

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, June 4, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

This meeting is officially called to order at 05:30 PM on June 4, 2024. This meeting is being presided over by Mayor Brian Holmer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC FORUM

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/PUBLIC INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Zehlian's Art & Wine Walk Presentation - Carol Ihle & Natasha Reiersen
- Housing Study with Maxfield Research & Consulting, LLC - Richard Baker

APPROVE AGENDA

Councilmember Jason Aarestad motioned, being seconded by Councilmember Steve Narverud, to approve the agenda with the addition 8.07.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. 06.114.24: Approval of May 21, 2024 Council Proceedings

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Scott Pream introduced Resolution No. 06.114.24, being seconded by Councilmember Michele McCraw, that:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the City Council, to approve the May 21, 2024 Council Proceedings.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 06.115.24: City of Thief River Falls Bills and Disbursements

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Scott Pream introduced Resolution No. 06.115.24, 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 \$1,452,268.21. 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

Call for First Reading to consider Amending City Code Chapter 130 Entitled "General Offenses" By Adding Section 130.30, An Ordinance Prohibiting Loitering, And By Adopting By Reference City Code Chapter 10 And Section 152.998, Which, Among Other Things, Contain Penalty Provisions

Councilmember Jason Aarestad motioned, being seconded by Councilmember Anthony

Bolduc to call for the first reading of an ordinance of the City of Thief River Falls, Minnesota, Amending City Code Chapter 130 Entitled "General Offenses" By Adding Section 130.30, An Ordinance Prohibiting Loitering, and By Adopting By Reference City Code Chapter 10 And Section 152.998, Which, Among Other Things, Contain Penalty Provisions.

City Code is hereby amended by adding §130.30, to read as follows:

Sec. 130.30 – Loitering.

1. Prohibited conduct. It shall be unlawful for any person to loiter, loaf, wander, or remain idle either alone or with others in a public place in such manner so as to violate any provision of the subdivisions of this section which follow:

(a) No person shall obstruct any public street, public highway, public sidewalk, or any other public place or building by hindering or impeding, or do any act tending to hinder or impede, the free and uninterrupted passage of vehicles, traffic, or pedestrians.

(b) No person shall commit, in or upon any public street, public highway, public sidewalk, or any other public place or building, any act or thing which is an obstruction or interference to the free and uninterrupted use of property or with any business lawfully conducted by anyone in or upon or facing or fronting on any such public street, public highway, public sidewalk, or any other public place or building, all of which prevents the free and uninterrupted ingress, egress, and regress therein, thereon, and thereto.

(c) No person shall loiter, stand, sit, or lie in or upon any public property, sidewalk, street, curb, crosswalk, walkway area, parking lot, mall, or other portion of private property open for public use so as to unreasonably block, obstruct, or hinder free passage of the public.

(d) No person shall, without consent of the owner or occupant, unreasonably block, obstruct, or hinder free access to the entrance of any building or part of a building open to the public.

Section 2. City Code Chapter 10 entitled "General Provisions" and Section 152.998 entitled "Violation" are hereby adopted in their entirety, by reference, as though repeated verbatim herein.

City Attorney Sparby read the proposed ordinance. No action was taken at this time and this ordinance will again be presented at the next Council Meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 06.116.24: Approve the Employment of Tiffany Tureson as Patrol Officer
Following discussion, Councilmember Mike Lorensen introduced Resolution No. 06.116.24, being seconded by Councilmember Jason Aarestad, that:

WHEREAS, With the resignation of Officer Erik Jax on January 23, 2024, Resolution # 2.39.24 approved the opening for a position of Patrol Officer.

WHEREAS, This hire will put the Police department at 16 full-time officers. The Police Department has been approved for 17 full-time officers.

WHEREAS, This is a budgeted item for 2024.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED To approve the employment of Tiffany Tureson for the position of Patrol Officer. Tureson will be hired for the position of Patrol Officer. Tiffany will be placed at grade 5 step 2 at a rate of \$30.29. This is an LELS Union non-exempt position. Employment is contingent upon successful completion of all pre-employment requirements.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 06.117.24: Approve the opening of a GIS Mapping Technician position
Following discussion, Councilmember Michele McCraw introduced Resolution No. 06.117.24, being seconded by Councilmember Steve Narverud, that:

WHEREAS, With the resignation of Norm Betland, GIS Mapping Technician, effective September 29, 2023, Resolution Number 10-236-23 approved an Independent Service Contract with Norm Betland effective since October 20, 2023. A permanent GIS Mapping Technician will need to be hired to continue efficient operations of the Public Works department.

WHEREAS, This is a 2024 budgeted position.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Authorize the opening of a GIS Mapping Technician position. The position will be open to the Teamsters #320 union employees for 10 days, as per union and if not filled through this process, the Public Works GIS Mapping Technician position will be opened to the public.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 06.118.24: Approve Rental Agreement with Megger USA (page 52-61)
Following discussion, Councilmember Mike Lorenson introduced Resolution No. 06.118.24, being seconded by Councilmember Scott Pream, that:

WHEREAS, During a recent outage, the line crew was using the city owned Megger ST16 Fault Locator when it failed. It needs to be sent in for repair. The city currently does not have any means to locate any underground cable faults. This agreement would be to rent the EZT12 by the month/day until the ST16 gets repaired and returned to service.

WHEREAS, Rental of \$1875 per Month. \$125 per Day until ST16 Unit is repaired and returned. This would come out of the Electric Department Maintenance budget.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Approve the City Administrator to sign the Rental Agreement for the rental of an EZT12 Easy Thump from Megger USA.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 06.119.24: Approve the Housing Study with Maxfield Research & Consulting, LLC - City of Thief River Falls Housing Study

Following discussion, Councilmember Jason Aarestad introduced Resolution No. 06.119.24, being seconded by Councilmember Megan Arlt, that:

WHEREAS, In 2023, the city entered into a contract with Maxfield Research and Consulting to conduct a housing study.

WHEREAS, Maxfield Research and Consulting has finished the project after a few delays in the beginning. Besides some great demographic data, the report shows how the vacancy rate of all housing types is well below 5% which indicates a healthy housing market. With such a large pent-up demand for housing in the Thief River Falls market area we can expect home prices and rental rates to continue to climb until we reach an equilibrium where it is once again profitable for developers to build without subsidies. Over 50% of our homes are in the \$100,000-199,000 home price range, which indicates we have affordable housing stock if people are enticed to purchase move-up housing, or condos/townhouses or moving into apartments.

WHEREAS, Per prior approved contract.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED To accept the Housing Study report as prepared by Maxfield Research & Consulting, LLC as presented.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 06.120.24: Approve Teri Vetsch Beer in the Park Permit

Following discussion, Councilmember Mike Lorensen introduced Resolution No. 06.120.24, being seconded by Councilmember Anthony Bolduc, that:

WHEREAS, Teri Vetsch has applied for a Beer in the Park Permit for a cook-out for 25 guests at Oakland Park.

WHEREAS, The park has been reserved with the Parks and Recreation Department. No financial transactions may occur at this event for charging, directly or indirectly, for the sale of 3.2 malt liquor (i.e. admission, cover charge). The permit allows for the consumption of 3.2 Malt Liquor Only. No strong beer, wine, or intoxicating liquor is allowed.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Approve a Beer in the Park Permit effective June 12, 2024, from 3 pm to 8 pm for Teri Vetsch at Oakland Park.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 06.121.24: Approve the opening of the Deputy City Clerk position

Following discussion, Councilmember Mike Lorensen introduced Resolution No. 06.121.24, being seconded by Councilmember Michele McCraw, that:

WHEREAS, Renee Olson has resigned from the position of Deputy City Clerk effective June 14th, 2024. To continue the efficient operation of the City Administrative

Department, the position is needed to be filled.

WHEREAS, This is a 2024 budgeted position.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Authorize the opening of the Deputy City Clerk position to the public as this is a non-union position.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

COUNCIL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPORTS

- Councilmember Steve Narverud mentioned the Garbage Bag handout for all homeowners and renters is this week. June 3rd through June 7th from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Public Works Building located at 1121 Atlantic Ave N.
- Mayor Brian Holmer mentioned there are 70 flower baskets to hang. This was previously organized by the Chamber. The city will donate the water and will store the vehicle.
 - Asking for volunteers to gather at the City Hall tomorrow, June 5th at 1 pm
 - Thank you to Pam Dallmann for organizing and Travis Giffen, Richard Baker, Scott Pream, Mike Lorensen will have kids to help and the Mayor for their help.
- Mayor Brian Holmer mentioned he received recognition for his year of service on the LMC board.
- Mayor Brian Holmer will be attending the Airport ribbon cutting on June 25th.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

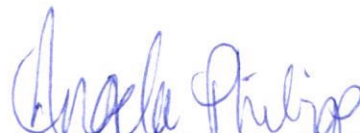
- Public Utilities Committee - June 10th at 7:00 a.m.
- Public Safety/Liquor Committee - June 10th at 4:30 p.m.
- Administrative Services Committee - June 11th at 4:30 p.m. Room 201 City Hall
- Public Works Committee - June 12th at 4:30 p.m.
- City Council Meeting - June 18th at 5:30 p.m.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Councilmember Mike Lorensen being seconded by Councilmember Scott Pream to adjourn at 6:22 p.m. On vote being taken, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried.

Attest:



Angela Philipp, City Administrator



Brian D. Holmer, Mayor