

**MINUTES OF
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY MARCH 13, 2024**

The Cass Lake City Council held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday March 13, 2024 at the Cass Lake Municipal Center at 6:00pm following a working session.

Attendance: Mayor Herschel Ogema, Councilors Mike Hanson, Carla Jones-Leecy, Jerry Smith

Absent: Councilor Annie Sevenich

Also In Attendance: Sue Uhrinak, City Clerk-Treasurer, Jason Raymond, Public Works Supervisor, Mandi Payment, Deputy Clerk, Chris Sonmor, Engineer, Sheriff Brian Welk, Brad Rittgers, Bill Conner, Jesse Iverson, Chief Deputy Elger and County Attorney Ben Linstrom.

Mayor Ogema opened the Regular Session at 6:00pm

- 1) **Draft Minutes:** None
- 2) **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Minutes:
2-14-24 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
 - b. Claims & Payroll:
Claims # 13974 - 14039 for \$64,951.62
Payroll 4 for \$13,092.61
Payroll 5 for \$13,598.31

A **Motion** by Smith second by Hanson to waive reading of Consent Agenda and Approve as presented: **Motion Passed Unanimously**

3) **Scheduled Groups or Individuals**

Sheriff Brian Welk presented the Sheriff's Department Annual Report and highlighted the statistics for Cass Lake. He did mention the increase in drug overdoses with the drugs laced with fentanyl and now they are finding a horse sedative also in some of the drugs.

4) **Council Committee Meetings:**

2/28/24 Comp Plan Meeting going well. Pushing back the time line to be completed in October Vs August. Next meeting is March 27, 2024 at 5:00pm.

2/28/24 Cass Lake Summer Celebration: planning going well, we have booked a Petting Zoo for the day that will also do free pony rides and have cups with food available for the kids to feed the animals. Next meeting is Monday March 18, 2024 at 4:30pm.

5) **Special Council Meetings:** None

6) **Department Head Reports:** None

Sue Uhrinak, Clerk-Treasurer:

Worked with auditor for 2023 audit, Cass Lake Summer Celebration meeting, Comp Plan meeting, Presidential primary election held, DMV online training, worked on By-Laws for Senior Center, Training for new permit license programs, updated property files, balanced bank accounts, Utility bills and account maintenance, prepared council packets, processed claims for month, ran checks, payroll, daily business, posted receipts. Also working with the new program for licenses and permits and it is going well.

Public Works: Jason Raymond – presented updated quotes for equipment for cemetery, that can also be used on the alleys and gravel roads. Also updated quote on the Sewer Jetter truck that was approved last year at \$65,000, increase in price to \$105,000, however the whole unit is refurbished instead of just purchasing a used piece of equipment. They have started filling in some holes with cold patch and is getting ready to start on the streets and lining up for getting the cemetery in order.

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7) **Attorney Reports:** None

8) **Notices & Communications :**

a. Chris Sonmor: went through the final design for the park building and would like council to approve and authorize letting out for bids. Will need to finalize the color scheme for the building. Chris also talked about the Library project that we started a couple years ago in that there is a grant opportunity with a 50% match and Kitchigami has committed \$55,000 to the project and there is \$110,000 in the building fund. There is a good change at getting this grant because it is geared towards access.

9) **Old Business:**

10) **New Business:**

A **Motion** by Smith second by Hanon to Approve \$500 contribution for support of First Call Information and Referral 2-1-1. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

Discuss Erickson property: Jerry presented the idea of possibly pursuing purchasing the Erickson property on the east end, which part of it fronts Highway 2. The thought is looking down the road when MnDOT reconfigures Hwy 2, there would be an opportunity for a business to go in there.

A **Motion** by Hanson second by Jones-Leecy to Approve purchase of brush grapple and scarifier to be used for cemetery, alleys, and gravel roads for no more than \$8,000. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

A **Motion** by Jones-Leecy second by Hanson to Approve purchase of refurbished jetter truck for \$105,000 with \$65,000 that was approved last year and balance coming from equipment CD. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

A **Motion** by Smith second by Jones-Leecy to Approve final design for Park and authorize to let out for bids. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

A **Motion** by Jones-Leecy second by Hanson to Approve submitting grant for the Library Project and secure the \$55,000 from Kitchigami for part of the match. **Motion Passed Unanimously**

11) **Announcements and Information:**

a. Revenue & Expenditure Guideline as of March 8, 2024

b.

12) **Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

13) **Groups or Individuals not on the Agenda**

A **Motion** by Hanson seconded by Jones-Leecy to Adjourn Regular Session at 6:28pm. **Motion Passed**

Herschel Ogema, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sue Uhrinak, City Clerk-Treasurer