MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING

OF THE FIFTY LAKES CITY COUNCIL

December 10th, 2024

The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Fifty Lakes City Council was held on Tuesday, December 10th, 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; Jesse Anderson, Fire Chief.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Buchite requested 2 additions to the December Agenda.

**MOTION MADE BY MS. RADMAN AND SECONDED BY MR. ZEIGLER TO ADD PURCHASE TV FOR BAR AREA AND DISCUSS DÉCOR AND MOUNTS UNDER LIQUOR STORE TO THE DECEMBER AGENDA** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Open Forum:

Consent Agenda: Mayor Buchite requested consideration of the consent agenda. Council reviewed: Council Meeting Minutes for the November 12th regular meeting and Special Meetings on September 18th, November 20th and Continuation on November 22nd, and December 3rd; Treasurer’s Report: Payment of bills in the amount of $288,791.22 including Check No# 51433 through No #51522; Fire and Rescue Minutes; Resolution 2024-20 Accepting Tile Donation.

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

New Business /Critical Issue:

Planning and Zoning:

Parks: The Council reviewed bids for the removal of 5 park trees.

**MOTION MADE BY MAYOR BUCHITE AND SECONDED BY MS. RADMAN TO APPROVE HIRING OF CHADWICK COMPANY FOR REMOVAL AND HAULOFF OF 5 JACK PINE TREES AT A COST OF $1,430.00.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Public Safety: Mr. Anderson stated the Fire and Rescue Department had 1 fire and 3 medical calls for the month of November. The council discussed purchasing a storage unit for the Fifty Lakes Fire Department.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MS. RADMAN TO APPROVE THE BID FROM STORAGE BOXES ETC OF $3,600.00 20’ STORAGE CONTAINER FOR THE FIFTY LAKES FIRE DEPARTMENT.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Road Construction and Maintenance: The council reviewed Rip Rap quotes for the project at the Narrows on Peninsula Road.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO ACCEPT THE QUOTE FROM CHADWICK COMPANY FOR RIP RAP SHORELINE REPAIR ALONG PENINSULA ROAD AT THE COST OF $11,700.00.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO DISPOSE OF THE OLD CITY HALL LIGHTS AND OLD OFFICE FURNITURE.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Liquor Store: Liquor profit and loss report was reviewed with a gross profit of 59.1% in the month of November. The bar’s net profit for the year is 7.1%.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MR. ZEIGLER TO HIRE DAKOTA WIBBE AS A PART-TIME BARTENDER AT $10.85 PER HOUR.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried**.**

**MOTION MADE BY MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO RELEASE GREG KREMER AND THEO PATENAUDE FROM EMPLOYMENT.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried. The office and bar staff will conduct a full on/off sale inventory on January 1st, 2025.

**MOTION MADE BY MAYOR BUCHITE AND SECONDED BY MS. RADMAN TO APPROVE HIRING RISE AND SHINE CLEANERS ON A “AS NEEDED” BASIS.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried. The council discussed opening a CD for funds in the Liquor Store and reviewed a CD coming due for Roads.

M**OTION MADE BY MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO RENEW CD #1601 AT FIRST NATIONAL BANK FOR 7 MONTHS WITH AN APR OF 4.5% AND OPEN A CD IN THE AMOUNT OF $50,000 FROM THE LIQUOR STORE FUNDS AT FIRST NATIONAL BANK FOR 7 MONTHS WITH AN APR OF 4.5%.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried. The council discussed the purchase of a 98” TV for the bar and using some mounts for décor and returning other mounts to the patrons that donated them.

**MOTION MADE BY MS. RADMAN AND SECONDED BY MR. BRADLEY TO PURCHASE A 98 INCH TV AND WALL MOUNT AT A COST NOT TO EXCEED $2,000.00 FOR THE 50 LAKES BAR.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

Mayor’s Report:

**MOTION MADE BY MAYOR BUCHITE AND SECONDED BY MS. RADMAN TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2024-19 THE 2025 FINAL TAX LEVY AND BUDGET.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried. The council is notified of the 2.85% minimum wage increase starting January 1st, 2025, $10.85 to $11.13. The council moves the 2025 COLA discussion to the January meeting when more information will be available.

Purchasing/Personnel: The council reviewed the purchasing policy agreeing to not make any changes.The council reviewed the changes to the employee handbook and requested more time to review the changes. Ms. Raph asked the council to adopt the “Paid Sick Leave” portion of the revised Employee Handbook effectively replacing the ESST and Paid Leave sections.

**MOTION MADE BY MS. RADMAN AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO ADOPT THE CHANGES IN THE EARNED SICK AND SAFE LEAVE PORTION OF THE EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK**. When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE BY MR. BRADLEY AND SECONDED BY MR. STAPLES TO APPROVE OF CHANGES TO “LIQUOR MANAGER” AND “LEAD BARTENDER” JOB DESCRIPTIONS.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried.

**MOTION MADE BY MAYOR BUCHITE AND SECOND BY MR. BRADLEY TO APPROVE HIRING EMILY BRODHEAD AS THE LIQUOR MANAGER AS A SALARIED POSITION AT 40 HOURS PER WEEK AT $46,862.40 WITH 70% HEALTH INSURANCE PAID BY THE CITY, 50% DENTAL PAID BY THE CITY FOR EITHER SINGLE OR FAMILY PLANS INCLUDING PAID SICK LEAVE, VACATION TIME AND PERA PER EMPLOYEE POLICY.** When polled: All members voted aye. Motion carried. The city offices will be closing December 24th at Noon, Christmas Even, and closed on December 25th, Christmas Day and January 1st, New Years Day.

Unfinished Business: Per Ordinance 03-2023 – Cannabis and cannabis derived products cannot be consumed on city property.

Open Forum: Daria Grothman from Crow Wing County discussed with the council the County Road 1 project scheduled for 2025. The road will get a 1 ½ in mill and fill with a 1 ½ in overlay from Count Road 66 to Hwy 6. Ms. Grothman stated the county assessed 8 intersections for safety, 4 in Fifty Lakes and 4 in Emily, right hand tun lanes and bypasses lanes. Mr. Bradley stated his concerns of the speed limit changing before turn lanes were installed.

Adjourn: **MOTION MADE BY MAYOR BUCHITE AND SECONDED BY MR. BRADLEY TO ADJOURN.** Meeting adjourned at 7:32 pm.

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Jessica Istvanovich, Deputy Clerk