

City of Menahga
Regular Meeting City Council Minutes
Tuesday, January 14, 2020

A. Call to Order

The Menahga City Council Held a Regular Meeting Tuesday, January 14, 2020. Mayor Liimatta called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

- Pledge of Allegiance

B. Roll Call

Comprising a quorum of the council, the following members were present:

Tim Ellingson	Robyn Keranen	Art Huebner
Karol Andreasen – Via Skype		Mayor Joan Liimatta

C. Approval of Minutes

1. September 17, 2019, Special Meeting
 - Mayor stated she wanted to hold back the September 17, 2019, Special Meeting Minutes. She plans on getting together with the Administrator
2. December 10, 2019, Regular Meeting – Amended Motions

Main Motion: To amend December 10, 2019 motion for Menahga residents to obtain 5 gallon buckets of salt sand for \$3 per bucket if they provide the bucket. Available 10:00-12:00 adding Monday through Friday.

Moved by:	Ellingson
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Huebner, Keranen
Opposed:	None

Main Motion: To amend December 10, 2019 motion ordering school to remove temporary road and use parking lot for buses effective December 16, 2019 to Ordering school to cease using temporary road effective December 16, 2019

Moved by:	Ellingson
Seconded by:	Huebner
Action:	Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Huebner, Keranen
Opposed:	None

Main Motion: To approve the following meeting minutes with changes

- December 10, 2019, Special Meeting
- December 10, 2019, Regular Meeting
- December 16, 2019, Continuance of Regular Meeting
- December 30, 2019, Regular Meeting

- January 9, 2020, Special Meeting

Moved by:	Andreasen
Seconded by:	Ellingson
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Huebner, Keranen
Opposed:	None

D. Public Forum and Correspondence

1. Public Input

- Jon Kangas, Wadena County Commissioner District 5- asked about uses for city-owned building previously used for early childhood learning and still currently used for food shelf. He asked about possibility of moving some of the county offices (some Public Health and Human Services) to this building.

2. Communications and Appearance Requests

- City Attorney, Tom Winters

1. Addressed article in the newspaper

2. Handed out the Report of Exit Interviews with Past Employees

- a. No names were mentioned due to data privacy

3. Billing

- a. Councilmember Andreasen questioned his meeting with the Mayor in December

- Mr. Winters confirmed it was regarding a city employee

- b. Councilmember Keranen stated her concern that some things are going on behind the council instead of with the council.

- Mayor stated she consulted city attorney to extend probationary period until after union was decided or not. Felt hands were tied in doing reviews due to the union.

- Keranen stated she didn't think one of five should be taking the idea of extending probationary period to the city attorney

- Administrator Kreklau brought up the provided correspondence from City Attorney Winters from August stating it was unadvisable

- City Attorney Winters confirmed

- Mayor contacted League of Minnesota Cities and they stated to contact the city attorney

- Keranen there is too much behind the scenes things going on. Only the administrator should and he share them with the council what is going on.

- Keranen asked for a motion for the administrator to be the only one in contact with the attorney.

Main Motion: To approve the Administrator as the only contact with the attorney

Moved by: Huebner

Seconded by:	Robyn
Action:	Motion carried by 4-0 voice vote with Liimatta abstaining
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Keranen Huebner
Opposed:	None

E. Consent Agenda

F. Public Hearings

G. Acknowledgement of receipt of board/commission minutes

1. Green Pine Acres Board Minutes

H. Board/Commission/Committee Reports

I. Staff Reports

1. Laura Ahlf, Greenwood Connections Administrator
 - Went over the profit and loss statement
 - Census for November was 88% and December 89%
 - Construction for next section to start next week
 - Hired a Social Worker start date February 3, 2020
 - State surveyors last week – no deficiencies

Main Motion: To accept Green Pine Acres Board Minutes as presented and report by Administrator Laura Ahlf

Moved by:	Andreasen
Seconded by:	Huebner
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Keranen Huebner
Opposed:	None

2. Renata Parks, Liquor Store Manager
 - Not present
3. Ron Yliniemi, Public Works Director
 - Not present
4. Adam Gunderson, Police Chief – Presented by Administrator Kreklau
 - Calls for December: 135 calls for service
 - Calls for 2019: 1,861
 - Two part time applications
 1. Andrew Krey
 2. Thomas Franklin
 - Upcoming training with law enforcement, Administrator, Mayor, and one other council member

Main Motion: To accept Police report by Police Chief Gunderson presented by Administrator Kreklau

Moved by:	Huebner
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Huebner, Keranen
Opposed:	None

5. Dave Kicker, Fire Chief
 - Not present
6. Curt Kreklau Jr., City Administrator
 - City Attorney on Liquor Ordinance – need to publish summary
 - Small Cities Development Grant – 2 new applicants
 - Head start Building – the state Okayed to put 2 daycares with up to 14 spots, State Fire Marshall will require to check the smoke detectors and add 2 carbon monoxide detectors, Lutheran Social Services can produce meals for daycare
 - Negotiations with Teamsters Local 346 to begin on Thursday, January 30, 2020 at 10am
 - Discussed contacting the school regarding temporary road way

Main Motion: To draft letter to invite Superintendent, Kevin Wellen, to speak with council

Moved by:	Huebner
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion carried by a 4-0 voice vote with Liimatta abstaining
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Huebner, Keranen
Opposed:	None

- Mayor stated finance will take a bit of time
- Mayor wants Appointments of Liaison Groups to be moved to Unfinished Business
- Administrator Kreklau reminded council his report has not yet been accepted

Main Motion: To accept report by Administrator Curt Kreklau

Moved by:	Keranen
Seconded by:	Huebner
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Keranen Huebner
Opposed:	None

J. New Business

1. Approval of 2020 Official Newspaper

Main Motion: To accept Resolution 2020-001 to approve Review Messenger as the 2020 official newspaper

Moved by:	Liimatta
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Keranen Huebner
Opposed:	None

CITY OF MENAHGA, MINNESOTA
Resolution No. 2020-001

A Resolution of the Menahga City Council Specifying 2020 Official Newspaper

WHEREAS, the City of Menahga is required by Minnesota Statute Minn. Stat. § 412.831, to designate a legal newspaper of general circulation in the city as its official newspaper, in which shall be published such as ordinances and other matters as are required by law to be so published and such other matters as the council may deem it advisable and in the public interest to have published in this manner:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT resolved by the City Council that the official newspaper for 2020 will be the Review Messenger.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Menahga, Minnesota, this 14th day of January, 2020.

Joanie Liimatta, Mayor

Curt Kreklau, Jr., Administrator

2. Approval of 2020 Official Depositories

Main Motion: To accept Resolution 2020-002 to specify 2020 Official Depositories

Moved by:	Ellingson
Seconded by:	Andreasen
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Keranen Huebner
Opposed:	None

CITY OF MENAHGA, MINNESOTA

Resolution No. 2020-002

A Resolution of the Menahga City Council Specifying 2020 Official Depositories

WHEREAS, the City of Menahga is required by Minnesota Statute Minn. Stat. § 118A.02, sub. 1 to designate a depository of its funds, one or more financial institutions:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT resolved by the City Council that the official depositories for 2020 will be:

- Community First Bank of Menahga and Sebekka
- TruStar Federal Credit Union
- Ehlers Investments
- 4-M Fund

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Menahga, Minnesota, this 14th day of January, 2020.

Joanie Liimatta, Mayor

Curt Kreklau, Jr., Administrator

3. Approval of 2020 Criminal and Civic Legal Counsel - Tabled
4. Appointments of 2020 Liaison Group – Moved to Unfinished Business
5. Approval of 2020 Fee Schedule

Main Motion: To accept Action Memorandum 2020-005 – 2020 Fee Schedule with the adoption of only the change Federal Test Fee increase – review in 6 months

Moved by:	Huebner
Seconded by:	Keranen

Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Keranen Huebner
Opposed:	None

- Councilmember Ellingson asked about lowering the copy price for data request
 - Administrator Kreklau stated that is what the county charges
6. Approval of 2020 Pay Plan

Main Motion: To accept Resolution 2020-003 approval of the 2020 Pay Plan

Moved by:	Keranen
Seconded by:	Andreasen
Action:	Motion carried by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Keranen Huebner
Opposed:	None

7. Appointment of Vice Mayor
- Councilmember Huebner addressed the rest of the council regarding concerns with the Mayor and Vice Mayor's harassment of employees and not fulfilling duties

Main Motion: To strip Vice Mayor of all Vice Mayor duties

Moved by:	Huebner
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion failed by a 2-3 voice vote
In favor:	Keranen Huebner
Opposed:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta

- Mayor asked City Attorney for a legal opinion
- City Attorney stated the Council is in charge of themselves

Main Motion: To strip Mayor of all Mayoral powers and duties immediately

Moved by:	Huebner
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion failed by a 2-3 voice vote
In favor:	Keranen Huebner
Opposed:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta

Main Motion: To approve Action Memorandum 2020-006 Appointing Tim Ellingson as Vice Mayor

Moved by:	Liimatta
Seconded by:	Ellingson
Action:	Motion passed by a 3-2 voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta
Opposed:	Keranen, Huebner

8. Approval of 2020 Signers for Bank Accounts

Main Motion: To replace Mayor Liimatta and Vice Mayor Ellingson with Karol Andreasen and Art Huebner.

Moved by:	Huebner
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion failed by a 2-3 voice vote
In favor:	Keranen Huebner
Opposed:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta

Main Motion: To approve Action Memorandum 2020-007 approving the following as signers for the bank accounts:

- **Mayor Joan Liimatta**
- **Vice Mayor Tim Ellingson**
- **City Administrator Curtis Kreklau Jr**
- **Deputy Clerk Tanya Edwards**

Moved by:	Ellingson
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion passed by a 3-2 voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta
Opposed:	Keranen, Huebner

9. Community Concern for Youth Program with Todd-Wadena Community Corrections - Tabled
10. 2020 Official Posting Place

Main Motion: To approve Action Memorandum 2020-008 – Menahga City Hall, 115 2nd St NE, Menahga, MN as the official posting place for 2020

Moved by:	Ellingson
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion passed by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Keranen, Huebner
Opposed:	None

11. 2021 Official Polling Place

Main Motion: To approve Resolution No. 2020-005 – Menahga City Hall, 115 2nd St NE, Menahga, MN as the official polling place for 2021

Moved by:	Ellingson
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion passed by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Keranen, Huebner
Opposed:	None

CITY OF MENAHGA, MINNESOTA
Resolution No. 2020-005

A Resolution of the Menahga City Council Specifying 2021 Polling Place

WHEREAS, the City of Menahga is required by Minnesota Statute Minn. Stat. § 204B.16, subd. 1., to designate the polling place for the following year's election:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT resolved by the City Council that the polling place for 2021 will be the Menahga City Hall, located at 115 2nd St NE, Menahga, MN.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Menahga, Minnesota, this the 14th day of January, 2020.

Joanie Liimatta, Mayor

Curt Kreklau, Jr., Administrator

12. Approval of 2019 Council Payment

Main Motion: To approve Action Memorandum 2020-009 – 2019 Meetings Payment of the City Council in the amount of \$11,610.00

Moved by:	Ellingson
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion passed by unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Keranen, Huebner
Opposed:	None

13. Approve Planning Commission Payments

- Census – All Councilmembers agree on paying Planning Commission

14. Set Planning Commission Meeting

15. 2019 Bank reconciliations complete by January 28, 2020 to view by council

16. Perform reviews addressed by council immediately after review Council discussion and approve pay increases before implemented – Council to be informed of Step Increases – Tabled – Mayor wants council to approve all pay increases and consider putting them on the website

17. West Central Cable – getting city meetings on tv again – Mayor hasn't hear back from high school principal about having high school civics class film the city meetings.

18. Sourcewell Ex-Officio Chief Executive Officers Election

- Each Councilmember can fill out their ballot and hand them to the Administrator at the end of the evening

19. Ramstad, Skoyles, & Winters PA Invoice

- Mayor called to recess the meeting
- Administrator asked to address Snow Removal Contract with Spirit Lake Lumber first

K. Unfinished Business

1. Front Entry Camera
2. Establish viewing policy
3. Snow Removal Contract with Spirit Lake Lumber

Main Motion: To approve the Snow Removal Contract with Spirit Lake Lumber with amendment of their assistance in moving snow when the City deems necessary

Moved by:	Ellingson
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion passed by 4-1 voice vote

In favor: Ellingson, Andreasen, Liimatta, Keranen
Opposed: Huebner

4. City Attorney – Investigations
 - Complaints
 - Former Employees

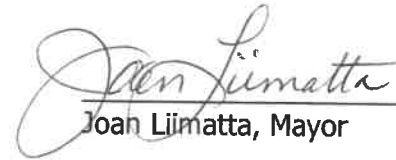
L. Consideration of Bills - Tabled

M. Adjourn

- Recessed at 8:15 pm until Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 6:00 pm



Curtis Kreklau Jr, City Administrator



Joan Liimatta, Mayor