

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

This meeting is officially called to order at 5:30 p.m. on May 7, 2024. This meeting is being presided over by Mayor Brian Holmer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

The following Councilmembers were present: Holmer, McCraw, Bolduc, Narverud, Pream, Arlt, Lorenson and Aarestad. C Mayor Holmer chaired the meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/PUBLIC INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESOLUTION NO. : Bike Month Proclamation - Glen Kajewski

APPROVE AGENDA

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. 05.91.24: Approval of April 16, 2024 Council Proceedings & Continuation
Council Proceedings

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Anthony Bolduc introduced Resolution No. 05.91.24, being seconded by Councilmember Michele McCraw, that:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the City Council, to approve the April 16, 2024 Council Proceedings.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 05.92.24: City of Thief River Falls Bills and Disbursements and Council
Per Diems

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Anthony Bolduc introduced Resolution No. 05.92.24, being seconded by Councilmember Michele McCraw, that:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the City Council, to authorize payment of bills and disbursements in the total amount of \$2,403,598.40 and council per diem in the amount of \$1,202.50. A printout of the approved payments, disbursements are attached hereto and made a part hereof.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION NO. 05.93.24: Approve employment of Les Backer as Human Resource Coordinator

Following discussion, Councilmember Jason Aarestad introduced Resolution No. 05.93.24, being seconded by Councilmember Scott Pream, that:

WHEREAS, The City Council, by Resolution No. 02.45.24, authorized that the City of Thief River Falls begin the process to fill the position of Human Resource Coordinator due to the resignation of Holly Eckstein. Applications from the public were accepted and interviews conducted on April 3rd and 12th, 2024.

WHEREAS, The filling of the position will complete filling all vacancies in the department.

WHEREAS, This is a budgeted item for 2024.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Approve the employment of Les Backer as Human Resource Coordinator, effective May 13th, 2024. Mr. Backer's salary will start at \$35.05 at grade 6 step 4 for one year and then shall be eligible to proceed to the next step at the end of the probation period and City Council approval. Once COLA is approved for 2024, his starting wage will be changed accordingly. Employment is contingent upon successful completion of all required background pre-employment requirements.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 05.94.24: Approval of Thief River Falls Amateur Hockey Association (TRFAHA Premises Permit Application for Gambling License at the Hive Bar and Grill

Following discussion, Councilmember Jason Aarestad introduced Resolution No. 05.95.24, being seconded by Councilmember Megan Arlt, that:

WHEREAS, It should be noted that the State of Minnesota will be the licensing agent. The State of Minnesota requires that the City of Thief River Falls approve the application prior to its submittal to the State of Minnesota for licensing approval.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the City Council, to approve of Thief River Falls Amateur Hockey Association (TRFAHA) Premises Permit Application for Gambling License at the Hive Bar and Grill.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 05.95.24: Approval of staff to commence in negotiations with Oakview Group 360

Following discussion, Councilmember Mike Lorenson introduced Resolution No. 05.96.24, being seconded by Councilmember Anthony Bolduc, that:

WHEREAS, The City of Thief River Falls owns the Ralph Engelstad Arena and Huck Olson Memorial Arena along with the Tourist Park and part of the Multi-Events Center Complex. In September 2019, an Interim Management Agreement was entered into with Venuworks while a multi-year agreement was being completed to manage the 4 facilities. The 5-year Management Agreement started January 1, 2020. On December 19th, 2023, the City of Thief River Falls acted on their 4th year opt out clause and was authorized by council to send a 180-day termination letter to Venuworks.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Approve the City Administrator and RFP proposal committee (McCraw, Bolduc, and Arlt) to commence in negotiations with the Oakview Group 360 for full management of the Ralph Engelstad Arena, the Huck Olson Memorial Civic Center, the Multi-Events Center and Tourist Park.

On vote being taken, the resolution was passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 05.96.24: Approval of TRF Police Department to have the existing emergency response trailer outfitted to be a mobile command and SRT Trailer

Following discussion, Councilmember Jason Aarestad introduced Resolution No. 05.97.24, being seconded by Councilmember Megan Arlt, that:

WHEREAS, The Police department would like to have the enclosed trailer, that is no longer being used by the dive team, sent to EATI (Emergency Automotive Technologies, Inc) in Minneapolis. EATI specializes in mobile command vehicle outfitting. It will be installed with cameras, monitors, workstations, storage for supplies, and seating. It will be set up to be a stand-alone mobile command vehicle that can be utilized by the Police Department for a wide variety of functions as an emergency mobile command and Special Response Team trailer.

WHEREAS, This was discussed at the Committee of the Whole, and it was recommended to be brought to the Council for approval.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Approval of TRF Police Department to spend \$16,821.73 on upgrades to the former Dive Team enclosed trailer now owned by Pennington County Sheriff's Office to be converted into a multi-use command trailer.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

COUNCIL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPORTS

- Councilmember Mike Lorensen mentioned meters and performance concerns coming from customers saying their bills are higher. Customers are concerned with accuracy of new water meters reading much higher. Lorensen asked city attorney to review our billing with the state of MN and statutes to verify that our billing statements are accurate to our code.
- Mayor Brian Holmer gave an update on clean up day - county board and city moved a lot of trash. 30 bikes dropped off to be repurposed. Ditches should be clean this summer. Thank you to Les's Sanitation and STS.
- Councilmember Steve Narverud said they are done with leaf pick up. Will have to talk to sanitation.

- Mayor Brian Holmer mentioned he would like to have a "no mow may" for bees and pollination." Noxious weeds still need to be controlled. Need to work on prairie grass areas in gardens for next year.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

RESOLUTION NO. : Public Utilities Committee - May 13th at 7:00 a.m.

RESOLUTION NO. : Public Safety/Liquor Committee - May 13th at 4:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. : Administrative Services Committee - May 14th at 4:30 p.m. Room 201 City Hall

RESOLUTION NO. : Public Works Committee - May 15th at 4:30 p.m.

RESOLUTION NO. : City Council Meeting - May 21st at 5:30 p.m.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Councilmember Mike Lorenson being seconded by Councilmember Scott Pream to adjourn to Tuesday, May 14th at 1:00 pm. On vote being taken, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried.