

**MINUTES OF
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
WEDNESDAY APRIL 14, 2021**

The Cass Lake City Council held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday April 14, 2021 at the Cass Lake Municipal Center at 6:00pm following a working session.

Attendance: Mayor Herschel Ogema, Councilors Richard Molash, David Fineday, Carla Jones-Leecy, Mike Hanson

Also in Attendance: Sue Uhrinak, City Clerk-Treasurer, Jason Raymond Public Works, Chris Sonmor WSB, Gordon Dale, Auditor, Brad Rittgers Cass Co Sheriff's Dept, Kenneth Washington Leech Lake DPS

1) **Draft Minutes:** None

2) **Consent Agenda**

a. Minutes:

3-10-21 Council Meeting Minutes

b. Claims & Payroll:

Claims # 15122-15206 for \$162,692.71

Payroll 5 for \$7,519.23

Payroll 5.1 for \$9,024.36

Payroll 6 for \$8,100.92

Payroll 7 for \$8,113.32

1st Qtr. Council Payroll for \$1,225

A **Motion** by MOLASH second by HANSON to waive reading of Consent Agenda and Approve as presented:
MOTION PASSED

3) **Scheduled Groups or Individuals**

a. Gordon Dale, City Auditor: 2020 Audit Result

Grants: Covid Relief, Operating grants, LGA, can be up and down every year.

Enterprise funds: operations Sewer generating 155,000 in cash flow, water generating 147,000 in cash flow. Transfer of 221,000 net increase in cash 54,000 after transfer out.

Bottom line cash in last 5 years is up\$ 344,000 which is a good thing. Up about 68K every year.

***Close out Street Improvements, Municipal Center and Micro Loan funds. ***

Taxes are 33 % of revenue for your govt revenue. Received more grants this year than 5 years ago.

Enterprise funds: comparing last 2 years. Covid caused this loss in sewer revenue. School, Casino, etc. businesses closed.

Doing a lot better than most other cities. Have to look at this as the City is a business and needs to be operated at such. Profit margin very good. Best thing is going with the Cass County Sheriff's department for law enforcement. Saving the city a big portion of budget with this move.

b. Annie Sevenich: Flower Planters: \$750 budget for plants.

c. Ken Washington: Leech Lake Tribal Police

Open lines of communications and keep that going. Important to keep that going and can always call on them for any service.

Can we do anything about how people park in Cass Lake? State Statue talks about this and can do reminders and or issue a ticket for parking the wrong way. Basketball hoops. Richard & Mike will work on a basketball court on 3rd and Basswood. Chris will check into a Park grant.

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4) Council Committee Meetings:

3-31-21 Property Committee: Ogema/Molash: Proposal from Scott Reimer

A **Motion** by MOLASH, second by HANSON to sell property to Scott Reimer for \$7,000 or \$500 per lot as done in the past. **MOTION PASSED**

4-2-21 Personnel Committee: Molash/Jones-Leecy: Evaluation forms

Discussed the evaluation forms and process with the employees for meeting the requirement for the Annual Step increase.

5) **Special Committee Meetings:** None

6) **Department Head Reports:**

Sue Uhrinak, Clerk-Treasurer:

Monthly census reporting, balanced check book, Utility bills and account maintenance, worked on reports for auditor, filed quarterly Payroll Taxes and Sales & Use Taxes, Quarterly Building Permit Report, Monthly DVM Web Training, entered claims for month and ran checks, payroll, daily business and receipts.

Public Works: Jason Raymond – report attached

Update on Light pole for landing at Villier Park. Ottetail will be digging in power line and installing light pole and box for electric hook up at no cost, with city paying monthly utility fee. Will look into putting up security cameras also

7) **Attorney Reports:**

None

8) **Notices & Communications:**

a. Monthly Report from Chris Sonmor WSB: LRIP will not be announcing until June because of the number of applications. Call with LLBO on the lift station. Library stage 2 for the library. Need to set a public hearing for May meeting. American Rescue plan is estimated at \$80,000 coming to the city and can be used of sewer, water and broad band. Funds need to be sent by December 2024.

b. Initiative Foundation Notice

9) **Old Business:**

1. Can Elm street be repaired because of flooding and Third Street. Would not waste the money on doing anything until we do the infrastructure.

2. Dave from mill doing good job on getting pile gone.

3. Kids clean up from first street to fox creek road.

4. Thank Law enforcement for 371 patrolling.

10) **New Business:**

a. A **Motion** by MOLASH, second by JONES-LEECY to Contract for Services with KLM Engineering for Water Tower Cleaning at \$690 per year and 1 time maintenance and repair for \$36,880. **Motion Passed**

b. A Motion by HANSON, second by FINEDAY to Approve use of MnDOT Rest Area for Chippewa Triathlon June 12, 2021 as in past 10+ years, with option of Villier Park in case of weather. **Motion Passed**

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Discuss Investment Options: ??

1. 4M-Fund
2. Ehler's Public Finance Advisers

Look into having them come to do a presentation and the May or June meeting.

c. Discuss 2021 Museum Season: Will set Parks & Rec meeting to discuss with Annie Sevenich about taking over for the summer.

A Motion by MOLASH second by JONES-LEECY to Hire John Tyner to fill Public Works 1 position starting at Step 1 of the pay scale. **Motion Passed**

11) Announcements and Information:

- a. Revenue & Expenditure Guideline as of April 8, 2021
- b. Cass County Newsletter Spring 2021

12) Items Removed from Consent Agenda

13) Groups or Individuals not on the Agenda

A Motion by HANSON, seconded by MOLASH to Adjourn Regular Council meeting at 6:39pm. **Motion Passed**

Herschel Ogema, Mayor

ATTEST:

Sue Uhrinak, City Clerk-Treasurer