

MENAHGA CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

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

The regular meeting of the Menahga City Council was held in the Council Chambers on Monday, July 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 HENSTORF TO APPROVE THE JUNE 6, 2012 CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES WITH CORRECTIONS AND THE JUNE 11, 2012 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES RASMUSSEN SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

Mike Mattson from the First National Insurance Agency reviewed the League of Minnesota Cities general liability insurance renewal.

**MOTION BY RASMUSSEN TO ACCEPT THE RENEWAL PREMIUM BY THE LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA CITIES INSURANCE TRUST FOR \$38,879.00, THROUGH THE FIRST NATIONAL INSURANCE AGENCY. SECONDED BY YLINIEMI. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

Dean Swanson addressed the council requesting a reassessment of his property from the County Highway 21 State Aid project three years ago. He believes he has reasonable cause because he was the only one that turned in an appeal at the City assessment hearing. He stated that the previous council voted not to do anything regarding his appeal. He said he lost his appeal in district court due to a 30 day time limit. He stated his property was not assessed fair and equally to the adjoining properties. He explained that his square foot cost was not fair and uniform. He stated the special assessment cannot exceed the increase in market value. He felt his property did not gain additional value.

Mayor Foss asked Mr. Swanson if he could allow the administration committee to review his request. Mr. Swanson was in agreement with the committee reviewing his request.

Administrator Salo presented a request from the Fire Department for approval to submit the Assistance to Firefighters Grant application. This is a regional grant including the departments in Verndale, Wadena, Sebeka and Menahga for the purchase of 800 MHz communications equipment.

**MOTION BY HENSTORF TO APPROVE THE REGIONAL ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS GRANT APPLICATION. SECONDED BY TOMPERI. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

Salo also reported that the fire department received a \$500.00 grant for a gas meter from Minnesota Energy Resources.

Mayor Foss commended City employees for a job well done on the Midsummer Celebration.

Police Chief Koennicke reported that Midsummer went off without a hitch, relatively smooth and quiet. He also thanked the City staff for their help. He is working on a grant for vests for his officers.

He has contacted the Commissioner of Public Safety regarding the remarking of Highway 71 for the safety of the public. Salo will be checking if our local fitness facility would be available through our health insurance coverage. He said he offered a reward for information regarding the recent vandalism at the cemetery. The Police Committee will also be addressing setting up a fund for rewards. He addressed possibly implementing administrative citations locally.

Park and Beach Superintendent Neisess wanted to thank every individual and group that contributed to this Midsummer Celebration. He had never worked a Midsummer that went so smooth. The only casualty was a sunken pier. Construction of the campground will start shortly. A few people have been disappointed that we didn't have the showers and bathrooms available, although most said they will be back to enjoy the new building. The walking trail posts are installed. We will be making small maps available at the trailhead. We also received compliments on the good job done by our swimming instructors.

**MOTION BY YLINIEMI TO APPROVE THE JULY MINUTES AND FINANCIALS FOR GREENWOOD CONNECTIONS. SECONDED BY HENSTORF. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

Administrator Salo presented a resolution to appoint primary and general election judges for the upcoming election.

**MOTION BY HENSTORF TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 0709-2012 TO APPOINT PRIMARY AND GENERAL ELECTION JUDGES FOR THE ELECTIONS OF AUGUST 14, 2012 AND NOVEMBER 6, 2012. RASMUSSEN SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

The Planning Commission had several meetings on updating the City Comprehensive with the assistance of Region Five. They have approved a final draft for council review and approval.

**MOTION BY HENSTORF TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 0709-2012A APPROVING THE 2012 COMPREHENSIVE LAND USE PLAN. SECONDED BY TOMPERI. ALL AYES MOTION CARRIED.**

Administrator Salo presented an Elected Official Out of State Travel Policy. A recommendation from our recent audit advised that it was requirement that the City adopt such a policy. The Council discussed making policy wording changes and making the policy applicable to employees as well.


**MOTION BY YLINIEMI TO APPROVE THE TRAVEL POLICY WITH CHANGES TO INCLUDE EMPLOYEES AND LOCAL TRAVEL, "ELECTED OFFICIAL/EMPLOYEE OUT OF STATE /LOCAL TRAVEL POLICY." HENSTORF SECONDED. ALL AYES, MOTION CARRIED.**

Administrator Salo advised filing for affidavit of candidacy for statutory city election will open on July 31, 2012 and close on August 14, 2012. Filing for City of Menahga offices will be accepted for the following offices: General Election of Mayor for 2 year term, General Election of Council Member for 4 year term and General Election of Council Member for 4 year term. Terms expiring on January 1, 2013 include Mayor Pat Foss, Council Member Kim Rasmussen and Council Member Tracy Tomperi. Affidavits of Candidacy and a \$2.00 filing fee, or a petition can be filed on those dates between the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (5:00 p.m. on the 14<sup>th</sup>) at the City Clerk's Office located at 115 - 2<sup>nd</sup> St. N.E., Menahga, MN 56464.

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

Mayor Foss reminded everyone that there will be another public hearing prior to the next regular meeting of August 13, 2012 at 6:00 pm for the special assessment policy. The BR&E project teams will also be meeting July 31 at 6:00 pm.

YLINEMI MOVED TO ADJOURN. MOTION CARRIED. MEETING ADJOURNED  
AT 8:29 P.M.

  
Admin/Clerk-Treasurer

  
Mayor