

**MINUTES
CITY OF AURORA COUNCIL MEETING
CITY/TOWN GOVERNMENT CENTER
TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2014
5:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mayor Hess; Councilors Cromley, Smolich, Worshek

ABSENT: Councilor Lislegard

ALSO PRESENT: Britt See-Benes, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer; Wayne Thuringer, Public Works Director; Mike Kearney, City Attorney; Bernie Mettler, St. Louis County Sheriff

Meeting was called to order at 5:10 p.m.

Moved by Smolich and supported by Cromley to approve the following minutes, as presented of the Regular Meeting on Regular Meeting on May 6, 2014, Special Meeting on May 9, 2014, Special Meeting on May 20, 2014, Special Meeting on May 27, 2014.

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Smolich and supported by Worshek to approve the receipts in the amount of \$94,795.04 for May 2014 as presented. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Worshek and supported by Smolich to approve the following disbursements for May 2014 in the amount of \$222,158.42 and the Payroll for May 2014 in the amount of \$64,836.08.

AMERICAN BANK 7110	\$ 340.57	ERA LABORATORIES	\$ 1,705.08
AMERICAN BANK 8928	\$ 1,883.96	FLEXIBLE PIPE TOOL COMPANY	\$ 1,448.14
AMERICAN BANK 8977	\$ 149.00	FRONTIER	\$ 1,041.73
AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSN	\$ 310.00	G & K SERVICES	\$ 43.52
AT & T MOBILITY	\$ 289.89	GECRB AMAZON	\$ 71.22
BAKER & TAYLOR BOOKS	\$ 307.80	GEORGE BOUGALIS & SONS, INC.	\$20,000.00
BEVERLY RANISATE	\$ 200.00	GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	\$ 32.20
BLAKE BERTRAM	\$ 1,740.00	GRANDE ACE HARDWARE	\$ 84.95
BRADACH LUMBER	\$ 294.81	GROVE STUDIO	\$ 61.30
BRUCE SCHMIDT	\$ 500.00	HAWKINS INC.	\$ 1,566.96
BSN SPORTS INC	\$ 693.19	HENRY'S WATERWORKS, INC.	\$ 3,410.78
CARQUEST AURORA	\$ 454.40	J & R WASTEWATER SERVICE	\$ 7,681.00
CHRIS VREELAND	\$ 201.18	JPJ ENGINEERING, INC.	\$12,015.00
CITY OF HOYT LAKES	\$ 350.00	LAWSON PRODUCTS INC.	\$ 381.12
COLOSIMO, PATCHIN, KEARNEY	\$ 1,121.00	MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT	\$ 58.57
CULLIGAN OF NORTHEAST MINNESOTA	\$ 35.90	MAXFIELD RESEARCH INC	\$ 1,800.00
DEMCO INC.	\$ 105.06	MCMASTER-CARR SUPPLY CO.	\$ 182.37
DEPUTY REGISTRAR #22	\$ 3,650.25	MENARDS - VIRGINIA	\$ 77.89
EAST RANGE JOINT POWERS BOARD	\$ 3,750.00	MESABI DAILY NEWS	\$ 50.21
EAST RANGE SHOPPER	\$ 733.56	MESABI SIGN COMPANY, INC.	\$ 47.03
EDWARDS OIL	\$ 813.16	METRO SALES	\$ 850.03

MIDWEST TAPE	\$ 41.99	SEH	\$ 7,362.11
MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCES	\$ 5,009.02	SERVICE SOLUTIONS INC	\$ 89.00
MINNESOTA POWER	\$ 8,441.67	SKUBIC BROS. INTERNATIONAL	\$ 1,172.01
MISSOURI TURF PAINT	\$ 529.90	SPEE DEE DELIVERY SERVICE INC.	\$ 145.03
MN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	\$ 1,559.00	ST. LOUIS COUNTY AUDITOR3	\$13,337.50
NEO SOLUTIONS INC.	\$ 727.16	ST. LOUIS COUNTY RECORDER	\$ 57.00
NORTHEAST SERVICE COOPERATIVE	\$ 1,620.00	ST. LOUIS COUNTY SHERIFF	\$35,700.00
NORTHERN ENGINE & SUPPLY INC.	\$ 13.90	THE CONTROL COMPANY	\$ 480.00
NORTHERN STATE BANK	\$ 6,250.23	TOMAHAWK FORD	\$12,972.16
OFFICEMAX CONTRACT INC.	\$ 153.64	TOWMASTER	\$37,137.00
PACE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, INC.	\$ 53.25	U. S. POSTAL SERVICE	\$ 250.00
PAPPAS MACHINE SHOP	\$ 5,546.39	U.S. POSTMASTER 1	\$ 318.14
PAUL CONWAY SHIELDS	\$ 54.49	VERIZON	\$ 11.94
PETTY CASH	\$ 179.63	VERIZON WIRELESS	\$ 85.04
PORTABLE JOHN	\$ 171.28	VER-TECH INC.	\$ 246.08
PRINTING SYSTEMS INC.	\$ 218.80	VIVID DESIGN	\$ 95.00
QUALITY FLOW SYSTEMS, INC.	\$ 508.50	VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS BENEFIT	\$ 140.00
RANDY MATTSON	\$ 1,000.00	WHITE COMMUNITY HOSPITAL FOUND	\$ 100.00
RANGE OFFICE SUPPLY	\$ 15.97	WOLFMAN SERVICES	\$ 400.00
RANGE PAPER	\$ 2,746.75	ZEE	\$ 168.95
RANGE TIMES	\$ 505.31	ZIEGLER INC.	\$ 3,434.19
RED ROCK RADIO CORPORATION	\$ 202.00	ZUPS	\$ 45.56
ROGERS ONLINE	\$ 2,330.00		

MOTION CARRIED

MOVING PERMITS

NONE

APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

NONE

CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by Smolich and supported by Cromley to receive and file the following communication received in May 2014: Iron Range Tourism Board Regarding Recent Board Decision Regarding Confidentiality; MN DNR regarding Utility Maintenance on State Land and Public Water Crossings; US Again Regarding Certificate of Sustainability; AEOA Regarding AEOA Ranger Open Golf Tournament; MN Dept of Health Regarding Upcoming Telephone Survey; St. Louis County Regarding MN Dept. of Revenue Upcoming Training Session for Local Board of Appeals and Equalization; North St. Louis County Habitat for Humanity and Correspondence from Aurora 4th of July Committee regarding 3rd of July Parade. MOTION CARRIED

TRAVEL AND TRAINING REQUEST

NONE

PUBLIC FORUM

Jon Monacelli, Spectrum Community Health, presented to the City Council a site plan, and layout of the proposed Assisted Living facility in Aurora. A groundbreaking has been scheduled for June 4, 2014 at 11:00 a.m. The only hold up on the project is approval of the geo-

thermal design. The closing for the project and title work is scheduled for June 13, 2014. The facility will have 18 Assisted Living Units, 10 Units for Enhanced Care, 12 Single Memory Care Units and 6 Double Memory Care Units. The structure will be 27,350 square feet, with the same footprint as Babbitt's facility. They hope to be open by January 2015.

Ken Corbett, of Straight Thru Archery was to attend but was not able to attend. Correspondence was received from Mr. Corbett regarding 2014 R100 Archery Event on June 28 & 29, 2014.

Moved by Worshek and supported by Smolich to approve the request from Ken Corbett for the following items for the R100 Archery Event on June 28 & 29, 2014: No Parking Signage to be placed along Forestry Road; Safety cones and barricades, as available; Orange Snow Fencing, as available; Picnic tables. MOTION CARRIED

REPORTS FROM STAFF MEMBERS

Public Works Director Thuringer thanked the public for being patient with the City Crews as they attempt to sweep the streets, fill potholes, and general maintenance around town. Water no longer needs to be run as the frost has come out of the ground. Please remember to divert your sump pumps to the outside.

Paula Chapman, Librarian, was not able to attend, thus Mayor Hess read her report. Mayor Hess reported that the children's and teen's summer reading programs started yesterday and will run through July 18. Fifteen children signed up through a partner daycare, and 28 more children and 7 teens signed up the first day. They can sign up to read and win prizes at any point throughout the program. The library will host a number of events in June. This afternoon, Ice Box Theater gave an old time radio drama performance, allowing the audience a chance to get involved and to experiment with the equipment. They made a link from radio drama to podcasting. Later this month, there will be 2 preschool story times at the library, and a story time at a partner daycare; a story club for school-aged children; 2 Discovery Tables with crafts and activities set out that children can drop in and enjoy; and 3 programs for children and families. On June 12, at 6:00, Climb Theater will present a play called "Stubby the Elephant." On June 19, Jack Pearson, "Mr. Song-Strummin' StoryMan" will present a program at 3:00 at the Community/Senior Center, and on June 24, the Iron Range History Players will present the story of Cuyler Adams and his dog Una. Stay tuned, or check the library's web page or Facebook page, for more events in July! The library will also hold another event this month in celebration of its Centennial year. Minnesota author William Kent Krueger--who, this year, has won the Northeast Minnesota Book Award, the Minnesota Book Award, and the Edgar award for his mystery novels--will come to Aurora on June 19. We will have a community potluck dinner in his honor at the Community/Senior Center at 5:30; everyone is invited to bring a small dish and come! A presentation by the author, whose mysteries are set in a fictional Aurora, Minnesota, will follow the meal.

Jan Moore, Spruce Up Aurora, stated that it is rather obvious that Spring has come. The tennis court flower beds were overtook by a weed last year. To kill this weed, it must lay dormant for two years. Pots will be placed on the site while the area is covered.

Ed Modetz, Cemetery Board, thanked all those who assisted with the Cemetery Clean-Up on May 22, 2014. He also thanked the City for the assistance. He stated that he felt it looked like great when they were finished.

Sgt. Mettler stated that the new pickup truck will be outfitted by Tuesday June 10, 2014. The Crown Victoria will then be ready for the auction block. He further reported that the moose that wandered into town is alive, and it has been tagged by the DNR.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Moved by Worshek and supported by Smolich to approve the following reports from Boards and Commissions: Aurora HRA – May 13, 2014 Minutes; Animal Control Report – May 2014; East Range Joint Powers Board – March 25, 2014 Minutes; Aurora Chamber of Commerce – May 20, 2014 Minutes; Aurora Fire Department – May 14, 2014 Minutes; Aurora Public Library Board – May 27, 2014 Minutes. The Planning & Zoning Commission meeting was rescheduled to June 9, 2014. MOTION CARRIED

REPORT FROM COUNCILORS

Councilor Worshek reported that the Tree Committee had met regarding planting of new trees and proposed removal of trees. Planting will begin soon in the cemetery, parks and boulevards. He discussed the West County Rd 110 waterline project. At this time, the project is on hold until Town of White makes a decision regarding the base bid portion of the project. Summer students have started for the City.

Councilor Smolich welcomed Spectrum Health to the Community. The R100 Archery Shoot will be held June 28 & 29, 2014 at the East Range Sportsmans Club (known as Red Top). Even if you are not an archer, you are welcome to walk the course. He stated the cemetery looked great after clean up day, even though they had to push it back a week. Ed Berdice field is being maintained by former girls softball coach, Randy Anderson. A huge thank you to Mr. Anderson for helping Chris Shuck with this field. City Crews did a great job with drainage correction last year. The pump house building at the Ed Berdice Field will be coming down soon, as soon as the electrical is removed. ISD 2711 has begun it's HVAC renovation project. He reminded all that 4th of July activities are coming up.

Councilor Cromley reminded all that school is out, and to watch for kids while driving. With the 4th of July coming up, more people will be in town. He reminded all to drive safe and be safe.

REPORT FROM MAYOR

Mayor Hess thanked everyone who helped out with the Cemetery clean-up, and stated that those who did not show up missed a good lunch sponsored by Ed Modetz. The youngest volunteer was 60 years old. Ed Modetz was the oldest volunteer at the age of 92. Arts and Crafts program will begin on June 17, 2014. Volunteers are needed, especially young volunteers such as high school students. The Arts and Crafts program runs on Tuesday and Thursday from 1-3:30 p.m. The Princess Luncheon will be held on June 30, 2014 at noon. All Aurora Princesses and Miss Aurora candidates will be invited. Discussion has continued regarding law enforcement and if the City should combine with neighboring communities. She emphasized

that the discussions in no way are in an indication of the Sheriff's department. We are very satisfied with the St. Louis County Sheriff's Dept. The Semi-Annual Chamber Meeting will be held on June 16, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Legion. She also congratulated the 2014 Graduates. Mesabi East had a graduating class of 52 this year.

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC

Bob Graham, 719 Knuti Drive, approached the City Council regarding the potential of running gas lines to his house as he has realized large heating costs this winter. Administrator See-Benes explained that Minnesota Energy Resources is the natural gas provider, and that they should be contacted regarding the request. Future development is being discussed south of Knuti Drive, however, the plans are not in the immediate future. Mr. Graham further stated that there was some damage caused to his driveway by the grader this winter, from the point past his mailbox up to the 2nd driveway. Administrator See-Benes stated she and the Public Works Director will assess the situation.

OLD BUSINESS

The Council reviewed the proposed ordinance entitled "Cemetery Regulations". This item was first presented for discussion at the regular May 6, 2014 Meeting. Ed Modetz reminded all that the Forest Garden Cemetery is not a perpetual care cemetery. City Attorney Kearney stated that the ordinance allows for the guidelines that have been in place to become legally enforceable.

Moved by Worshek and supported by Smolich to adopt Ordinance No. 68, entitled "Cemetery Regulations", with the ordinance becoming effective upon date of publication. MOTION CARRIED

The Council reviewed the proposed ordinance entitled "Gambling Regulations". This item was first presented for discussion at the regular May 6, 2014 Meeting.

Moved by Smolich and supported by Cromley to adopt Ordinance No. 69, entitled "Gambling Regulations" with the ordinance becoming effective upon date of publication. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Smolich and supported by Worshek to table the adoption of the Ordinance regarding Franchise Fees for Lake County Connections to the next regular meeting. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Cromley and supported by Smolich to table the adoption of the Ordinance regarding Franchise Fees for Mediacom to the next regular meeting. MOTION CARRIED

The Council discussed the purchase of land for an easement to the West of Knuti Drive for future access into the new Woodlands Addition. An agreement has been reached with the selling parties, Kristopher and Stefanie Dickinson.

Moved by Cromley and supported by Smolich to authorize the purchase of a parcel of land 54' wide, west of Knuti Drive, from Kristopher and Stefanie Dickinson to be used as future road access to the new Woodlands Addition, with the following stipulations:

- **City to waive the Sewer/Water Access Charges**

- **City to purchase 1000' of Water/Sewer Line material for placement on the Dickinson property**
- **City to provide up In Kind Service to place Water/Sewer Line on weekends or after hours as available, up to thirty-two (32) hours at a rate of \$200.00 per hour**
- **Total amount of material, in-kind service, and waived fees not to exceed \$9016.63.**

Seller shall be responsible for the following:

- **Clearing of tract of land where pipe to be laid**
- **Assistance in entering/accessing land**
- **Act as Construction Manager for any items outside of scope of work**
- **Release Liability for City working on private property**
- **Placement of Sewer Lift or Pump if necessary**
- **Must abide by all City Ordinances and Regulations, as well as State Laws and Regulations**
- **Property Owner responsible to contact Gopher State One Call**
- **Responsible for any backfill material that may be needed**
- **Equipment to be used in this project is to be used only by trained City Public Works Personnel only.**

MOTION CARRIED

The City Council discussed the Agreement between City of Aurora and City of Biwabik for Management, Operation, and Maintenance of the Biwabik Public Utilities Commission Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Facilities. A three percent per annum increase was added to the proposed contract, with terms extended through 2019, and a clause that states that if the parties enter into a joint water district or an agreement for a shared water source, this agreement becomes void. This agreement, if approved tonight, will be brought to the City of Biwabik Public Utilities Commission for their review on June 12, 2014.

Moved by Smolich and supported by Worshek to approve the agreement between City of Aurora and City of Biwabik for Management, Operation, and Maintenance of the Biwabik Public Utilities Commission Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Facilities and to allow the Mayor and Administrator to execute said document. MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Correspondence was received from Minnesota Association of Small Cities (MAOSC) regarding Membership in MAOSC. Administrator See-Benes stated that because the City Council has recently discussed pursuing a lobbyist, she felt this request may be timely. See-Benes will seek a visit from MAOSC to discuss how membership could benefit the City.

The 2014-2015 Liquor License renewals were discussed. The license period runs from July 1, 2014-June 30, 2015.

Moved by Smolich and supported by Cromley to approve the 2014-2015 On Sale Liquor License for the following contingent upon all required submittals and documentation being submitted: McV's Inc. D/B/A Big Guy's Bar; Tim & Jesse Inc D/B/A Rudy's Bar & Grill. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Smolich and supported by Cromley to approve 2014-2015 Off Sale Liquor License Renewals for the following contingent upon all required submittals and documentation being submitted: Furry's Inc D/B/A Dino's; MCV's Inc. D/B/A Big Guy's Bar; Tim & Jesse Inc D/B/A Rudy's Bar & Grill. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Smolich and supported by Lislegard to approve 2014-2015 Club License Renewal for American Legion 241 D/B/A Quayle-Shuster-Truman-Muhich Post contingent upon all required submittals and documentation being submitted. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Smolich and supported by Cromley to approve the 2014-2015 Sunday On Sale Liquor License for the following contingent upon all required submittals and documentation being submitted: McV's Inc. D/B/A Big Guy's Bar; Tim & Jesse Inc D/B/A Rudy's Bar & Grill, American Legion 241 D/B/A Quayle-Shuster-Truman-Muhich Post. MOTION CARRIED

Correspondence from Fr. Daigle was presented regarding use of City picnic tables on 06/22/2014 for the Catholic Church picnic. Public Works Director Thuringer stated there should be no problem. He thought there was 3 tables for use.

Moved by Smolich and supported by Worshek to authorize the use of the City's picnic tables on 06/22/2014 for the Catholic Church Picnic. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to authorize placement of a ½ page ad in the 2014 Freedom Fete Event Booklet in the amount of \$95.00. MOTION CARRIED

Quotes were received by the Clerk's Office for a new server for City Hall. Two quotes were received. The City had budgeted \$10,000 for a new server for City Hall in the 2014 budget. Both bids are very low, and both server options will work equally well.

Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to authorize the purchase of a new server for City Hall from Rogers Online in Aurora, MN in the amount of \$4980.00 for server and \$1900.00 for installation. MOTION CARRIED

Administrator See-Benes stated that because of the continuation of the Biwabik Agreement for Water/Wastewater, it is necessary to hire another staff person. After discussion with the Union, it was suggested that a new job description be created to more accurately portray the necessary job duties in order to fulfill the Biwabik Agreement. This position would be posted internally for 10 days. If no one internally applies, it would then be posted externally.

Moved by Smolich and supported by Cromley to approve the Combination Specialist II job description and authorize posting of Combination Specialist II Position. MOTION CARRIED

The Public Works Department has researched the costs for the purchase of a new 2015 Ford F250 Truck. State Bid is awarded to Midway Ford in Roseville. A quote was also solicited from a local vendor, Lundgren Motors. Because of the close proximity of Lundgren Motors for repairs and maintenance, it is the desire of City Staff to purchase the truck from Lundgren Motors. The truck would not be delivered for twelve (12) weeks. This item was not budgeted, but was figured into the Special Revenue Fund used for the Biwabik Maintenance Contract.

Councilor Worshek stated that he was concerned that there as not more excess money in the Special Revenue Fund created for this agreement. Administrator See-Benes stated that if the five year agreement is executed, this fund will become part of the City budget with budget to be set by City Council.

Moved by Smolich and supported by Worshek to authorize the purchase of a 2015 F250 4x4 Regular Cab from Lundgren Motors in the amount of \$24,232.60, contingent upon the Biwabik PUC signing the Water/Wastewater Agreement for 2014-2019. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Worshek and supported by Cromley to adopt the Sign Retroreflectivity Policy.
MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Smolich and supported by Worshek to authorize the use of City for In-Kind Services for 2014 4th of July Events, as presented by the 4th of July Committee. MOTION CARRIED

The City has received monies from the Taconite Tax Relief Fund in order to continue with the infrastructure project on North 1st Street East. JPJ was hired as the Engineer for the project, and the project is now ready to be let for bids.

Moved by Smolich and supported by Worshek to adopt Resolution No. 2014-016 approving plans and specifications and ordering advertisement for bids for the reconstruction of North 1st Street East from east 2nd Avenue to 5th Avenue and Half Street from Central to 1st Avenue Street Project. MOTION CARRIED

Administrator See-Benes requested that the July meeting be rescheduled due to the close proximity to the Aurora Patriotic Day events and scheduling of staff vacation.

Moved by Smolich and supported by Cromley to reschedule the regular July Meeting to be held on July 1, 2014 to July 8, 2014. MOTION CARRIED

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Mary Hess, Mayor

ATTEST:

Britt See-Benes, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer