Tax Forfeit Land Coordinator, St. Louis County regarding Proposed Sale of State Tax Forfeited Land; James T. Foldesi, Public Works Director/Highway Engineer St. Louis County regarding request to revise a speed zone determination on CSAH 100 (3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North); Karen Zeisler, Tax Forfeit Land Coordinator, St. Louis County regarding Adjoining Owner Sale of State Tax Forfeit Lands; Scott Bohler, Manager Government and External Affairs, Frontier Communications regarding Order to Investigate the Customer Service, Service Quality, and Billing Practices related to Frontier Communication's telephone service; Tony

**Spector, Executive Director, Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board, regarding Notice of Completed Application – Hoyt Lakes Ambulance Service. MOTION CARRIED**

TRAVEL AND TRAINING REQUESTS

NONE

PUBLIC FORUM

Bernie Mettler appeared to provide notice that he is a candidate for County Commissioner. He briefly described his qualifications and the initiatives that he supports.

Shon Thompson appeared to request that he purchase a parcel of city-owned land near his home for the purpose of cleaning it up and making things look a little better in that area. Mr. Thompson explained that the land is subjected to a fair amount of refuse disposal and that there are several fallen trees on the property that should be removed. Mayor Lislegard stated that the city would do its due diligence on this request and will follow up Mr. Thompson as to next steps regarding an offer to purchase.

REPORT FROM STAFF MEMBERS

Dave Worshek delivered the Library Report on behalf of Paula Chapman. The library is reporting that the children's and teen's summer reading programs have begun. This year's theme is "Reading Takes You Everywhere" with the programs running through July 20<sup>th</sup>. Children and teens can sign up and earn prizes by reading at any time throughout the program.

There will be a number of events going on at the library throughout the month. On Friday, June 8, at 10:30 am, Kate St. Vincent will present a memoir writing workshop geared toward adults and older teens. On Wednesday, June 20, at 1:00 pm, Civil War re-enactor Tim Krugman will present a program of the history of the Civil War through music. The library is partnering with Carefree Living for this program and the program will be held at Carefree Living and is open to the public. This program is geared toward older children, teens, and adults. On Wednesday, June 27, at 3:30 pm, at the Aurora Community/Senior Center, magician Graylyn Morris will present the "Brouдини Comedy Magic Show" geared toward children and families. On Tuesday, July 3, from 1:00-4:00 pm, the library is offering a make-and-take craft afternoon for children. On Friday, July 6, at 3:30 pm, Sean Emery will present a juggling event geared toward children and families at the Aurora Community/Senior Center. On Wednesday, July 11, at 1:30 pm, the library will host a Northern Lights Music Festival Kids for Kids concert at the library. The library will also hold various story times for preschool children and story clubs for elementary children, as well as a story stroll in Pine Grove Park. Stop by the library, or check the library's website or Facebook page for details.

Police Chief Tim Soular reported that his department held its first 'Coffee With a Cop' at the Hive last Friday which is part of his department's continued commitment with community outreach. The Chief stated that the event went well and that they are coming up with additional ideas to continue with this program. He also discussed how this event reminded him and the rest of the officers how many people do not realize that the East Range Police Department only serves Aurora and Hoyt Lakes and not the other surrounding municipalities and townships. Chief Soular also addressed the blight situation.

He explained that the department currently has an officer that is assigned to blight and the officer has assembled three pages of items listed so far and will continue to follow through on these items until the school year begins at Mesabi East.

#### REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Mayor Lislegard reviewed the list of the following reports from Boards and Commissions.

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Gregor to receive and file the following reports from Boards and Commissions: East Range Joint Powers Board – April 26, 2018 Minutes; Range Association of Municipalities and Schools – March 22, 2018 Minutes; Aurora Volunteer Fire Department - May 9, 2018 Minutes; East Range Public Safety Board, April 9, 2018 Minutes; East Range Community Advisory Panel – April 12, 2018 Minutes; Aurora Housing and Redevelopment Authority, April 17, 2018 Minutes; Aurora Housing and Redevelopment Authority, April 17, 2018 Public Hearing Minutes; Planning and Zoning Commission Special Meeting – May 30, 2018 Minutes; Joint Labor-Management Safety Committee Meeting – April 17, 2018 Minutes; Park Committee Meeting, May 21, 2018 Minutes; Aurora Public Library Board, April 17, 2018 Minutes; Mesabi Trail Washout Update from IRRR - May 23, 2018; Animal Control Officer – May 2018 Report.**

Councilor Worshek noted that a forestry service person should be attending the East Range Community Advisory Panel meetings and that there would need to be some follow up on this.

#### REPORT FROM COUNCILORS

Councilor Gregor commented on how his daughter had painted a mural on the side of a building in Virginia and it made him think about how this may be appropriate for the exposed wall on the side of the post office on Main Street and that he would follow up with the owner to see what their interest would be to do something similar. Councilor Cromley talked about the ambulance service in the area changing from BLS to part-time ALS and thanked everyone who has worked on this for their extra efforts. He also asked that with school going into recess for the summer that residents pay extra attention to kids walking on streets and crossing through crosswalks at all times of the day. He also talked about how joint meetings with the school will be necessary regarding the construction of the new athletic facility and to note that the city is not holding up the project and that their needs to be better communication regarding the status and progress of the project.

#### REPORT FROM MAYOR

Mayor Lislegard agreed with Councilor Cromley that joint meetings with the school should be held soon to get communication going and stated how wonderful a project that this for the entire community. The Mayor also advised the council that he had the City Clerk type up letters regarding the city's pigeon issue and that he went around to all businesses and delivered the letters to get businesses to work together to reduce the number of pigeons in town through better business practices and maintenance of the buildings in which they do business. The mayor also discussed that the city was successful in receiving \$2.5M in the most recent bonding bill for the initial phases of work on the new water facility. The mayor also reported that he traveled to Washington D.C. and met with several politicians and their staffs regarding the DACA bill and that they would know more in a few weeks.

#### MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Rudy Ceglar appeared to ask about the status of repairs that were planning to be undertaken on the railroad crossing on Main Street. Councilor Cromley advised that a survey was completed and that the project should be done later this fall.

#### OLD BUSINESS

An update was provided by the City Clerk regarding the Erie History Project Traveling Exhibit. Unfortunately, due to the dimensions of the exhibit, it would not fit in City Hall so an alternate location needed to be found. The city was advised that the exhibit would be on display at the Norshor Plaza at 112 North Main Street starting on June 20<sup>th</sup> and that it was planned to be on display there through the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.

John Jamnick appeared to provide an update on the 2015 Street Project Punch List. Mr. Jamnick gave a summary of where the project is at and that he and members of the city and Casper Construction had went out and viewed the remaining items and that Casper Construction would work on the remaining items this coming Friday or Monday depending on the weather. Mayor Lislegard stated that he wants communication with each person remaining on the list and a plan to complete each person's issue.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Discussion was had regarding the infrastructure work that is needed on the Lakehead Constructors site. Bids were opened on May 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at City Hall with Hoover Construction coming in with the lowest bid. The council requested that the city obtain the latest site drawing from Benchmark Engineering to understand the final details of their project.

**Moved by Gregor and supported by Cromley to accept the lowest responsible bid on the base bid only from Hoover Construction of \$364,524.50 for the infrastructure work on the Lakehead Constructors site. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Gregor to approve the write-off of the Uncollectable Utility Account for city purchased property at 204 North Main Street. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to approve the following 2018-2019 Liquor Licenses. MOTION CARRIED**

#### **OFF SALE LICENSE RENEWALS**

Furry's Inc. D/B/A Dino's  
Mark S. Hall D/B/A The Bar  
Tim & Jesse Inc. D/B/A Rudy's Bar

#### **ON SALE LICENSE RENEWALS**

Mark S. Hall D/B/A The Bar  
Tim & Jesse Inc. D/B/A Rudy's Bar  
Kruchowski Inc. D/B/A Copper Nickel

#### **SUNDAY LICENSE**

Mark S. Hall D/B/A The Bar  
Tim & Jesse Inc. D/B/A Rudy's Bar  
Kruchowski Inc. D/B/A Copper Nickel

**CLUB LICENSE RENEWAL**

American Legion 241 D/B/A Quayle-Shuster-Truman-Muhich Post

The council did not to take any action on the agenda item regarding dues for the Minnesota Association of Small Cities.

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to reject the offer to purchase parcel 100-0047-00080 from Joyce Hill and to send a letter to her indicating that the city is not interested in purchasing the property. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Gregor to approve the rent free request of the Community Center by Anne Clayton for hosting The 5-Day Club on August 6 to August 10 subject to paying the standard deposit and any user fees. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to approve the request for 'No Motorized Vehicles' signage in Sunset Park and to inform residents to call the police when this type of activity is occurring in the park and to send a letter to all violators. MOTION CARRIED**

Discussion was had regarding a request to install a 'Children At Play' sign on South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street West and the difficulty that occurs in determining where to place these signs and where not to put them throughout the city. Chief Soular suggested that he will visit the requester and talk with him about it and listen to his concerns. The council decided to not take any action on the request.

**Moved by Gregor and supported by Worshek to adopt Resolution 2018-18 Authorizing the City of Aurora to Make Application To and Accept Funds from the DIRRR for a Road Relocation Project. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to adopt Resolution 2018-19 Accepting Donation for Park & Recreation Facilities. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Gregor and supported by Worshek to approve invoicing for the purchase of playground equipment from Midwest Playscapes contingent upon receiving the donated funds from Caring 4 The Kids Community in the city bank account. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Gregor to approve the fire department request for pay scale increases for its fire members from \$8.00 to \$10.00 and for its medical members from \$9.00 to \$12.00 starting July 1, 2018. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Gregor to table the conveyance of the warranty deed from the City of Aurora to ISD 2711 until more information is learned. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek to accept the resignation letter of Charles F. Williams as Animal Control Officer effective August 1, 2018 and to send him a letter of appreciation for his years of service. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Gregor and supported by Lislegard to approve the change order from Casper Construction for the extension of a 15 inch culvert on Linda Drive. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Cromley and supported by Worshek to close City Hall at noon on July 3, 2018.  
MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Cromley and supported by Gregor to direct the City Clerk to work with the City of Hoyt Lakes and other local agencies to run an ad in the East Range Shopper regarding the improved display of house numbers for emergency purposes. MOTION CARRIED**

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

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David Lislegard, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Tim Kauppi, City Clerk/Treasurer