

**City of Menahga
Budget/Special City Council Meeting
Friday, September 10, 2021, 9:00 am**

A. Call to Order

The Menahga City Council held a Special Meeting Friday, September 10, 2021. Mayor Elizabeth Olson called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. Roll Call

The following members of the council were present:

Mayor Elizabeth Olson Dan Warmbold Robyn Keranen
Durwin Tomperi Art Huebner
City Administrator Curt Kreklau, Jr. (remotely)

D. Action Items

1. Temporary Administrative Position Committee Appointment

Mayor Olson asked for discussion on this topic, Councilmember Tomperi stated the Contract Hiring Committee was set in February (the Mayor and Vice-Mayor). Administrator Kreklau recommended the council make a new motion to appoint a Hiring Committee, as this is different than union negotiations.

Main Motion: That any future hirings by the City of Menahga, will have a committee appointed by the Mayor, which will include two council members.

Moved by:	Tomperi
Seconded by:	Warmbold
Action: In favor:	Motion carried by a 3–2 voice vote
Opposed:	Olson, Tomperi, Warmbold
	Keranen, Huebner

Mayor Olson then appointed the Mayor and Vice-Mayor, Liz Olson and Durwin Tomperi, to the Hiring/Employment Committee.

Mayor Olson asked Curt Kreklau if he would forward the applications, scoring sheets and interview questions to the Hiring/Employment Committee, so they could set up possible interviews for Monday September 13th at 5 pm. Kreklau stated he would send them to the committee later today.

2. Banyon Database Report Update

Main Motion: To table the Banyon Report until after the Administrator meets with Banyon Monday.

Moved by:	Huebner
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action: In favor:	Motion failed by a 2–3 voice vote
Opposed:	Huebner, Keranen
	Olson, Tomperi, Warmbold

Main Motion: To approve the findings of September 7, 2021, that we requested of Banyon, that indicated again, that the programmer has determined the data is in balance and there is no damage. It also went on to talk about the posting habits and things that were going on here. I would like to make that a part of the record for this meeting.

Moved by:	Olson
Seconded by:	Warmbold
Action: In favor:	Motion carried by a 3–2 voice vote
Opposed:	Olson, Tomperi, Warmbold
	Keranen, Huebner

Councilmember Huebner asked to have the response from the staff to Banyon entered into the minutes, Huebner’s request was denied at this time.

E. Budget Discussion

- 9:30 – Ron Yliniemi – Public Works

Salaries raise to \$52,000, Maintenance Shop Roof needs to be repaired, insulate cold storage, and 2 new shop doors – should budget in Capital Improvement (cost \$50,000).

Seal Coating for several of the streets from \$9,000 to \$50,000. Generator for the Water Plant \$80,000

Curt Kreklau (who attended remotely) remarked that the items above should not be part of the levy, but possibly looking for other funding such as PFA, USDA or even ARP monies. Kreklau felt that the generator may be able to be part of the water tower project.

- 10:00 – Adam Gunderson – Police (not present)

Council member Tomperi remarked that the 2021 YTD expenses has quite a bit of money left, Council member Keranen agreed.

- 10:30 – Curt Kreklau Jr – Administration

No additional changes since the prior meeting, which have now been entered into the system. Tomperi remarked that his 2022 budget was less than 2021. Kreklau pointed out that administrative fees from other departments had been increased.

- 11:00 – Renata Parks – Liquor Store (not present)

Kreklau said that he was not aware of any other changes to the Liquor Store budget. Questions about the operation being split into two parts, on-sale or off-sale. Kreklau said that the off-sale makes a greater profit, than the on-sale.

- 11:30 – Dave Kicker – Fire

Dave remarked that he hadn't seen the numbers from the previous meeting and was not sure if they had been updated. Kreklau said that he had. Kicker said to leave the wages with no increase, but to increase the retirement to \$6000. Kicker asks about administrative salaries, why it went from \$2300 to \$5000. Tomperi states that whatever we agree on will be the amount used for the Township Fire Contracts, Kicker agreed. Professional services were charged \$5000 for the fire truck lease paperwork which was done by Ehler's. Kicker asked Kreklau if he could get a revenue and expense report every month, so he can review it monthly prior to the work session? Kreklau agreed to provide this report monthly.

- 12:00 – Break for lunch. Did not break for lunch.

Mayor Olson asks Kreklau "where do we go from here?" Kreklau asks Mayor Olson to give her notes to the office and he will combine them with his notes and come up with a new amount of the proposed preliminary levy. Mayor Olson asked if the council could address the revenue side of the budget. Kreklau felt that a water study was needed and felt rates should go up in 2022. Franchise fees with West Central were discussed and

should be looked at. Huebner asks about so many FAX lines being charged to the city. Kreklau says it does not show up on the actual billing, Kreklau feels that the city needs to label their expenses properly. Keranen asks about dog license fees, it appears that only a few dogs are being licensed. Council felt that Police Chief Gunderson should investigate the dog license requirement. Payment in lieu of taxes from Nursing Home was discussed and felt it should be raised. Fire State Aid was clarified that it comes into the city and then is turned back to the Fire Department. Tomperi asks about a \$60,000 income, Kreklau could not answer, but will check on it. ECPN with Nursing Home was discussed and it is a pass-through account. Admin In income was explained that it is a transfer from other revenue (enterprise) funds to off-set administration operations. Kreklau says he is still waiting on Ehler's with a debt study. Discussion on various other accounts were mentioned, but Kreklau asks for council approval to move forward with making projections.

Huebner asks about expenditures for legal services in 2021, Kreklau says it should show up on YTD expenses under administration. The amounts in YTD were questioned, as they do not think they can be correct, as they are too low. Mayor Olson stated that this question was an expenditure item for 2021 and that the council was discussing revenues for the budget for 2022.

F. Reconvene for Afternoon Budget Discussion (if necessary) – Schedule Preliminary Levy Vote

Council did not break for lunch.

G. Adjournment

Main Motion: Motion to adjourn at 10:47 am.

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



Jensine Kurtti
Administrative Asst.
Minutes prepared from a recording



Elizabeth Olson, Mayor Temporary

