

MENAHGA CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
Monday, February 10, 2014

A Special Meeting of the Menahga City Council was held in the Council Chambers on Monday, February 10, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Pat Foss.

Also present: Council Members Kim Rasmussen, Roger Henstorf, Gary Parvi, Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer Char West. Public in attendance: Matt Johnson, Review Messenger, Onnie Haavisto, Carol Waaraniemi, Marlene Snyder and Ken Hendrickx.

Mayor Foss reported that the purpose of the Special Meeting was to receive public comment regarding the development of a Transient Merchant Ordinance. He pointed out that concerns had been received regarding the City's agreement with a private vendor to locate a food trailer at the City Beach. Mayor Foss reviewed ordinances used by neighboring cities.

Council Member Henstorf commented that his concern, if an ordinance was adopted, would be that it would effect everyone; Schwans, kids lemonade stand, Midsummer vendors; it would have to include everyone or no one.

Mr. Hendrickx commented that he invited competition, but felt that this situation was not at a level playing field; expressed concern on it being placed on public property.

Ms. Snyder commented that she did allow vendors on her property but was not sure how other businesses felt about the competition.


Discussion was held regarding what Midsummer vendors were charged by the Menahga C&C during the celebration; \$150 to \$200 per vendor. Discussion was also held as to what authority the C&C had to charge the vendors.

Council Member Rasmussen commented that Shell Bait allowed vendors to setup on their property but then would pay for extra insurance coverage; not sure whether it was a good practice for the City to allow vendors on City property.


Ms. Waaraniemi commented that she felt that being located at the beach six days a week for three months would be different than for a day or so; they should have to pay a fee as local businesses had to pay property taxes and special assessments.

Council Member Henstorf questioned what those in audience felt would be a fair charge for a transient to pay when locating on City property. No response was received.

Special Meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.



Charleen West, City Administrator



Patrick Foss, Mayor