



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
June 4, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

Present: Mayor: Charlie Miner; Council: Jahn Dyvik and Mike Feldmann

Staff Present: City Administrator: Scott Weske; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: Council: Gina Joyce and Deirdre Kvale (with prior notice)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR'S COMMENTS – LONG LAKE NEWS, MEETING REVIEW AND UPDATES

Mayor Miner offered the following comments and updates:

The Council had met in a work session prior to the regular meeting at which they had held a closed session to discuss enforcement action related to the Fire Services contract, and direction was given to staff.

Mayor Miner highlighted Memorial Day observances that had occurred in the community to honor veterans who had perished in the service of their country. He voiced his appreciation to Hamel VFW Post #5903, Long Lake Fire Department Rifle Squad, the Slow Burn Brigade, Dave Shaughnessy of the Orono Rotary Club, the Long Lake Fire Department, and the Public Works Department for their efforts and work related to these events.

He recalled that on May 29, 2024, the City had held a Follow Up Forum meeting in order to provide updates to the community regarding fire services. He thanked Calvin Presbyterian Church for allowing the City to utilize their facility for the meeting and explained that for those who were unable to attend, it would be shared on YouTube in the near future. The slide show of the presentation given by the Council was already available on the City's website under the Fire Service Updates page. He expressed his appreciation to the Long Lake Garden Club, specifically Lauren Carlson and Anita Secord, for their work over the weekend on planters at the former BP site and sprucing up the monuments at the entrances to the City.

Mayor Miner also indicated that he had attended the Mound Fire Department fish fry event over the weekend and it was a great, well-attended event.

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Dyvik, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Approve Minutes of May 21, 2024 City Council Work Session Meeting
- B. Approve Minutes of May 21, 2024 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll

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

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

No one was in attendance to address the City Council during Open Correspondence.

REGULAR BUSINESS ITEMS

Approve Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) with Hennepin County for Assessment Services

City Clerk Moeller reported that in past years, the City has contracted with an independent assessor for the provision of assessment services; however, the Hennepin County Board of Commissioners had recently voted to grant the County Assessor the authority to offer Joint Powers Agreements to provide local assessing services to cities with populations under 30,000 at no cost. She stated that if approved by Council, entering into an agreement with the County would represent a noteworthy cost savings for the City for these services. She outlined expectations and potential benefits that staff felt could be available with transitioning to contracting with the County, and noted that staff was recommending approval and adoption of the proposed Joint Powers Agreement subject to final revisions by the City Attorney.

A motion was made by Feldmann, seconded by Miner, to adopt Resolution No. 2024-01 approving entering into a Joint Powers Agreement for Assessment Services with Hennepin County, and authorizing the Mayor and City Administrator to execute said Agreement, subject to final revisions by the City Attorney. Ayes: all.

Updates Regarding Fire Department Matters

Mayor Miner reiterated that the City had hosted a Follow Up Forum last week related to fire services updates. There was good community turnout at the event and they were able to also hear a lot of feedback from residents. The City of Long Lake v. City of Orono court case has had some action over the last few weeks. The City of Orono had withdrawn their appeals of the case outcomes, though this may be temporary. Orono is anticipated to refile their appeals once Judge Miller has issued her order dictating how much Orono needs to pay Long Lake for reimbursement of legal fees. Court ordered mediation will be coming up on June 17, 2024, with Mayor Miner and Council member Dyvik attending on behalf of the City along with staff. He also reported that a Fire Advisory Board meeting was held earlier today and the Board received updates from Chief Heiland regarding duty crew statistics and response times.

Council member Dyvik went to the podium and displayed a map that showed the area that the Orono Fire Department will begin to cover beginning July 1, 2024. He explained that the area was made up of two CAD zones and noted that he had brought up something to the Fire Advisory Board (FAB) that he had just recently learned about, which was that the Forest Lake Bay and North Arm Bay fall completely within the CAD zone that Orono planned to take over on July 1, 2024. He had just learned at the Follow Up Forum meeting last week that Orono's expectation is that the Long Lake Fire Department will continue to cover those two bays which are completely land locked within what will be Orono's CAD

zone. At the FAB meeting earlier today, he'd stated that he found that expectation surprising considering that Orono has repeatedly communicated that they were ready to start on July 1, 2024. He noted that according to Orono Fire Chief VanEyll, the expectation had always been for Long Lake Fire Department to cover these areas because Orono does not have a boat; however, Council member Dyvik did not believe that there had ever been a formal decision made or an agreement that the Long Lake Fire Department would cover those bay areas when Orono Fire takes over that CAD zone. Apparently Orono's expectation is that the Long Lake Fire Department will continue to cover the bay areas that they currently cover until January 2026. He reiterated that he was surprised to hear that the Orono Fire Department did not plan to cover their whole CAD zone and that these calls would also be directly dispatched to the Long Lake Fire Department.

Mayor Miner added that he had also been surprised to learn that there was an assumption that the Long Lake Fire Department would continue to service the bay areas when it was clearly carved out as being within Orono's intended coverage area in the CAD map that was sent by Orono last June. He wished that there had been more communication from Orono to the City about this being their intent. He noted that the Long Lake Fire Department had also just learned this information about a week ago. He explained that some members of the Orono City Council have been giving the message to their residents that their Fire Department was all set and fully prepared to take over this area on July 1, 2024, but that is not completely accurate because there is quite a bit of lakeshore in this area and the Orono Fire Department would have no way to get to these areas. He stated that the two City Administrators have been asked to work together to determine if there should be a cost per call when those types of boat calls come in. He shared that the City is continuing to have discussions with the City of Wayzata about possible future partnership opportunities.

OTHER BUSINESS

City's Bonding Bill Request - Mayor Miner indicated that he had been playing phone tag with Representative Myers regarding the bonding bill, which did not pass. This meant that the City's request for bonding for a large road project would also not happen, and the City will need to be creative in how they approach funding for its roadway projects.

Cancelling July 2 Meeting – Moeller indicated that earlier in the work session, staff and Council had discussed potentially cancelling the first Council meeting in July which falls during the Independence Day/4th of July holiday week. She advised that she would report back to Council after a review of pending agenda business.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting by general consent at 6:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Weske
City Administrator