

MENAHGA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

APRIL 9, 2012/ 7:00 P.M.

The regular meeting of the Menahga City Council was held in the Council Chambers on Monday, April 9, 2012. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Foss.

Members Present: Kim Rasmussen, Roger Henstorf, Tracy Tomperi, and Alden Yliniemi
Members Absent: None

MOTION BY RASMUSSEN TO APPROVE THE MARCH 12, 2012 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES. YLINIEMI SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

Julia Kicker made a presentation on the "Hooked on Fishing" program. She explained that the program benefits youth by teaching fourth grade students to enjoy angling. They attend in-school presentations by the DNR, County Sheriff and fishing professionals. They are also taken on a fishing trip and receive a rod and reel, tackle box, t-shirt and picnic meal. She requested that the city again serve as the financial pass-through agency for the program accepting the fiduciary responsibilities for the program funds.

MOTION BY HENSTORF TO APPROVE THE CITY TO SERVE AS THE FIDUCIARY RESPONSIBLE PARTY FOR THE HOOKED ON FISHING PROGRAM. TOMPERI SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED

Donna Anderson questioned what is happening in regard to water and sewer bills. Mayor Foss responded that the committee is still researching the billing structure. They aren't done and are still discussing the rate structure.

Harley Abbott representing a Right to Transparency, a non-profit political advocacy group, addressed the Council. Their purpose is to help ensure that all information available to the public is accessible. He requested that all information be available to the public free of charge. Mayor Foss advised Abbott to visit city hall and present his request for information. The City has an established policy for a fee schedule that is available.

Liz Olson representing the Menahga Civic and Commerce requested the use of the area across from city hall to be used for a carnival during the Midsummer Celebration. They will have the city named as an insured under their liability insurance. Cody Rides and So Big Shows will not have animals but will have rides, food booths and games. There will be about ten rides including a Giant Slide, Zoomer, Train Ride Ferris Wheel, Octopus, and Scrambler. The carnival will be open from Friday afternoon until Saturday night. The avenue west of the water tank will need to be closed to allow room for the rides.

HENSTORF MOVED TO ALLOW THE CIVIC AND COMMERCE TO USE THE AREA AROUND THE WATER TANK AND ADJACENT BIRCH AVENUE NE FOR A CARNIVAL DURING THE MIDSUMMER CELEBRATION. YLINIEMI SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

Salo reported Sharon Tate had requested permission to hold a fund raising raffle for the Menahga Area Historical Museum.

YLINIEMI MOVED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST BY THE MENAHGA AREA HISTORICAL MUSEUM TO HOLD A FUND RAISING RAFFLE IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE STATE GAMING COMMISSION. HENSTORF SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

Fire Chief requested the approval of Joshua J. Whirley as new member of the Menahga Fire Department. Kicker explained how they determine applicant eligibility to be submitted for membership.

RASMUSSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEMBERSHIP OF JOSHUA J. WHIRLEY TO THE MENAHGA FIRE DEPARTMENT. HENSTORF SECONDED. ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Chief Kicker requested approval to purchase two additional portable 800 MHz radios from the fire equipment fund. The cost is approximately \$2,180.00 each.

HENSTORF MOVED TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWO ADDITIONAL 800MHZ PORTABLE RADIOS FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. RASMUSSEN SECONDED. AYES FOSS, RASMUSSEN, HENSTORF, TOMPERI. ABSTAIN: YLINIEMI. MOTION CARRIED.

Police Chief Koennicke discussed the possible purchase of a speed indicator sign, contact with MN DOT regarding striping of highway 71 for traffic control. The police committee will be conducting an annual drive around shortly to notify households of required cleanup of properties per city ordinances.

Administrator Salo reported that the Liquor Store Manager needed approval of the hiring of Kristina Nelson as new part time bartender.

RASMUSSEN MOVED TO APPROVE THE HIRING OF KRISTINA NELSON AS A PART TIME BARTENDER. HENSTORF SECONDED. ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

Park/Beach Superintendent Neisess reported on the results of the request for proposals for the construction of the new restroom at the Menahga Memorial Forest Campgrounds. The quotes were reviewed and the committee quotes recommended came in at \$105,000, including sewer repairs to the existing sanitary system. Council discussed funding of the project by either bonding or borrowing, in that the project wasn't budgeted. Salo reported that the city currently has \$581,754.99 in available general fund and capital equipment funds that could be used to fund the project. Salo explained that when the project let out for quotes the expected cost was under \$100,000, which did not require sealed bids. The sanitary sewer system was an item we had intended to do previous to the restroom project and could be considered separate from the project cost. Salo will confer with the city attorney. Salo will also check with our bond council, Ehlers and Associates, to obtain information on bonding and financing.

The Council set a special meeting date for Monday April 16, 2012 at 6:00 to determine how we are going to fund the campground restroom project.

Neisess stated that the streets need to be seal coated and that he would need funds reassigned to the street department that were unallocated during the budgeting process.

HENSTORF MOVED TO APPROVE \$14,000.00 FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO BE USED BY THE STREET DEPARTMENT FOR SEAL COATING. TOMPERI SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY HENSTORF TO APPROVE THE APRIL MINUTES AND FINANCIALS FOR GREENWOOD CONNECTIONS. RASMUSSEN SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

Salo presented an election form from Ehlers and Associates for the city's signature indicating they have not been retained to provide ongoing arbitrage services in connection with our recent General Obligation B, Series 2012A. Upon discussion it was decided that we would not require these services.

MOTION BY RASMUSSEN NOT TO RETAIN EHLERS AND ASSOCIATES FOR ARBITRAGE SERVICES RELATIVE TO THE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2012A. HENSTORF SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

Salo also reported that he had submitted two forms received from Region Five stating the City of Menahga's willingness to participate in the planning process for the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan update.

Salo also reminded everyone that there will be Comprehensive Plan meeting on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at 6:30 pm. and a Business Retention and Expansion meeting at the University of Minnesota Campus in St. Paul on Monday, April 12, 2012 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

MOTION BY HENSTORF TO APPROVE THE BILLS AS PRESENTED. RASMUSSEN SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.

YLINEMI MOVED TO ADJOURN. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:56 P.M.



Admin/Clerk-Treasurer



Mayor