

**MINUTES
CITY OF AURORA COUNCIL MEETING
AURORA COMMUNITY CENTER
TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2015
5:00 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mayor Hess; Councilors Cromley, Smolich, Lislegard, Worshek

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Britt See-Benes, Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer; Wayne Thuringer, Public Works Director; Mike Kearney, City Attorney

Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Worshek and supported by Lislegard to approve the following minutes, as presented: February 5, 2015 Regular Meeting; February 17, 2015 Special Council Meeting; and February 24, 2015 Special Council Meeting. MOTION CARRIED

APPROVAL OF RECEIPTS & DISBURSMENTS

Moved by Smolich and supported by Cromley to approve the receipts for February 2015 in the amount of \$87,063.32 as presented. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Smolich and supported by Worshek to approve the following disbursements for February 2015 in the amount of 187,677.91

AMERICAN BANK 3761	349.99	EAST RANGE POLICE DEPT	29,166.67
AMERICAN BANK 7532	545.81	EAST RANGE POLICE DEPT	29,166.67
AMERICAN BANK 8928	1,062.72	EAST RANGE SPORTSMAN CLUB	1,200.00
AMERICAN BANK 8977	663.30	ERA LABORATORIES	660.46
AMERICAN BANK 9587	240.47	FASTENAL COMPANY	1,369.59
AMERICAN LEGAL PUBLISHING CORP	375.00	FERGUSON ENTERPRISES INC.	87.57
AT & T MOBILITY	293.49	FIRSTLAB	250.00
AURORA DRUG	22.65	FRIENDS ST. PAUL PUBLIC LIBRAR	320.00
BAKER & TAYLOR BOOKS	489.37	FRONTIER	1,202.62
BENCHMARK ENGINEERING, INC.	1,735.00	GALE	44.08
BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF MN	494.31	GECRB AMAZON	124.09
BRADACH LUMBER	413.83	GOPHER STATE ONE CALL	114.50
BURGHER OFFICE	85.00	HAWKINS INC.	1,316.35
CARQUEST AURORA	58.87	HOLIDAY HERITAGE FESTIVAL	116.92
CGMC	260.00	IREAD READING PROGRAMS	34.43
CHEMSEARCH	249.67	JPJ ENGINEERING, INC.	50,190.40
CHRIS VREELAND	201.18	L & M - VIRGINIA	47.98
CITY OF HOYT LAKES	3,630.00	LORAINIE SIEBEN	164.80
CLIMATE AIR, INC.	1,195.60	MATCO TOOLS	150.00
COLOSIMO, PATCHIN, KEARNEY	1,884.30	MCFOA REGION II	15.00
CULLIGAN OF NORTHEAST MINNESOT	90.30	MENARDS - VIRGINIA	510.18
DUCK DUCK GREY DUCK	10.00	MESABI EAST - SCHOOL PUBLISHIN	150.00
EAST RANGE JOINT POWERS BOARD	3,750.00	MESABI EAST SCHOOLS ISD 2711	3,820.88

METRO SALES	496.60	SEH	915.36
MIDWEST TAPE	15.74	SERVICE SOLUTIONS INC	89.00
MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCES	426.96	SHRED RIGHT	15.00
MINNESOTA ENERGY RESOURCES	6,506.51	SKUBIC BROS. INTERNATIONAL	1,784.55
MINNESOTA POWER	8,431.19	SPEE DEE DELIVERY SERVICE INC.	94.64
MN DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH	1,559.00	ST. LOUIS COUNTY AUDITOR	1.65
MN DEPT. OF LABOR & INDUSTRY	200.00	ST. LOUIS COUNTY RECORDER	92.00
MN POLLUTION CONTROL AGENCY	23.00	THE CONTROL COMPANY	480.00
MN RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION	1,500.00	TOMAHAWK FORD	12,718.53
NORTH SHORE COMPRESSOR	180.31	U. S. POSTAL SERVICE	250.00
NORTHERN STATE BANK	6,250.23	U.S. POSTMASTER 1	320.80
PACE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, INC.	213.00	UNITED ELECTRIC	141.38
PAUL CONWAY SHIELDS	54.49	USA BLUE BOOK	775.25
PORTABLE JOHN	98.00	VERIZON	12.32
PRAXAIR DISTRIBUTION INC. - 40	2,946.73	VERIZON WIRELESS	85.07
PRINTING SYSTEMS INC.	390.08	VESSCO, INC.	1,171.30
RANGE OFFICE SUPPLY	198.42	VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS BENEFIT	11.00
RANGE PAPER	196.43	WM RECYCLE AMERICA	28.53
RANGE TIMES	550.08	ZEP SALES & SERVICE	97.48
RMS COMPANY	33.23		

MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Smolich and supported by Worshek to approve the Payroll for February 2015 in the amount of \$69,965.69. MOTION CARRIED

MOVING PERMITS

NONE

APPLICATION FOR EMPLOYMENT

NONE

CORRESPONDENCE

Moved by Worshek and supported by Lislegard to receive and file the following correspondence: Jim Weikum, Arrowhead Library System, regarding 2015 Annual Budget for Arrowhead Library System; Joan Domanski, regarding upcoming 2015 Street Project; Christine Stack, FEMA Region V Director, regarding RISK MAP meeting on March 26, 2015 in Cloquet; St. Louis County regarding Public Hearing for St. Louis County Zoning Ordinance No. 62.

MOTION CARRIED

TRAVEL AND TRAINING REQUEST

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to approve the travel request of the City Council & City Staff in order to attend the League of Minnesota Cities Safety & Loss Control Workshop on April 23, 2015 in Cohasset, MN. MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC FORUM

Melissa Bruscorum was present to discuss the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency Adult Basic Education Programs that are now being offered in Aurora at the High School.

REPORTS FROM STAFF MEMBERS

Public Works Director Thuringer reminded everyone that water lines are freezing throughout the area and if you froze last year, you should be running a pencil sized stream this year at least through March. And reminded all to THINK SPRING!.

Mayor Hess read the Library Report from Librarian Paula Chapman. She stated that the adult winter reading program will end this Friday, March 6—which is the last date for participants to enter their name in the drawing for each library book, magazine, audiobook, or e-book they read. We are asking everyone to report their total number of items read by March 24. To date, the 59 adults who signed up to participate have reported reading 300 library items.

There will be a Dr. Seuss preschool story time at the library on Friday, March 13, at 10:30 am. The story time will include Dr. Seuss books as well as some songs and action rhymes. This month, the library is inviting everyone to celebrate St. Patrick's Day a date late. The library is partnering with Mesabi East Schools to offer a concert of Celtic music and step-dancing by Northern Gael. This free program will be held in the Mesabi East Auditorium on Wednesday, March 18, at 9:40 am; members of the public are asked to meet by Door #1 by 9:30 am.

REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Councilor Worshek stated that the Park Committee has met and discussed increasing the size of the Concession/Maintenance Building to 24' x 24' and with the recent donations the building size would be the right size. The City will seek volunteer groups to assist with the shingling, siding and any other construction work.

Moved by Worshek and supported by Lisgard to authorize the construction of a 24' x 24' concession/maintenance building in Pine Grove Park using donated monies and a combination of volunteer labor and City staff. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Smolich and supported by Cromley to receive and file the following reports: Park Committee – February 24, 2015 Minutes; Animal Control – February 2015 Report; East Range Joint Powers Board January 27, 2015 Minutes & February 10, 2015 Minutes; East Range Public Safety Board – January 13, 2015 Minutes; Aurora Public Library Board – February 24, 2015; Aurora Chamber of Commerce – January 20, 2015 Minutes; and HRA – February 9, 2015 MOTION CARRIED

REPORT FROM COUNCILORS

Councilor Worshek reported that he supports the sulfate bill that Representative Melin was proposing. Segetis, the plant that is looking to locate in Hoyt Lakes will be at the next East Range Joint Powers Meeting. Discussed heroin use in Duluth and discussed talking to children about the need to avoid drugs and a potential program in the schools.

Councilor Smolich stated snowmobile training will be held in March. Training CDs are available at City Hall and the High School. The Aurora Fire Department Vintage Snowmobile Run and Pepsi Challenge are both going to be held on March 7, 2015. Chief Soular had reported to him that the ERPD is up to 600 calls to date. The City of Aurora Street Project is moving forward. Discussions have been had to extend the Mesabi Trail from Aurora to Hoyt Lakes.

Councilor Cromley reported that the 4th Annual AFD Fun Run will be held on March 7, 2015. A spaghetti feed will be held after at the American Legion. Tickets for dinner only are \$7.00 per person with dinner starting at 4:30. The run starts at 12:30.

REPORT FROM MAYOR

Mayor Hess reported the Volunteer Appreciation Day will be held in April. She also stated that the kids in our area are very good kids who in the last few weeks have been excelling in academics, athletics, music, and sporting events in the last couple weeks. She stated its too bad that drugs have been running rampant and gives her hats off to those who are leading kids in the right direction.

March 9, 2015 the ACT for Alzheimer's have finished analyzing the community and have now submitted a grant for monies to make our community more Alzheimer's friendly.

Mayor Hess stated that Dave Olson of the Biwabik Masonic Lodge asked her to mention that on May 10 at the Aurora Community Center the Lodge will be holding a MN Kids ID program. More details will be offered soon.

MEETING OPENED TO THE PUBLIC

None

OLD BUSINESS

Moved by Worshek and supported by Lislegard to table the proposed Ordinance amending Chapter 51, Garbage and Refuse Collection and Disposal for further research. MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek vote for Charlie Baribeau as President on the Ballot for Range Association of Municipalities and Schools. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Smolich to approve the following as Directors on the Ballot for Range Association of Municipalities and Schools: Hautala, Berrini, Sellars, Hadrava, & Kess. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Smolich and supported by Lislegard to approve On Sale Liquor License Application for Tim & Jesse Inc., for Business to be Located at 111 N Main Street, Aurora contingent upon applicant submitting the required licensing items. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Smolich and supported by Lislegard to approve Sunday Liquor License Application for Tim & Jesse Inc., for Business to be Located at 111 N Main Street, Aurora contingent upon applicant submitting the required licensing items. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Smolich to Adopt Resolution No. 2015-005 Supporting Dedicated State Funding for City Streets. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Cromley to receive and file the request from Mesabi East Congradance Committee for Donation. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Hess and supported by Smolich to approve the advertising request from the Aurora Chamber of Commerce for the Snowmobile/ATV Multi-Use Trail Parking Lot Signage Opportunity. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Worshek to table the utility rate increase for 2015 until further information is received. MOTION CARRIED

Councilor Lislegard stated that he has been to the Capital the last few weeks testifying with Hoyt Lakes City Councilor Chris Vreeland regarding the Sulfide Standards the MPCA wants to enact on the waters. These standards could be devastating to industries and cities causing real financial hardships. We are asking for the MPCA to designate which waters the standards would apply.

Moved by Lislegard and supported by Smolich to adopt Resolution No. 2015-006 in support of the public process to designate waters subject to the MPCA water wild rice quality standard. MOTION CARRIED

Moved by Hess and supported by Smolich to set a Strategic Planning Meeting for March 31, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:46 p.m.

Mary Hess, Mayor

ATTEST:

Britt See-Benes, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer