

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Tuesday, April 4, 2023

CALL TO ORDER

This meeting is officially called to order at 5:30 p.m. on April 4, 2023. This meeting is being presided over by Mayor Brian Holmer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

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

PUBLIC FORUM

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/PUBLIC INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

APPROVE AGENDA

Councilmember Mike Lorenson motioned, being seconded by Councilmember Scott Pream, to approve the agenda with the addition of 8.2.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTION NO. 04.79.23: Approval of March 21, 2023 Council Proceedings

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Steve Narverud introduced Resolution 04.79.23, being seconded by Councilmember Michele McCraw, that:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the City Council, to approve March 21, 2023 Council Proceedings.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

RESOLUTION NO. 04.80.23: City of Thief River Falls Bills and Disbursements

Presented as part of the Consent Agenda, Councilmember Steve Narverud introduced Resolution 04.80.23, 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 \$1,054,916.71. 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. 04.81.23: Authorization of submittal of 2022 Pay Equity Compliance Report to the Minnesota Management and Budget

Following discussion, Councilmember Scott Pream introduced Resolution 04.81.23, being seconded by Councilmember Steve Narverud, that:

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

WHEREAS, The State of Minnesota has mandated since 1984 that cities analyze and submit data to the State of Minnesota to ensure that inadequacies do not exist in the pay structures that may affect unequal compensation/benefits to females versus males. Each city submits payroll data to the State of Minnesota through software provided by the State which is analyzed by the State once every three years to ensure compliance. An employee's grade level, salary level, and additional compensation are documented and analyzed to determine if a city is in compliance.

WHEREAS, Required by State of Minnesota to pass the Pay Equity Compliance tests.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED To accept the recommendation to authorize submittal of the 2022 Pay Equity Compliance Report to the Minnesota Management and Budget Department for year ending December 31, 2022. Said report indicates that the City of Thief River Falls is in compliance with State of Minnesota pay equity regulations.

RESOLUTION NO. 04.82.23: Approval to adjust the wage of the Power Plant Operator/Construction Worker to move him into the approved 8-step pay grid and allow a cost of living increase for 2023.

Following discussion, Councilmember Mike Lorenson introduced Resolution 04.82.23 and motioned to amend to include Mr. Stennes will remain on step 1 until successful completion of the step requirement, but will be allowed cost of living increases, being seconded by Councilmember Jason Aarestad, that:

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 3.64.21 approved that McLain Stennes' wage be frozen at \$28.31 until successful completion of step requirements. With the implementation of the wage study results, Mr. Stennes should have been moved to Step 1 of Grade 6 to put him on the 8-step pay grid. Mr. Stennes will remain on step 1 until successful completion of the step requirement, but will be allowed cost of living increases.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED To approve the request by the Teamster union steward and union representative to move McLain Stennes, from his frozen wage of \$28.31 into the 8-step pay grid. The Power Plant Operator/Construction Worker position is a Grade 6. Moving him into Step 1 for 2022 would be \$30.55 per hour and with the 2% COLA increase January 1, 2023, the Step 1 for 2023 would be \$31.16 per hour. McLain would receive retroactive pay back to October 1, 2022. Mr. Stennes will remain on step 1 until successful completion of the step requirement, but will be allowed cost of living increases.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed with amendment.

COUNCIL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS REPORTS

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Utilities Committee Meeting - April 10th at 7:00 a.m.
- Public Safety Liquor Committee Meeting - April 10th at 4:30 p.m.

- Administrative Services Committee Meeting - April 11th at 4:30 p.m. (*Room 201*)
- Public Works Committee Meeting - April 12th at 4:30 p.m.
- City Council Meeting - April 18th at 5:30 p.m.

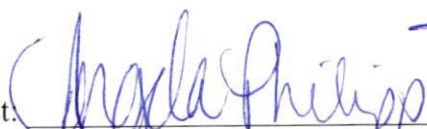
INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

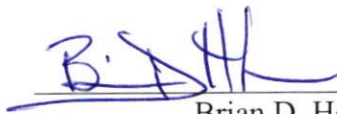
- Councilmember Mike Lorensen made a point of clarification to the community regarding the census of Thief River Falls. Mike confirmed that the census is conducted federally and the state updates the population signage for the town. The sticker on the population sign indicates it was updated in 2022.
- Mayor Holmer clarified the Public Works Department requests that all residents park on the east side of avenues, and the south side of streets between Monday, April 3 and Friday, April 7. This will allow snow removal equipment to respond to inclement weather.
- Councilmember Mike Lorensen expressed the Labor Committee is reviewing the payment process and the investigation is continuing. The Labor Committee hopes to have a couple more meetings this week.
- Councilmember Jason Aarestad stated he is in conversations with Josh at Brady Martz and they are looking to move forward.
- Mayor Holmer mentioned the legislature is looking at increasing LGA an additional 100 million. Watch for coalition updates, he will continue to monitor.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Councilmember Mike Lorensen, being seconded by Councilmember Anthony Bolduc to adjourn at 5:44 p.m. On vote being taken, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried.

Attest.


Angela Philipp, City Administrator


Brian D. Holmer, Mayor