

**City of Menahga  
Regular City Council Minutes  
Monday, September 13, 2021**

**1. Call to Order**

The Menahga City Council held a Regular Meeting Monday, September 13, 2021.

Mayor Liz 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      Durwin Tomperi      Art Huebner  
Dan Warmbold  
Robyn Keranen called in from her home at 222 Dogwood Ave., Menahga  
MN 56464

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

**4. Approval of Agenda**

**Main Motion: To approve the agenda with the following amendment: Remove 13.b - Part-time Temp Position Offer.**

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

**5. Notices and Communications: None.**

**6. Public Forum and Correspondence:**

**a. Margaret Grangruth** - Reported to the Council on aggressive dogs in the City and trash and junk cars on resident's property within the City. She requested that a notice to clean-up be sent out from the City.

**b. Joan Torma** - Was unable to attend the meeting, however, provided Council Action Request Form which was read by the Mayor. Her report

consisted of concerns with aggressive dogs and outdated vehicles, old motors, etc., and other trash. She reported that she had called the police 4 times with no feedback on dog issue.

**c. Darrell Grangruth** - Did not attend the meeting, however, he provided a Council Action Request Form which was read by the Mayor. His report consisted of concerns with unrestrained pets. "Walkers, joggers charged by pets, sometimes bitten." He asked that the City enforce leash laws currently on the book.

**d. Steve Gronberg, Sr.** - Reported to the Council on unkept properties- nuisance, which brings down the property values of surrounding homes. He asked that the City contact the owner at 322 3rd St. NW, to clean up the property, as well as other property owners within the City that have junk and old vehicles sitting in the yard.

**Main Motion: To direct the Menahga City Administrator and Menahga Chief of Police to uphold the Menahga Municipal Code Chapters 90 (Abandoned Vehicles) and Chapter 91 (Dogs). Particularly, 91.02 requiring that all dogs in the City must be licensed, and Chapter 90.09 with respect to animals presenting danger to the health and safety of the City. That Chapter 90.15 with respect to abandoned vehicles be upheld and to take all necessary steps to assure that the public safety needs of the City are achieved.**

Moved by:	Olson
Seconded by:	Warmbold
Action:	Motion carried by a 4-1 voice vote
In favor:	Olson, Tomperi, Warmbold, Keranen
Opposed:	Huebner

The Mayor stated that it is the Council's expectations that all Menahga Ordinances be followed and not just those addressed above.

## **7. Consent Agenda**

**a. Minutes to Approve - August 30, 2021 Special Meeting/Work Session Minutes. (Prepared by the Mayor in the absence of the City Administrator and Deputy Clerk)**

**Main Motion: To approve the August 30, 2021 Special Meeting/Work Session Minutes.**

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

**8. Public Hearings - None.**

**9. Acknowledgment and receipt of board/commission minutes**

**a. Greenwood Connections Board Minutes:**

- Nursing Home census was 85% for August 2021
- Are testing every 3 days due to one staff member testing positive ;
- No new hires, but have many open positions which limits the ability to take in new Greenwood Connection residents.
- Reported that as of July, 2021, the profit for Greenwood Connections was \$60,001.69.

**Main Motion: To approve the Greenwood Connections Board Report and Minutes.**

Moved by:	Tomperi
Seconded by:	Warmbold
Action:	Motion carried by a 4-1 voice vote.
In favor:	Tomperi, Warmbold, Keranen, Olson
Opposed:	Huebner

**10. Board/commission/committee reports - None.**

**11. Staff Reports**

- a. Greenwood Connections Administrator - See above.**
- b. Public Works Director - Ron Yliniemi** - Gave update that our engineers are waiting to hear on the environmental and historical reports on the water tower project.

**i. Excess Equipment**

**Main Motion: To approve the sale by sealed bids, all Public Work's excess equipment and, that an ad be prepared with the assistance of the City Administrator. That the ad be published in the surrounding newspapers with a deadline for the sealed bids of October 21st, 2021, with the ad to include that the City has the right to reject any and all bids.**

Moved by:	Tomperi
Seconded by:	Warmbold
Action:	Motion carried by a 4-1 voice vote.
In favor:	Tomperi, Warmbold, Keranen, Olson
Opposed:	Huebner

### **ii. Street Light Cattail Trail**

**Main Motion: To approve the work order by Public Work's for the installation of a street light at the Cattail Trail Cul-de-sac.**

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

### **iii. VFD for Lift Ponds**

**Main Motion: To accept the bid of Les's Electric in the amount of \$3,200.00 to replace the VFD for the lift station at the ponds.**

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

## **12. Mayor's Report:**

**a. 2021 MMA Annual Conference - Sept. 17-18 at St. Joseph -**  
Cancelled due to the COVID Delta Variant.

**b. Retired City Administrator Temporary Position -** Received a text message from retired City Administrator Char West on August 9th, 2021, declining the temporary position.

**c. Small Town Spotlight Report -** The Mayor thanked all who took the time to send pictures (including the *Review Messenger*), videos and other information on our wonderful City. There was disappointment in the content provided, as a lot of great

information about our City was not included. We do all have a lot to be proud of our City!

Council Member Huebner was called out-of-order for the third time at this meeting. A five (5) minute recess was then called by the Mayor at 6:40 p.m. The Council Meeting reconvened at 6:45 p.m.

### 13. New Business

#### a. Retro Pay - Liquor Store Assistant Manager

**Main Motion: To approve retroactive pay for the Assistant Liquor Store Manager in the amount of \$658.34 for a total of 278.01 regular hours and 71.74 overtime hours, performed during the absence of the Liquor Store Manager from April 29, 2021 - June 12, 2021, due to acting as an Assistant Manager.**

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

### 14. Unfinished Business

**a. Industrial Park Lot(s) Pricing** - No information provided by the City Administrator - tabled.

**b. Special Assessment Relief** - No information provided by the City Administrator - tabled.

**c. City Council Designee, in communication with City Administrator, for Part-Time Temporary Administrative Support Technician Position.**

**Main Motion: To approve the appointment of Mayor Liz Olson as the City Council Designee in communication with the City Administrator, for the part-time Temporary Administrative Position to provide oversight of the work completed by the Temporary Hire.**

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

Council Member Huebner asked to go on record that this is/was an illegal action.

**d. Motion to follow Ms. Oldakowski's recommendations for maintenance of the pond and spillway by Public Works.**

Public Works Director reported on a September 10, 2021 Spirit Lake Storm Water Pond report received from Engineer Brian Hiles, wherein he suggested the City place this project as a part of the another proposed project in the general area scheduled for 2023.

**Main Motion: To direct the City Maintenance Department to give a cost estimate on the recommendations of Ms. Oldakowski on the maintenance of the pond and spillway at Spirit Lake, which she presented at the August 30th, 2021 Special Meeting/Work Session.**

Moved by:	Tomperi
Seconded by:	Warmbold
Action:	Motion carried by a 4-1 voice vote.
In favor:	Tomperi, Warmbold, Keranen, Olson
Opposed:	Huebner

**e. Summary Statement of August 30, 2021 Closed Evaluation.**

A closed session performance evaluation of the Menahga City Administrator Curtis Kreklau, Jr., was held on Monday, August 30th, 2021, with the following Council Members attending: Robyn Keranen, Durwin Tomperi, Daniel Warmbold, Elizabeth Olson and Art Huebner. The Council reviewed and discussed the duties and performance of the City Administrator, as well as a review of the June 14th, 2021, Evaluation. While his overall rating was satisfactory, a majority of the Council found little to no improvement from the June 14th, 2021, Evaluation.

**15. Item Review**

**a. Cattail Trail Developers Agreement Update** - Awaiting for the Agreement to be provided by the City's Attorney.

**16. Consideration of Bills**

a. Approval of Bills - EFT.1 - \$882.20 (MN Dept of Revenue); EFT.2 - \$836.49 (MN Dept of Revenue); EFT Payments - \$58,790.291, EFT.3 - \$875.77 (MN Dept of Revenue); DMP Payment - \$5,275.00; LAC Contract Payment - \$4,000; and September 10, 2021 payments of \$113,421.27, for a grand total of \$184,081.22.

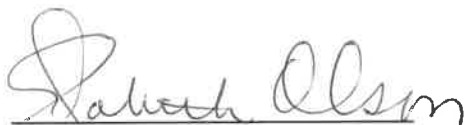
**Main Motion: To approve payment of all bills in the total amount of \$184,081.22.**

Moved by:	Tomperi
Seconded by:	Keranen
Action:	Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote
In favor:	Tomperi, Warmbold, Huebner, Keranen, Olson
Opposed:	None

**17. Adjournment**

**Main Motion: To adjourn at 6:54 p.m.**

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

  
Acting Clerk, Mayor Elizabeth Olson

  
Mayor Elizabeth Olson

