



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 18, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm.

Present: Mayor: Tim Hultmann; Council: Kurt Kaminski, Tom Skjaret, Donny Chillstrom, and Liz Olson

Staff Present: City Administrator: Scott Weske; Fire Chief: James Van Eyll; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

LONG LAKE NEWS UPDATE

Mayor Hultmann noted that the meeting date had been changed from February 4 to February 3 due to precinct caucuses being held February 4, and thanked those who had adjusted their schedules to attend. He stated that CSAH 112 turnback project plans are the result of a 26 month study conducted by Hennepin County that incorporated input from city residents, business representatives and staff.

He also thanked Public Works for their continued efforts in keeping streets clear of snow this winter.

Lastly, Mayor Hultmann encouraged continued support of local businesses as often as possible.

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Chillstrom, seconded by Skjaret, to approve the Agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of:

- A. Approve Minutes of February 1, 2014 City Council Strategic Planning Work Session
- B. Approve Minutes of February 3, 2014 City Council Work Session
- C. Approve Minutes of February 3, 2014 City Council Meeting
- D. Approve Minutes of February 10, 2014 City Council Work Session
- E. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll
- F. Accept the Resignation of Firefighter Mat Odden from the Long Lake Fire Department

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

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

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

BUSINESS ITEMS

Long Lake Fire Department Year in Review – 2013 Annual Report

Fire Chief Van Eyll made a presentation to the Council which summarized Fire Department operations during the year 2013, discussed trends in fire service calls, reviewed Fire Department staffing levels, and included goals from both personnel and training perspectives for the coming year. During his presentation, Van Eyll responded to Council member questions regarding staffing levels at both stations, recruitment efforts, planning ahead for the retirement of daytime responders, training regarding train derailment emergencies, and the status of the firefighters' memorial.

Request for Approval of Seasonal Use Permit Application for Long Lake Rowing Crew's Use of Long Lake

Administrator Weske reported that the group previously known as the Long Lake Rowing Club has undergone a restructuring process and has reformed as a new non-profit organization, the Long Lake Rowing Crew (LLRC). The new LLRC is essentially comprised of the same group of rowers and participants operating under a Board of Directors with new management and new coaching staff. Their organization seeks to revitalize their operations on Long Lake, with a commitment to more appropriate and respectful activities and interactions on the lake.

The LLRC has made application to the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) Water Patrol for a Seasonal Use Permit to conduct seasonal rowing practice daily on Long Lake from May through the end of October. As part of their permit process, HCSO Water Patrol requires that the cities bordering the impacted lake give their authorization for Seasonal Use Permit issuance. The LLRC has submitted a copy of their Seasonal Use Permit application to both Long Lake and Orono, and is seeking the cities' approval of their application. Staff is in receipt of an email, distributed previously to Council members, from HCSO Water Patrol staff detailing the conditions that would apply to issuance of the requested Seasonal Use Permit should both cities authorize their office to approve the LLRC's permit request.

Mayor Hultmann added that the LLRC has also submitted a land use application for an Interim Use Permit to allow them to utilize the former Billy's Lighthouse site for launch operations and equipment storage. The Planning Commission will be considering the Interim Use Permit application at their March meeting. Mayor Hultmann inquired as to the LLRC's long term goals for a permanent site in the event that the former Billy's Lighthouse becomes unavailable due to development activity.

John Winston, LLRC Board of Directors, introduced the rowing club's new coach and fellow LLRC board members in attendance at the meeting. He indicated the LLRC was newly formed as a non-profit organization in January. At this point the LLRC as a new organization does not have everything lined up for the future and is focusing on bringing rowing opportunities to the community. The club sees a wonderful opportunity in the former Billy's Lighthouse site, as it provides a safe environment and safe access for participants; however, another site may be available to the club in proximity to the lake allowing rowing shells to be carried to the launch. He stated that the Board is cognizant of ill will towards rowing activity on the lake due to past experiences with a former coach, and is hoping that reforming as a new organization with new leadership and new coaching will resolve previous issues. The Board believes in their sport and sees their presence on Long Lake as an opportunity to bring prestige and recognition to Long Lake through a rowing program.

Council members noted that staff had received an email clarifying that the application submitted to HCSO Water Patrol did not include all times/days of practices intended.

Council members offered their comments and concerns regarding the LLRC's application, including the need for their permit application to be updated to accurately reflect all seasonal practice days/times; and the need for the public launch to remain available for all public users at all times.

Council member Skjaret stated that although he appreciates the Board's enthusiastic support of their sport, unfortunately he does not support organized rowing as an activity on Long Lake. Historically the 200-acre lake has been utilized by power and fishing boats, and he believes conflict will continue to occur between rowers and power vehicles. He does not feel organized rowing contributes anything to the lake but rather adds to crowding problems already being experienced.

Kaminski added that if power boaters are out and waves are a disaster, from a professional angle perhaps Long Lake is not the safest for youth rowers.

Council member Olson requested that rowing activities not be allowed to take place on Sundays, as the City has maintained a policy of keeping Sundays free from event lake usage.

A motion was made by Chillstrom, seconded by Kaminski, to authorize the Hennepin County Sheriff's Office Water Patrol to issue an amended Seasonal Use Permit reflecting all times of usage for use of Long Lake by the Long Lake Rowing Crew rowing club, contingent upon the applicant meeting all conditions of permit issuance imposed by the issuing agency; no impeding use of the Nelson Lakeside Park public launch and landing area by other public users; and no practices or organized activities taking place on Sundays. Ayes: Kaminski, Chillstrom, Hultmann, and Olson. Nay: Skjaret. Motion carried.

Mayor Hultmann reflected that the former Long Lake Rowing Club under the leadership of coach Todd Wilson had never gone through this required permit process, and thanked the Long Lake Rowing Crew for going down the right road.

OTHER BUSINESS

CSAH 112 Project Feedback – Council member Kaminski mentioned that he would love to hear thoughts and feelings from Long Lake residents and business representatives regarding the CSAH 112 turnback project plans, and would welcome individuals to contact him by phone with their feedback. Council members agreed inviting feedback would be a great idea and directed City Clerk Moeller to send an email out on the City Listserv with information about the project, and contact information for Council members.

Snowball Open – Council member Chillstrom stated that although attendance was down at this year's Snowball Open due to cold temperatures, the event raised funds to continue supporting the RED Lions program rewarding youth reading during the month of February.

Seasonal Use Permit – City Clerk Moeller indicated she will be communicating the Council's approval of the LLRC's Seasonal Use Permit application to HCSO Water Patrol, and added that the Council can anticipate repeating this authorization process annually for as long as the LLRC desires to continue operations on Long Lake.

Marty Schneider, 1176 W Wayzata Boulevard, asked for clarification on the LLRC's intended operations and noted he had been advised their alternative site may be the Lakeside Liquors building. Mayor Hultmann noted he would advise the Lakeside Liquors property owner that outdoor storage is not allowed in preparation for any discussions moving forward for their use of that site.

Council members briefly discussed the LLRC's Interim Use Permit application, to be considered in March.

ADJOURN

A motion was made by Chillstrom, seconded by Skjaret, to adjourn the meeting. Ayes: all. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Moeller
City Clerk