

**MENAHGA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING**  
**APRIL 9, 2007/7:00 P.M.**

The regular meeting of the Menahga City Council was held in the Council Chambers on Monday, April 9, 2007. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Donna Anderson.

Members present; Kim Rasmussen, Julia Kicker, Loren Tolkkinen, and Dennis Komulainen.

**RASMUSSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH MEETINGS AND THE FEBRUARY 1, 2007 MEETING. TOLKKINEN SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

Sheldon Sagedahl, West Central Telephone Co., reported that WCTA is putting in fiber optics to every house in town this summer. Ripley Construction will be doing the work and everything within a 2 ½ mile radius of Menahga will be completed.

Neil Linschied, Region IV EDC Director, briefed the council on the reorganization of Region IV and what they have to offer in the form of revolving loan funds and gap financing.

Rose Alajoki, Menahga Moves Forward, reported that they had collected written signatures from citizens in attendance of the council meeting tonight and asked the council to approve the city being the fiscal agent for an Initiative Fund Healthy Community Grant Program. Council noted that the date for applying for the grant would be November and that they would like to do some leg work and take some time to research some additional information and get more groups of the community interested before going forward on such a project. Council noted they would like to see planning & zoning, school, civic groups, and whole community involvement and commitment prior to starting such a program.

Gary Ryhti, Police Chief, reported the calls for the month of March: 1 felony, 1 theft, 1 assault, 1 agg DUI, 1 domestic assault with a weapon. Misdemeanors: 1 theft, 1 domestic, 2 disorderly, 1 DUI, 2 controlled substance, 1 assault, 4 NSF checks, 4 animal complaints, 1 OFP violation, 2 trespassing, 1 damage to property, 1 terroristic threat, and 11 traffic citations. Ryhti updated the council on administrative fines and a meeting that is scheduled to review the information software system that the county is looking at.

Tom Gerszewski, Liquor Store Manager, reported that the new freezer has been installed and he has listed the two old freezers for sale.

Ron Neisess, Street Department, discussed crack sealing with the council. Ron, Loren, and Dennis met and reviewed streets in the city that are in need of being crack sealed. The city engineer requested they start with the newest streets at this time since it has been

so long since anything has been done. It was suggested that the street committee meet and bring a detailed plan back to the council in May for the work that needed to be done.

Clair Erickson, Nursing Home Administrator, presented the financials to the board and informed him that the census was at 74. Erickson also informed the board he had talked to Pathway and corrected a spreadsheet error on the report. Erickson was reminded of the need to put an LPN on the night shift.

**KOMULAINEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES AND FINANCIALS FOR THE NURSING HOME AND HIRE HEALTH PLANNING AT A COST OF \$5,400 TO DO A MARKET ANALYSIS. COUNCIL NOTED THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO HAVE PATHWAY AND HEALTH MANAGEMENT GIVE A PRESENTATION PRIOR TO HIRING SOMEONE TO DO A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE NURSING HOME. RASMUSSEN SECONDED. ALL MEMBERS AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

**TOLKKINEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE HOOKED ON FISHING FOR THE 6<sup>TH</sup> YEAR. JULIA KICKER IS IN CHARGE OF THE PROJECT AND ENLISTS THE HELP OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE FIRST RESPONDERS. THE EVENT IS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 19. RASMUSSEN SECONDED. ALL MEMBERS AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

**KOMULAINEN MOVED TO APPROVE A REQUEST FROM AUDIO COMMUNICATIONS TO PLACE AN ANTENNA ON THE WATER TOWER DURING THE PIPELINE CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND TO HAVE THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR WORK WITH THEM ON SETTING A FEE. TOLKKINEN SECONDED. ALL MEMBERS AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

**RASMUSSEN MOVED TO RETURN A \$200 CHECK TO SHARON TATE ON A DATA REQUEST. IT WAS NOTED THAT HER REQUEST WILL BE PUT TOGETHER, BUT THAT SHE WOULD HAVE TO PAY THE ACTUAL COST WHEN COMPLETED. TOLKKINEN SECONDED. ALL MEMBERS AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

**TOLKKINEN MOVED TO SHUT OFF WATER TO THREE CUSTOMERS WHO HAVE NOT MADE ARRANGEMENT TO BRING THEIR ACCOUNTS CURRENT AFTER SEVERAL LETTERS AND NOTICES. KOMULAINEN SECONDED. ALL MEMBERS AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

Durwin Tomperi, Blueberry Township, addressed the Blueberry fire contract and the actions of Sharon Tate as a representative for the township. Tomperi asked the council to be patient with the township and be willing to meet with them if they do not come to an agreement in their township on the contract at their April 14, 2007 meeting.

**KICKER MOVED TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF THE BILLS FOR CITY AND LIQUOR STORE AS PRESENTED. KOMULAINEN SECONDED. ALL MEMBERS AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

Maxine Norman asked the council to keep her in mind if the city would need a consultant to facilitate any public meetings as an outside objective person.

There being no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned.