

**MINUTES  
REGULAR CITY OF AURORA COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY/TOWN GOVERNMENT CENTER  
MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017  
5:30 p.m.**

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

**ABSENT:** None

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mike Kearney, City Attorney; Tim Soular, East Range Police Chief;  
Linda Cazin, Interim City Clerk-Treasurer

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lislegard to approve the following minutes as presented: Regular City of Aurora Council Meeting held on February 7, 2017. MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF RECEIPTS & DISBURSEMENTS**

**Moved by Cromley and supported by Worshek to approve the receipts for February 2017 in the amount of \$105,816.63 as presented. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Lakso to approve the disbursements for February 2017 in the amount of \$142,933.80 and Payroll in the amount of \$70,038.26.**

AMERICAN BANK 3761	230.00	EAST RANGE POLICE	29,956.99
AMERICAN BANK 7110	515.49	EAST RANGE SHOPPER	811.88
AMERICAN BANK 8977	817.76	FIRSTLAB	250.00
AMERICAN BANK 9587	13.99	FRONTIER	1,215.56
AMERICAN BANK OF THE NORTH	20.19	G & K SERVICES	42.96
AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING	375.00	GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	1.35
APG MEDIA OF MN	210.00	GUARDIAN PEST SOLUTIONS INC	35.00
AT & T MOBILITY	247.71	HAWKINS INC	222.00
AURORA ELECTRIC	363.00	INTER CITY OIL COMPANY, INC.	885.25
AURORA FIRE DEPARTMENT	50.00	IRYA	150.00
BAKER & TAYLOR BOOKS	454.41	JOBSHQ	397.02
BRADACH LUMBER	93.11	JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD	35.00
BURGHER OFFICE	300.00	K & K CLEANING	495.00
CARQUEST AURORA	81.58	LAKESHORE LEARNING	75.99
CHRIS VREELAND	201.18	LAWSON PRODUCTS INC	252.71
CITY OF HOYT LAKES	4,000.37	LITTLE FALLS MACHINE INC	12,475.00
CLIMATE AIR, INC.	1,233.17	MESABI EAST SCHOOLS IDS 2711	5,597.18
COALITION OF GREATER MN CITIES	130.00	METRO SALES	366.94
COLOSIMO, PATCHIN, KEARNEY	470.00	MIDWEST TAPE	42.85
CULLIGAN OF NORTHEAST MN	37.75	MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCES	5,470.97

MINNESOTA POWER	10,061.79	ROYAL TIRE, INC.	1,211.95
MN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	1,559.00	SERVICE SOLUTIONS INC	89.00
MN DEPT OF LABOR & INDUSTRY	200.00	SHRED RIGHT	15.00
MN DNR WATER	351.94	ST. LOUIS COUNTY AUDITOR	13,733.00
MN PFA	10,362.86	SYNCHRONY BANK AMAZON	297.31
MN TELECOMMUNICATIONS	349.80	THE CONTROL COMPANY	480.00
NORTH SHORE COMPRESSOR	177.65	TOMAHAWK FORD	25,374.89
NORTHERN STATE BANK	6,250.23	TOWN OF WHITE	129.70
OVERHEAD DOOR CO. OF HIBBING	270.24	U.S. POSTAL SERVICE	250.00
PACE ANALYTICAL SERVICES	902.47	U.S. POSTMASTER 1	759.36
PORTABLE JOHN	101.00	USA BLUE BOOK	279.95
PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION INC	264.64	VERIZON	15.27
RANGE OFFICE SUPPLY	40.65	VERIZON WIRELESS	140.04
RANGE PAPER	375.70	WEVE-FM	266.00

#### **MOTION CARRIED**

#### MOVING PERMITS

NONE

#### APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek to approve advertising for five (5) Summer Student Laborer Positions. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Hess and supported by Lislegard to table Part-Time Seasonal Maintenance Worker Position. MOTION CARRIED**

#### CORRESPONDENCE

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to receive and file the following correspondence: RAMS Update & Resolutions; Wade Klingsporn, Vermilion Community College, regarding recent tour of the Aurora Wastewater Treatment Facility; Minnesota Department of Health regarding the Quarterly Report, TOC/Alkalinity Monitoring for Wastewater Treatment; Minnesota Department of Transportation regarding MnDOT District One Utility Coordination Meeting – Advance Notice of Proposed MnDOT District 1 Construction Projects Fiscal Years 2017-2020; Minnesota Department of Human Services regarding New Residential Program Licenses for February 2017; Gerald Tyler Up North Jobs Inc. regarding U.S. Forest Service Public Meeting in support of mining; Local Board of Appeal & Equalization – April 19, 2017 at 11:00 a.m.; Cliffs Natural Resources, Inc. regarding State of the Company; St. Louis County Planning & Community Development Department regarding the status of 2017 CDBG Funding and Proposed 2018 HUD Budget; Forest Service regarding public meeting planned for proposed mineral withdrawal. MOTION CARRIED**

#### TRAVEL AND TRAINING REQUEST

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Lakso to approve staff who wishes to attend the LMC 2017 Safety & Loss Control Workshop, April 25, 2017, in Cohasset, MN. MOTION CARRIED**

#### PUBLIC FORUM

Christina Rolando was present requesting sponsorship in Freedom Fete. She was requesting the city purchase a Level 1 Sponsorship. The Council questioned what is included in the package.

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to table until the Celebrate Aurora Committee is contacted to see what they are doing. MOTION CARRIED**

Tony Jeffries and Jim Makowsky representing Iron Range Tourism Bureau gave a tourism update and presented information about the organization, and their commitment to continue to strive to promote and market our region for the betterment of all.

#### REPORT FROM STAFF MEMBERS

Paula Chapman report by Councilor Worshek – The Adult Winter reading program has reached its conclusion. 44 adults signed up to participate and reported reading at least 347 library books during the program.

On Thursday, March 9, the Aurora Public Library and the Hoyt Lakes Public Library are partnering with Mesabi East Schools to bring Minnesota History Player Arn Kind to town. He will present “Minnesota Goes to War,” a history of World War I, to 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. The presentation is funded through Minnesota’s Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

The Aurora Friends of the Library are going to partner with the Aurora Public Library to offer a monthly program or event for residents at Carefree Living. This month, Friends of the Library will bring a St. Urho’s Day celebration to Carefree Living; next month will be an interactive history program. Carefree Living also plans to arrange bus trips to the library when the library is holding special events.

The library will hold a “Night at the Library III” preschool story time on Thursday, March 16, at 6:00 pm. On Thursday, June 23, at 6:00 pm, the library is partnering with the Mesabi East Early Childhood Coalition for a “Jungle Safari” event in the Mesabi East Commons. The event, which is geared for young children and their families, will open with a presentation by the Zoomobile, and will be followed by various activities and crafts.

Chris Shuck gave a recap of the fall events. Flag football went very well. Thanked the coaches for that. Volleyball went well. Winter sports: Randy Mattson stepped up to fill in as Rink Attendant. Basketball program: Pony League program K – 1. There were 54 participants. County League plays on Saturday’s. Participant numbers are down. It is run by volunteer coaches a thank you to them. Summer sports consist of t-ball, coach pitch, and little league. There will be two tournaments in June. One is June 16, 17 and 18<sup>th</sup>. The Berdice Memorial will be June 7, 8, and 9<sup>th</sup>. Keith Berdice puts it on. High School Softball team wants to use our field again.

Jan Moore reported she appreciates all who have given to Spruce Up. Donations to Spruce Up greatly appreciated.

Tim Soular reported that Brian Larson will be at the April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting to discuss the railroad crossing and intersection.

#### REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

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

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to receive and file the following reports from Boards and Commissions: East Range Joint Powers Board – January 24, 2017 Minutes; Animal Control – February 2017 Report; Aurora Volunteer Fire Department – February 8, 2017 Minutes; Aurora Housing & Redevelopment Authority – January 17, 2017 Minutes; Library Board – February 28, 2017 Minutes; Planning & Zoning – February 28, 2017 Minutes; Government Facilities Committee –**

**February 24, 2017 Minutes; Central Iron Range Brownfield Coalition Meeting – December 14, 2016 Minutes; RAMS – January 5, 2017 Minutes; RAMS – January 26, 2017 Board Meeting Minutes; East Range Public Safety Board – February 7, 2017 Minutes. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Lakso and supported by Lislegard to approve the Residential Improvement Permits for: Robert D. Hanson – 427 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street East – reshingle garage and new soffits and Scott E. Meyer – 318 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North - replace roof on house. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Lakso and supported by Worshek to accept resignation letter from JoAnn Burke and send a thank you appreciation letter. MOTION CARRIED**

#### REPORT FROM COUNCILORS

Councilor Worshek reported that on Wednesday, Wayne, Linda, Curt and myself will meet on Park & Trail Grants. The Hiring Committee will meet to go over the application process. Congratulations to Councilor Lislegard for being named for the Laurentan Chamber Award.

Councilor Lislegard touched on the upcoming meeting in Duluth. Encourage everyone to show up. Our voices need to be heard to sustain our quality of life here. We had girl scouts come here a few months ago. They wanted a piece of land for a community garden and I said I would get back to them. I went to recharge the range, they have many sub groups. I told them what the girl scouts wanted to do. The conversation started with the school. Greg Allen is now involved. They are going to help the girl scouts.

Councilor Lakso reported that public support is needed for Celebrate Aurora Committee as it takes a lot of money to put on the celebration. The next fund raiser is a pasty feed at the Legion on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. I would like to see public support.

Councilor Cromley reported on the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual snowmobile run. Thank the trail guys who spent some extra time working on the trail from here to Hoyt Lakes. Thank the community for supporting the spaghetti feed. Over 90 members of the community came out and supported the fund raiser. A scholarship is given to high school seniors. That is where the money raised goes.

#### REPORT FROM MAYOR

I attended a Tri-City Ambulance meeting last week. It went very well. Our vision has changed. We are slowing down a little bit on how we are moving. We have a couple guys from Hibbing helping us out. Reminder the Fourth of July pasty feed is on March 22nd.

#### MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Al Jokinen was present concerning water that is not running down the ditch in front of his house. Casper is supposed to come back and fix the problems this spring. It is a couple months before any fixes can be made. Wanted to let the council know ahead of time to be sure this is resolved.

Rudy Ceglar was present questioning the status of the building on Main Street. Have we as a city contacted St. Louis County concerning the railroad tracks and intersection. Where are we at with the pigeon problem. Is blight going to be addressed this spring?

Rod Salo was present concerning the status of City Code Land Usage language. He would like to see a change made to the City Code. Attorney Kearney stated there is a reason why it was 5 acres. You start getting the smaller parcels you might run into zoning or septic issues for residential areas. Is there enough land to actually make a buildable lot? What would be adequate acceptable to the City of Aurora. Anything before 1989 grandfathered in if it was a parcel. City should do an assessment on the

property they own. See what type of parcels the city has. Dates, size of lots, Get in writing from Rod what he wants.

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek to table the update on city code until such time that we can do an inventory and take a better look at all of this. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Hess and supported by Lakso to table joining the Regional Safety Group through the League Safety Committee until members have attended the Safety Meeting scheduled on March 22, 2017. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to correct error in license classification for Debra Schermann D/B/A Perfect Paws from Home Business to Conditional User License. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Hess and supported by Lislegard to approve the request from Leif Okstad and Rachel Breeden for use of the Pine Grove Park on September 8, 9 and 10, 2017 for a wedding ceremony. MOTION CARRIED**

Councilor Lislegard reported on the pigeon problem. He has spoken with Mike Gornak. He will do an assessment. Chuck Williams, Animal Control Officer gave an update on what he has been doing to try to eliminate the problem. Chuck will contact Mr. Gornak to request a proposal and go from there.

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to approve the Joint Ambulance Services Agreement for 2017. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Cromley and supported by Worshek to accept an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) from the White Community Hospital Foundation. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Hess and supported by Lislegard to adopt Mayor's Proclamation recognizing April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Lislegard and supported by Lakso to approve the Application to Conduct Excluded Bingo for the Knights of Columbus Bishop Baraga Council #4477 on March 26, 2017 and October 29, 2017. MOTION CARRIED**

**Moved by Worshek and supported by Lislegard to adopt Resolution No. 2017 – 03 Supporting An Annual Appropriation in the Amount of \$4,250,000 From the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund for Minnesota Regional Public Library Systems HF 1308; SF 1134. MOTION CARRIED**

Dewey Rudolph was present requesting the city adopt resolution to allow the use of all-terrain vehicles on County Roads. The surrounding cities have adopted the resolution. A discussion was held on this issue.

**Moved by Hess and supported by Lislegard to table until review the request to adopt Resolution of Concurrence to Allow the Use of All-Terrain Vehicles on County Roads with the City of Aurora. MOTION CARRIED**

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to approve purchase of a tar trailer in the amount of \$28,612.25 that is a budgeted item and to share the cost with the City of Hoyt Lakes. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Hess and supported by Lakso to appoint David and Lisa Lislegard as Member-At-Large to sit on the Celebrate Aurora Committee for 2017. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to donate \$3,500.00 to the Celebrate Aurora "3<sup>rd</sup> of July Style" for the Kids Games contingent on their nonprofit status. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek to approve the Aurora Fire Department's increase in monthly salaries as presented. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Worshek and supported by Hess to approve the Agreement between AFSCME Local 2780 and the City of Aurora for 2017-2019 after corrections are made and Mike Kearney goes over them. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to declare Proclamation for Volunteer Appreciation Social to recognize volunteers on April 27, 2017. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to table the proposed cleaning services for City/Town Facilities. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Hess and supported by Cromley to appoint Dave Worshek and Dave Lislegard to look at options for cleaning services. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Hess and supported by Lislegard to appoint Dave Worshek as Acting Mayor. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Lakso to adjourn the meeting. MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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Mary Hess, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Linda Cazin, Interim City Clerk-Treasurer

