

**City of Menahga  
Regular City Council Minutes  
September 9, 2024**

**1. Call to Order**

The Menahga City Council held their Regular Monthly Meeting on Monday September 9, 2024.

Mayor Elizabeth Olson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**2. Roll Call**

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

Mayor Elizabeth Olson

Mike Netland

Dan Warmbold

Jody Bjornson

Durwin Tomperi

City Office Staff present: City Clerk/Treasurer Brett Gagnonpalick

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Approval of Agenda** - No changes were made to the agenda.

**5. Communication and Appearance Request**

Presented a Certificate of Recognition to Anna Deschene for her life-saving efforts/heroic actions, whereby she saved a young adult from drowning, which took place August 11, 2024 at the Menahga City Beach.

**6. Public Forum and Correspondence (Must sign in) – None.**

**7. Consent Agenda**

- **August 12, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes**
- **August 26, 2024 Special Meeting/Work Session/Budget Meeting Minutes**

**Main Motion: To approve August 12, 2024 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes, and August 26, 2024 Special Meeting/Work Session/Budget Meeting Minutes**

Moved by:	Bjornson
Seconded	Tomperi
Action:	Motion carried by a 5-0 voice vote
In favor:	Olson, Tomperi, Netland, Bjornson, Warmbold
Opposed:	None

**8. Public Hearing – None**

**9. Acknowledgment of receipt of Commission Minutes - FYI**

- a. Planning and Zoning Commission Minutes of August 15, 2024.

**10. New Business**

**a. Disc Golf**

The City Clerk/Treasurer and Council Member Warmbold examined the progress of the additional six (6) holes for the disc golf course located in the Menahga City Memorial Park and Campground. Upon arrival, they observed a substantial number of trees that had been removed. Wayne Isaacson, a member of the Disc Golf Group was present for the Council Meeting and stated that too many trees were removed by the Contractor in the longer par 5 fairway. It was determined that the Contractor cutting down the trees will remove less trees going forward, and only trim away as needed. Mr. Isaacson indicated that the Disc Golf Group would plant trees to replace the area that was not to be cleared. Bryan Soukup, the Acting Parks and Building Maintenance Manager will be liaising to ensure the accuracy of the Council's directive.

**b. PLM Weed and Lake Management**

A community member residing on Spirit Lake had approached the City via an e-mail, to question if it would be interested in joining lake owners in contracting with PLM Lake and Land Management from the Brainerd area in 2025. If fifteen (15) lake owners participate, there would be a discount to which the City would be eligible to take part of as well. The Council discussed that the beach area could use one hundred feet of this service in and around the public boat launch down to the end of the beach area, at an agreed cost not to exceed \$1,500.00.

**11. Unfinished Business**

**a. Old Squad – Plan to repair and use**

Discussion centered around the Public Works Director Yliniemi approaching Gagnonpalick and asking for permission to effect repairs and begin using the old squad as part of the Public Works fleet. Gagnonpalick was a little hesitant to push forward as at a previous Council Meeting, the Council suggested that the vehicle had so many needed repairs as reported by Chief Lane. The determination was made for Gagnonpalick to make the call and find an equitable path forward. Suffice, the squad will be repaired, and the old red ranger will be excessed.

**12. Consideration of Bills**

The Council Members were provided with the actual invoices for the following batches:

- a. Batch #090924checks - \$40,705.21
- b. Batch #082624eft - \$80,189.46

**Main Motion: To approve the payment of the following: Batch #090924checks - \$40,705.21 and Batch #082624EFT – \$80,189.46 for a total of \$120,894.67.**

Moved by:	Warmbold
Seconded	Bjornson
Action:	Motion carried on a 5-0 voice vote
In favor:	Tomperi, Netland, Olson, Bjornson, Warmbold
Opposed:	None.

**13. Budget Discussion**

**a. Date for Preliminary Levy**

The date for setting the initial levy was set for September 27<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m.

The Council then reviewed *Chapter 30 of the Menahga Municipal Code (Ordinance 30.01-30.08)*, noting a couple of verbiage changes which were provided to Kurtti. The following Motion was made to *Section 30.08 (A), (B) and (C) - Compensation: (A)* Increased \$50 to each for the Council Regular Meetings and *(B)* and *(C)* \$75/meeting for all other Council Members serving as Committee Members or Representatives, including the Planning & Zoning Commission, all effective January 1,

2025. (It was reported that the last time any compensation increases had occurred was in 2013).

**Main Motion: To approve the following payment for Council Members: Regular Council Meetings – Mayor \$250/month and Council Members \$200/month (monthly amounts includes the Regular Meeting); Special Council Meetings - \$75/meeting; Budget Council Meetings - \$75/meeting; Council Committees – \$75/meeting; Council Representatives - \$75/meeting; and Planning Commission Meetings - \$75/meeting, all effective January 1, 2025.**

Moved by:	Netland
Seconded	Bjornson
Action:	Motion carried on a 5-0 voice vote
In favor:	Tomperi, Netland, Olson, Bjornson, Warmbold
Opposed:	None.

The Council did a line-by-line review of the budget. There were changes in the capital outlay to support the new roof for City Hall set at \$45,000. Unemployment was set at \$15,000. Discussion ensued about employing lifeguards for the 2025 summer, with the estimated cost and budget for salary/wages set at \$30,000, plus Social Security and Medicare taxes. There is the potential to seek grants, which course of action will be explored. Gagnonpalick was asked to provide the new dollar amounts for the City Council wages as increased in the above Motion, asking that he consult with Kurtti as to the number of meetings she had been tracking throughout the year.

Dan Warmbold left the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

#### 14. Adjournment

**Main Motion: To adjourn at 7:55 pm.**

Moved by:	Netland
Seconded by:	Tomperi
Action:	Motion carried on a 4-0 voice vote
In favor:	Tomperi, Netland, Olson, Bjornson
Opposed:	None

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City Clerk/Treasurer, Brett Gagnonpalick

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Mayor, Elizabeth Olson