

**City of Menahga
Liquor Store Public Hearing Minutes
Monday, November 29, 2021**

A. Call to Order

The Menahga City Council held a Public Hearing on Monday, November 29, 2021 at 5:00 pm. The purpose of the hearing was to receive public comment, regarding the continuation of the Municipal Liquor Store per MN. Statute 340A.602. The Municipal Liquor Store has shown a loss in 2019 and 2020 per the city auditors.

Mayor Liz Olson called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

B. Roll Call

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

Mayor Elizabeth Olson Durwin Tomperi Art Huebner
Dan Warmbold Robyn Keranen

Also present were:

Temporary City Administrator Betty Thomsen
Liquor Store Manager Renata Parks

C. Verify Sign-up sheet

A total of 21 signatures were on the sign-up sheet.

Pledge of Allegiance was said.

D. Minnesota Statute 340A.602

Mayor Olson read aloud the Statute 340A.602 which states that a Public Hearing must be held when a municipal liquor store has shown a net loss in any two of three consecutive years.

E. 2019 Audit for Liquor Store

F. 2020 Audit for Liquor Store

City Administrator Betty Thomsen spoke on the financial reporting of the Liquor Store, which has been showing credit card sales as an expense in their bookkeeping system. Thomsen discovered this during her first meeting with Liquor Store Manager Renata Parks and Deputy Clerk Tanya Edwards. After making some phone calls to Banyon, they were instructed how to properly enter the credit card receipts in the system. The result was that the Liquor Store was no longer in the deficit but was showing a profit. Although the yearly audits can not be changed, it was noted that had the credit card sales issue been caught earlier, it is highly likely that the Liquor Store would not have shown a loss. Thomsen stated that Manager Parks "Did not have accurate information".

G. Discussion on Liquor Store Operations and whether the city shall continue to operate a Municipal Liquor Store.

Mayor Olson asked if the city had received any written comment, it was stated that none had been received. Mayor Olson then opened the public hearing for anyone who wished to speak.

City resident Karol Andreason asked if the city should contact the State and try and rectify the situation of the bookkeeping error?

Council Member Durwin Tomperi asked Parks if the council will be getting profit and loss reports on a regular basis? Parks said that they would.

H. Close the Public Hearing

Mayor Olson closed the public hearing and stated that no decision would be made at this time. The Public Hearing was adjourned at 5:17 pm.


Temporary Administrative Tech, Jensine Kurtti


Mayor Elizabeth Olson