

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE AURORA CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY/TOWN GOVERNMENT CENTER**  
**Tuesday, December 4, 2018**  
**5:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mayor Lislegard, Councilors Worshek and Cromley

ABSENT: Councilors Gregor and Lakso

ALSO PRESENT: Becky Lammi, Aurora City Clerk; Mike Kearney, Aurora City Attorney

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Lislegard at 5:31 p.m.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 5. Approval of Minutes –** Regular City of Aurora Council Meeting – November 13, 2018  
Special City of Aurora Council Meeting – November 15, 2018  
Truth in Taxation Public Hearing – November 29, 2018
- 6. Approval of Receipts –** November 2018 -- \$106,2016.44
- 7. Approval for Payment –** Disbursements for November 2018 – \$123,121.28  
Payroll for November 2018 – \$109,806.27
- 8. Correspondence –** Prasida Khanal and Daniel Daniel Symonik, Minnesota  
Department of Health – 2017 Water Fluoridation Quality Award.  
Minnesota Department of Iron Range Resources &  
Rehabilitation – Resource Guide, Grants and Loans.  
St. Louis County – Proposed Property Tax Statement.
- 12. Community Comments –** 09/26/2018 Blight and drainage complaint on W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. N.  
Resolution: ERPD has investigated the complaint and found no  
blight or drainage issues.  
10/30/2018 – Lighting in Pine Grove Park.  
Resolution: There is a safety hazard from exposed wires  
underground; the lighting system has been shut down, as it  
requires complete replacement. Issue has been presented to  
Council, resolution pends Council action.  
11/01/2018 Blight complaint on W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. N.  
Resolution: The blight issue has been resolved.  
11/06/2018 – Reflectors on road – 430 Railroad Ave.  
Resolution: Public Works has received the complaint and is  
investigating.  
11/07/2018 – 102 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. N. blight complaint.

Resolution: The blight issue has been resolved.  
11/15/2018 – Issues with water shut-off valve at 307 2<sup>nd</sup> St. S.  
Resolution: Public Works has received the complaint and is  
unable to repair the issue until summer.

**13. Reports from Boards  
and Commissions –**

East Range Joint Powers Board – October 23, 2018  
Aurora Volunteer Fire Department – November 14, 2018  
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting – November 27, 2018

A. Residential Improvement Permits:

1. Scott & Candace Smolich – 2016 W. 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave.  
Replace shingles on house, replace 8 windows.
2. Shirlee Wright – 315 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. E.  
Replace 6 windows.

B. Commercial Improvement Permits

1. Brian Maki, Lakehead Constructors – 510 W. 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Ave. N.  
Interior office remodel.

Aurora Public Library Board – November 27, 2018

**MOTION CARRIED.**

U.S. POSTMASTER 1	\$ 312.79
AMERICAN BANK OF THE NORTH	\$ 2,207.57
AMPTEK INC.	\$ 1,664.68
APG MEDIA OF MN	\$ 59.09
APPROVE PLUMBING	\$ 138.00
BAKER & TAYLOR BOOKS	\$ 500.58
BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF MN	\$ 108.30
BOBCAT OF DULUTH INC	\$ 50.95
BRADACH LUMBER	\$ 135.89
CARQUEST AURORA	\$ 96.00
CHRIS VREELAND	\$ 201.18
CINTAS	\$ 82.24
CITY OF HOYT LAKES	\$ 350.00
CLAREYS SAFETY EQUIPMENT INC	\$ 135.00
CW TECHNOLOGY	\$ 79.47
EAST RANGE POLICE DEPT	\$ 31,086.83
F.I.R.E.	\$ 700.00
FRONTIER	\$ 1,007.42
GUARDIAN PEST SOLUTIONS INC.	\$ 35.00
LAKEHEAD CONSTRUCTORS	\$ 24,240.88
LAWSON PRODUCTS INC.	\$ 948.55
METRO SALES	\$ 446.86
MICROMARKETING LLC	\$ 28.80
MIELKE ELECTRIC WORKS	\$ 6,333.60
MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCES	\$ 2,994.76
MINNESOTA POWER	\$ 10,172.70

MINNESOTA TELECOMMUNICATIONS	\$ 699.60
MN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	\$ 1,486.00
MN FIRE SERVICE CERT. BOARD	\$ 230.00
NARDINI FIRE EQUIPMENT COMPANY	\$ 68.00
NORTHERN STATE BANK	\$ 6,250.24
NORTON, KATHRYN OR DANIAL	\$ 563.03
POMP'S TIRE SERVICE, INC.	\$ 9,026.00
POPULAR SUBSCRIPTION SERVICE	\$ 277.30
PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION INC. - 40	\$ 1,516.68
RANGE PAPER	\$ 298.60
RMB ENVIRONMENTAL LABORATORIES	\$ 1,361.00
ROGERS ONLINE	\$ 55.00
SHRED RIGHT	\$ 15.00
SPRINGSTED INC.	\$ 800.00
SYNCHRONY BANK AMAZON	\$ 361.03
THE CONTROL COMPANY	\$ 480.00
TOMAHAWK FORD	\$ 14,077.83
U. S. POSTAL SERVICE	\$ 250.00
USA BLUE BOOK	\$ 183.43
VERIZON	\$ 15.21
VERIZON WIRELESS	\$ 35.01
WM RECYCLE AMERICA	\$ 102.51
ZIEGLER INC.	\$ 852.67

#### APPEARANCES / PUBLIC FORUM

Rudy Ceglar –

He had questions on how long it takes to receive a response on the concern forms when completed. Mayor Lislegard stated the length of time varies based on the concern, but typically within a month. Mr. Ceglar requested citizens keep trash bags indoors as the bags are being torn open and be reminded what days trash pickup are.

#### REPORT FROM STAFF MEMBERS

Library – Dave Worshek for Paula Chapman

The library will be an eventful place this week! On Wednesday, December 5, at 6:00 pm library is partnering with Carefree Living for a Holiday Memories concert with songwriter/singer Zachary Scot Johnson. The concert will be held at Carefree Living, Aurora. This event is funded through Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

On Thursday, December 6—from 3:00-6:00 pm, our Aurora Friends of the Library are hosting a Christmas Tea and Minnesota Author Book Fair. The Friends will provide complimentary hot beverages and baked goods, and we are expecting 13 authors to be here signing and selling their books and artwork.

On Friday, December 7, anytime from 2:30-4:00 pm, children can come make a candy candy cane, a reindeer gift bag, and a couple of Christmas cards to share with family and friends. Young children must be accompanied, and assisted by, a teen or adult.

Looking ahead to next month, Minnesota author Chad Lewis will present "Supernatural Lake Superior" at the library on Friday, January 11, at 10:30 am. This event is also funded through Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

City Clerk – Becky Lammi

The Clerk's Office staff will be training for three weeks in December. If they are not in the office, please follow the directions on the posted signs to receive assistance.

#### REPORT FROM COUNCILORS

Councilor Worshek –

The City held the Truth in Taxation Meeting – 8 people had concerns with the valuations of their properties. There were also concerns voiced about plowing and sanding – requests Clerk Lammi publish emergency plow routes and policy in the paper. There will also be further discussion at the January Council Meeting. A meeting was held for the Governor Elect Transition Team and that went well. He's very happy with Pahoua, she got people talking and people spoke up on what the area needed. Rec Committee met and is moving forward to combine the rec department with the school, Biwabik, Town of White, and Hoyt Lakes. Holiday Heritage is this weekend and there is Polymet Celebration next week. There is a meeting in April on individual valuation of properties.

Councilor Cromley –

Fire Department will be doing Santa again. It will be on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm on the north side of town. Reminder to not track Santa down, they will stop when they see you. If anyone would like to apply for the Fire Department, they are welcome to do so at any time either online or at City Hall; there are currently 18 members out of the maximum 25.

#### OLD BUSINESS

No action taken on Lake County Connections purchase.

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to approve purchase of Mitel phone system for the Clerk's Office. MOTION CARRIED.**

Clerk Lammi discussed the transition of elected officials. If Councilor Worshek or Lakso would be appointed Mayor, the City would be required to hold a special election for their council seats. City Attorney Kearney advised the Fire Chief and Mayor would be conflicting positions, and Councilor Cromley expressed interest in remaining Fire Chief. Councilor Gregor has expressed interest in being appointed Mayor for the remaining months of 2019. The City Council cannot appoint the position until after Mayor Lislegard vacates his seat, which would happen after January 1<sup>st</sup>. Councilor Worshek stated everyone has interest in the Mayor position, but the cost of a special election would be between \$9,000 and \$11,000. Councilor Worshek has confidence in Doug (Gregor), and the other three councilors will be here to help him out. If the Mayor is appointed from the Council, the council seat will be posted as vacant and an application process and appointment would follow. No action.

**Moved by Lislegard supported by Worshek to table until the Public Works Director can be consulted with on utilities for multiple residences at one service address. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Cromley supported by Worshek to approve Resolution 2018-38 Authorizing Change of Physical Mailing Addresses for Parcel Code No. 100-0052-00100, 100-0052-00110, 100-0052-00120.**

**Motion by Lislegard supported by Worshek to table address and street name change for Railroad Avenue / new road. The Council requested a meeting be set up with Butch Ceglar, ISD 2711, Chief Soular, Public Works Director Thuringer, Chief Cromley, and Clerk Lammi about naming the street. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Worshek supported to Cromley to call a Special City Council Meeting on Thursday, December 13, 2018 at 4:30 pm. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Cromley supported by Worshek to table removal of streetlights on Railroad Avenue and purchase of streetlight for new road. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Lislegard supported by Worshek to table purchase of lights for Pine Grove Park. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Cromley supported by Worshek to approve the Community Center Application and Policies update. MOTION CARRIED.**

#### NEW BUSINESS

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to approve Resolution 2018-33 Adopting 2018 Property Tax Levy, Collectable in 2019. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to approve Resolution 2018-34 Approving the 2019 Budget in the Amount of \$2,261,810.27. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to approve Resolution 2018-35 Authorizing Conveyance of Real Estate, Correcting Resolution 2018-27. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Cromley supported by Worshek to approve hiring of rink attendant, Temporary Part-Time at \$10.00 per hour – primary Charles Cossette, back up Randy Mattson. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lislegard to approve 3 hours of compensation time for each the Deputy Clerk and Accounting Clerk to determine the scope of cleaning out the vault. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to approve Change Order No. 1 for the Aurora Railroad Road Bypass for \$2,986.75. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to approve payment to Benchmark Engineering for the total amount of \$55,510.00 for the cost of the Aurora Railroad Road Bypass. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to approve the 2019 contract renewal for Northern Minnesota Dental, Inc. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Lislegard supported by Worshek to approve Resolution 2018-36 Supporting the Highway 135 and Lake Mine Road Intersection Underpass. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to approve Request for Proposals for clean up and repair of the Waste Water Plant primary digester. MOTION CARRIED.**

NEXT REGULAR MEETING DATE:

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to schedule the 2018 Year End meeting for Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 5:30 pm in the City/Town Government Center Council Chambers. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to schedule the 2019 Reorganization Meeting for Tuesday, January 8, 2019 at 6:00 pm in the City/Town Government Center Council Chambers. MOTION CARRIED.**

REPORT FROM MAYOR

Thank you for the support. Mayor Lislegard is in a time of transition, and as he drives around it is also a time of reflection. He remembers coming in after he lost his job at LTV, being full of vitality thinking he had all the answers, but found out he didn't. Through some bumps and bruises (any many haircuts), he learned so much, and he's very grateful to the council, staff, and the people of the region.

Next Special Meeting: November 15, 2019 at 5:30 p.m. at the City/Town Government Center

Next Regular Meeting: November 13, 2018 at 5:30 p.m. at the City/Town Government Center

**Moved by Worshek supported by Cromley to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED.**

Meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.

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David Lislegard, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Becky Lammi, City Clerk