MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

OF THE FIFTY LAKES CITY COUNCIL

April 9, 2024

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Fifty Lakes City Council was held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at City Hall at 6:00 pm. The following officers were present: Toni Buchite, Mayor; Mark Bradley, Gary Staples, Jill Radman and Randy Zeigler, Council Members; Ann Raph, City Clerk; Jessica Istvanovich, Deputy Clerk, Chad Wosmek, Maintenance Supervisor, Diana Buchite, Liquor Manager.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Buchite requested 4 additions to the April Agenda.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. ZEIGLER AND SECONDED BY MR. BRADLEY TO ADD RECOMMENDATION FROM CROW WING COUNTY SOIL AND WATER TO BURN RAINGARDEN UNDER PARKS, APPROVAL TO PURCHASE TREES AND SHRUBS FOR PENINSULA ROAD UNDER ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE, APPROVAL FOR 2 AIS INSPECTORS TO ATTEND LEVEL 1 AIS TRAINING AND APPROVAL TO ACCEPT APPLICATION FROM W. LYKE FOR THE FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT UNDER PURCHASING AND PERSONNEL.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Open Forum: The council viewed two videos created by Bob Stancer, Planning Commission Chair, of the Siren Installation. One siren is located on Kego Lake Road and the other is located on County Road 136.

Consent Agenda: Mayor Buchite requested consideration of the consent agenda. Council reviewed: Council Meeting Minutes for Regular Meeting March 12, 2024; Treasurer’s Report: Payment of bills in the amount of $115,438.96 including Check No# 50635 through No #50729; Fire and Rescue Minutes, Resolution 2024-08 Initiative Foundation Donation.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

New Business/Critical Issues: Mayor Buchite and council members presented Jeanne Bradley with a plaque to thank her for 25 years of service to the Fire and Rescue Department. Doug Host from Clifton Larson and Allen (via interactive technology) presented the council with the 2023 Audit report. Mr. Host states that the City has no significant deficiencies for 2023. The City has approximately 15 months of expenditures in unassigned fund balances. The recommendation is at least 5 months.

Planning and Zoning: The council discussed the recommendation from Crow Wing County about the city corner CSAH 1 and 3 lot access points. Ms. Raph suggested a meeting with Rob Hall, Assistant County Engineer, to get clarification on entrance to the lot.

Parks: Ms. Buchite reported that Cow Wing County Soil and Water recommends burning the rain garden as soon as possible this spring. Ms. Buchite updated the council that the DNR grant application has been submitted and should be decided by late May.

Public Safety: Ms. Radman stated the Fire and Rescue Department had 1 medical call in the month of March.

Mr. Bradley requested a discussion on the approval of the Fire and Rescue Bylaw Amendments that was tabled last month; removal of the “50/50” meetings and calls section; grammatical errors corrected; increasing yearly pension amount to $2,500. Mr. Bradley stated that the council would have to provide $40,000 of the retirement pension for the year to cover retirements if the increase was passed. The council decided to table the approval until information was gathered of other local fire departments Retirement funds and could be presented as a comparison for the increased pension amount.

Road Construction and Maintenance: Mr. Wosmek, Maintenance Supervisor, requested to table the approval of a contract with Corbin Excavating for magnesium chloride as the current company he works with is working on presenting a quote. The council discussed citizens’ concern for the road deterioration on Peninsula Road from beavers making runs and snowmobiles dropping down onto the ice. Mr. Bradley stated residents of Peninsula Road would like council to approve the cost of 50 Norway, 50 Birch and 50 Deep Rooting bushes to help support the roadway between East Fox Lakes and West Fox Lake. The residents of Peninsula Road have offered their time to plant the trees and bushes.

**MOTION MADE BY MS. BUCHITE AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO APPROVE UP TO $200.00 ON TREES AND SHRUBS FOR PENINSULA ROAD.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Liquor Store: Liquor profit and loss report was reviewed with a loss for the month of March with a gross profit of 51.4%. D. Buchite stated that the cost of the 2023 audit was substantial this year and that she hasn’t received rent payments from the Fifty Lakes Fire Department Gambling since the beginning of 2024, both of which affect the P&L statement. D. Buchite shared with the council her events happening this month ie: Wednesday Pool Tournaments, Whiskey Wednesday, Live Music, 2 for 1 tap on Sunday and the upcoming Derby Race Party. D. Buchite informed the council that as of March 31st, 2024 she will no longer have technical support for the Digital Dining POS systems. D. Buchite is in contact with Mike Wolf of HDSNE, LLC, another support company, and will network with other Liquor managers at the MMBA Conference in April.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. ZEIGLER AND SECONDED BY MR. BRADLEY TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH HDSNE, LLC FOR POS SYSTEM SUPPORT FOR THE LIQUOR STORE AND BAR.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Mayor’s Report: The council reviewed CD #1434 at Pine River State Bank and CD #40789 at First Western Bank.

**MOTION MADE BY MS. BUCHITE AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO RENEW CD #1434 AT PINE RIVER STATE BANK AT A RATE OF 5.01% FOR 13 MONTHS**. When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE BY MS. BUCHITE AND SECONDED BY MR. BRADLEY TO CASH OUT CD #40789 IN THE AMOUNT OF $30,000.00 PLUS INTEREST TO BE PUT INTO THE LIQUORE STORE FUND.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MS. BUCHITE TO APPROVE OF J. ISTVANOVICH TO OBTAIN A NOTARY PUBLIC CERTIFICATION.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MS. BUCHITE TO APPROVE THE LEAGUE OF MINNESOTA’S LIABILITY COVERAGE WAIVER FORM.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Purchasing/Personnel: The council reviewed the Dental and Health insurance plan for 2024. The plan has increased by 8% for the year.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MR. ZEIGLER TO RENEW THE DENTAL AND HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN ADVANTAGE HIGH OPTION.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. STAPLES AND SECONDED BY MR. ZEIGLER TO APPROVE HIRING A. JORGENSON AS AN AIS INSPECTOR AT $18.00 PER HOUR.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE BY MS. BUCHITE AND SECONDED BY MR. BRADLEY TO ACCEPT RESIGNATION FROM E. WATERBURY (CLEANER).** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. ZEIGLER AND SECONDED BY MR. BRADLEY TO APPROVE CANCELING CHECK #50360 FOR $35.00 TO C. WOSMEK AND REISSUE LESS $25.00 CANCELLATION FEE.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO CANCEL CHECK #50069 FOR $184.70 TO E. SHETKA AND REISSUE LESS $25.0O CANCELLATION FEE.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE MS. BUCHITE AND SECONDED BY MS. RADMAN TO APPROVE A. RAPH TO ATTEND SOURCEWELL CLERKS REGIONAL MEETING ON APRIL 10TH IN STAPLES, MN.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE BY MS. BUCHITE AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO APPROVE A. RAPH AND J. ISTVANOVICH TO ATTEND THE SOURCEWELL NETWORK APRIL 18TH IN PEQUOT LAKES, MN.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE By MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO APPROVE TWO AIS INSPECTORS (A. JORGENSON AND P. O’CONNOR) TO ATTEND LEVEL 1 AIS TRAINING IN AITKIN APRIL 22ND, 2024.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE BY MS. BUCHITE AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO ACCEPT APPLICATION FROM W. LYKE FOR THE FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Adjourn: **MOTION MADE BY MS. BUCHITE AND SECONDED BY MR. BRADLEY TO ADJOURN.** Meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Jessica Istvanovich, Deputy Clerk