



**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
September 15, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm.

**Present:** Mayor: Donny Chillstrom; Council: Kurt Kaminski, Marty Schneider, and Liz Olson

**Staff Present:** City Administrator: Scott Weske; City Engineer: Chris LaBounty; Public Works Director: Marv Wurzer; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

**Absent:** Council: Jahn Dyvik

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**LONG LAKE NEWS UPDATE AND WORK SESSION REVIEW**

Mayor Chillstrom offered the following updates:

- In an EDA prior to the regular meeting, the EDA discussed setting some standards and creating forms for addressing future applications and potential project reviews that would come before the EDA for consideration.
- Progress continues at the Birch's on the Lake site, and it is anticipated the restaurant will likely open late in September.
- The Quick Burger restaurant will not be coming to Long Lake after all, and the property owner is seeking a new tenant for the site.
- The Long Lake Fire Department will be holding their Centennial Celebration on Saturday, September 19. The day's events will include a fire truck parade beginning at noon, live musical entertainment all day, beer and wine tasting events, food trucks, kids games and activities, and a fireworks display in the evening.

Lastly, Mayor Chillstrom encouraged shopping local as often as possible.

**APPROVE AGENDA**

The agenda was amended to add regular business Item No. 10, Application for 1 Day to 4 day Temporary Liquor License and Noise Variance Permit for Gear West Snow Days Sale.

*A motion was made by Olson, seconded by Kaminski, to approve the Agenda as amended. Ayes: all.*

**CONSENT AGENDA**

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- A. Approve Minutes of September 1, 2015 City Council Meeting
- B. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll

*A motion was made by Kaminski, seconded by Olson, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ayes: all.*

## **OPEN CORRESPONDENCE**

No one appeared to address the City Council during Open Correspondence.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS**

### **2016 Preliminary Levy and Budget**

Administrator Weske reported that statute requires cities to establish and communicate proposed levy information; and to select a taxes payable 2016 Public Meeting date to discuss the preliminary levy and proposed budget to the county auditor by September 30, 2015. Council should be aware that the final levy adopted by December 27, 2015 can decrease from the preliminary levy, but it generally cannot increase without the addition of specific allowable "add-on" levy circumstances.

Weske stated that the proposed 2016 preliminary operating levy of \$1,007,102 coupled with a required debt service levy of \$58,541 produces a total 2016 Preliminary Levy of \$1,065,643 or a \$1,064 or .001% increase compared to the adopted total 2015 payable levy of \$1,064,579. He reviewed general fund budget considerations which include an estimated increase in employee health insurance premiums, as well as liability, property, and workers' compensation premiums; changing LGA amounts; and a decrease in the cost of contract police protection services beginning in 2016.

Council and staff also discussed upcoming budget items of note, including budgeting for hiring Public Works Director Wurzer's replacement upon his retirement; a potential change in water meter technology; addressing the age and condition of the city's generators; and the feasibility of improving play structures and other equipment at Nelson Lakeside Park.

*A motion was made by Olson, seconded by Kaminski, to adopt Resolution No. 2015-41 establishing the preliminary 2015 property tax levy payable in 2016 for the City of Long Lake; and Resolution No. 2015-42 establishing the 2015 public meeting date to discuss the proposed levy and budget for taxes payable 2016 for the City of Long Lake. Ayes: all.*

### **Receive Watertown Road Feasibility Report and Order Public Hearing**

City Engineer LaBounty stated the City Council previously authorized the preparation of a feasibility report for improvements to Watertown Road between the western municipal boundary with the City of Orono, and Brown Road.

LaBounty made a presentation that provided an overview of the project, discussed anticipated project costs and funding sources, and reviewed a potential project schedule. The feasibility report recommends improvements to Watertown Road that include removal of the existing pavement, limited utility improvements, subgrade corrections as necessary, installation of concrete curb and gutter, storm sewer improvements, and a new roadway surface. The report also identifies two project opportunities for the City of Long Lake to consider additional improvements north of Watertown Road in addition to the proposed improvements to Watertown Road. He commented on alternatives to address an ongoing series of watermain breaks that have occurred between two private property owners along Watertown Road.

At a neighborhood meeting, neighbors expressed interest in seeing rain gardens installed as an alternative to curb and gutter in locations. Neighbors also stated significant concern about the excessive speed of traffic traveling Watertown Road, and about the effectiveness of the stop sign at

Harrington Drive. These concerns have been passed on to the Police Department for enforcement; however, slight geometric changes as part of the project design may also have a positive impact on these issues. LaBounty noted that from an engineering standpoint, installation of curb and gutter along a roadway tends to emphasize the feel of traveling through a residential neighborhood to drivers. He also discussed the idea of including bump outs in locations and perhaps some stormwater management landscaping elements at the bottom of the hill for aesthetics. Though the project area doesn't necessarily have the best soils for rain garden elements, if property owners would be interested in maintaining them on an ongoing basis, engineering staff could work with property owners who wish to assume the responsibility of a rain garden.

Council and staff discussed rain gardens and programs available through the MCWD to assist in their development and maintenance; on street parking on the roadway; and proposals for watermain improvements to address ongoing breaks and issues between the Weber and Dunn properties.

Neil Weber, 2280 Watertown Road, indicated that he would be amenable to any of the solutions proposed to address the watermain service issues between his and his neighbor's properties. Following up to the neighborhood meeting, he noted the neighbors were in agreement that it would not be desirable to increase the width of the roadway from 24' to 28'. He believes the wider street section will encourage further speeding, and that curb and gutter may encourage speeding as well. He recommended the City consider keeping Watertown Road at a 24' width with a shoulder rather than installing curb and gutter, thereby also reducing the project cost. He also indicated he would advocate for rain gardens to be included in the project area and offered to have representatives from Metro Blooms or the MCWD available at the October 20 public hearing to discuss their rain garden grants and programs in further detail.

Lori Goodsell, 2206 Watertown Road, stated both she and her neighbor are in favor of a rain garden option and would rather not have curb and gutter installed.

Chuck Moburg, 58 Inglewood Street, commented that he would like to see more information about rain gardens and what they entail.

Nate Kirkpatrick, 2128 Watertown Road, expressed his support for Mr. Weber's proposals and stated he is in favor of keeping the road more rural in appearance. He also noted the speed of traffic along the roadway is of ongoing concern.

Council and staff discussed the input received from neighbors, and perhaps recognizing that the street has differing dynamics through installing curb and gutter where homes are more densely spaced and utilizing rain gardens in the street section closer to Orono.

Dan MacDonald, 335 Russell Lane, asked whether Orono is committed to curb and gutter for their section where the roadway is shared between the two cities. LaBounty confirmed that as part of their joint powers agreement with Long Lake, Orono has agreed to pay for curb and gutter installation on their side of the road where the roadway is shared.

*A motion was made Kaminski, seconded by Olson, to adopt Resolution No. 2015-43 receiving feasibility report and calling a public hearing on the Watertown Road Improvement Project. Ayes: all.*

**Special Event Permit Request for a Movie in the Park Event at Nelson Lakeside Park**

City Clerk Moeller stated that the Long Lake Area Chamber of Commerce has made application for a Special Event Permit to host a "Movie in the Park" night at Nelson Lakeside Park on Saturday, September 26, 2015 from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm. The movie scheduled to be shown is the family-

friendly baseball film, "The Sandlot". The event proposed would be free to attend with water, soda and popcorn available for purchase. The Orono Lions Club would be a partner in sponsoring the event.

*A motion was made by Schneider, seconded by Kaminski, to adopt Resolution No. 2015-44 approving issuance of Special Event Permit #S2015-09 for "Movie in the Park" to be held September 26, 2015, and to approve issuance of a Noise Variance Permit for the event. Ayes: all.*

### **Application for 1 Day to 4 Day Temporary Liquor License and Noise Variance Permit for Gear West Snow Days Sale**

Moeller indicated that on Monday, September 14, staff was contacted by Tom Schaeppi on behalf of Gear West Ski asking whether permits would be required for the Orono Lions Club to conduct a beer sampling of Lucid Brewery products on Saturday, September 19 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm. The sampling would take place in a tent in the parking lot area, with controlled access to the tent area being maintained, and no alcoholic beverages leaving the controlled access area. Proceeds for participation in the beer sampling would benefit the Orono Lions Club.

The flier Gear West has distributed advertising their four-day business sale includes mention of food, music, beer and information. Mr. Schaeppi has confirmed that no other tents or structures will be occupying any other portion of the parking lot. They do intend to put a 10' x 20' tent up against the wall near the entrance of the new building that would house sale racks for clothing and other equipment. Food, music, and any information vendors would be housed within either Gear West building during the sale days. Gear West is also applying for a Noise Variance Permit to allow them to broadcast low-level music outdoors during the four-day sale. The beer sampling to be conducted by the Orono Lions Club is scheduled for Saturday, September 19 only. Mr. Schaeppi does not believe that attendance at the beer sampling would exceed available parking for the Gear West campus.

Jan Guenther, owner of Gear West, interjected that the Noise Variance Permit requested by Mr. Schaeppi would not be necessary, as they will not be broadcasting music outdoors after all.

Moeller noted that if the Council approves the requested license, she will work with the MnDPS Alcohol and Gambling Enforcement Division to expedite their approval of the temporary liquor license document.

*A motion was made by Schneider, seconded by Kaminski, to approve issuance of a 1 Day to 4 Day Temporary On-Sale Liquor License authorizing the Orono Lions Club to conduct a beer sampling event at Gear West on Saturday, September 19, 2015 from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm, with approval contingent upon City staff receiving proof of liquor liability insurance from the Orono Lions Club. Ayes: all.*

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

**Birch's on the Lake Update** – Council member Kaminski had heard that Birch's on the Lake is hoping to have a soft opening on September 26, but that they may have to move that date back a week if necessary.

**"Open to Business" Meeting** – Council member Schneider stated that there will be an "Open to Business" introductory meeting at Long Lake City Hall on September 30 beginning at 6:30 pm. Open to Business is an initiative that is able to provide a consulting service for businesses and residents to gain advice relative to anything business related. The introductory meeting is intended to offer information about how to "plug in" to the process. Council member Schneider would

anticipate further Open to Business and also CSAH 112 project open house style meetings to be forthcoming in the nearby future.

**CSAH 112 Construction Process** – Council member Olson noted that the project advisory committee will be meeting the following morning, and the County will likely be expecting Long Lake to provide feedback regarding the issue of keeping two lanes open for construction versus only one lane. The full Council present was in agreement that they would prefer two lanes be kept open to traffic as often as possible. Weske reflected that he believes the County is figuring out that there really isn't any other way and they will need to keep the roadway open and passable.

**Council Packet Submittals** – Administrator Weske stated that recently staff has seen an increase in Council action items not being raised to staff in a timely manner, resulting in staff needing to take hasty action in order to accommodate requests to be raised at Council meetings. He asked that applicants be more considerate of the Council meeting schedule and packet deadlines, and noted that in the future, failure to make applications in a timely manner will likely result in an application being unable to be accepted and addressed. Council member Schneider expressed his full support to staff, and commented that deadlines are in place to assure appropriate public notice is given.

**Public Works Dump Truck** – Council member Schneider asked whether the Public Works dump truck is in progress. Public Works Director Wurzer responded that the truck has been ordered and delivery is expected for January 2016.

**Planning Commission Items** – Mayor Chillstrom indicated that rather than canceling Planning Commission meetings due to lack of business items, he'd like to see the Commission working on other projects such as ordinance revisions. Staff responded that they will likely be doing so in the future, beginning with the Commission gaining a familiarity with the Comprehensive Plan at an upcoming meeting.

#### **ADJOURN**

*Hearing no objection, Mayor Chillstrom adjourned the meeting by general consent at 8:10 pm.*

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller  
City Clerk