

**City of Sturgeon Lake
Regular City Council Meeting
November 16, 2021 at 6 pm
Sturgeon Lake City Hall**

The following council members were present at the hall: Mayor Todd Danelski, Councilmember Erica Rasmussen and Councilmember Jason Swanson.

The following council members were absent: Rick Lewis.

The following city employees were present at the hall: City Clerk/ Treasurer Loreale Beede-Slocum, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Kathleen Bennett and Fire Chief Al Cekalla.

The following city staff members were absent: Maintenance Technician Mark Noyes.

Members of the public that were present: Alanea White, Tom Helfman, Ken Grey, Kelli Swanson, Kris Philipps, David Larsen, Tim Korby and Emily Danelski.

Call to order: Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, Mayor Danelski called the Regular City Council Meeting to order with the pledge of allegiance at 6:04 pm.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 12, 2021 public hearing and regular city council meeting were submitted for approval.

[E. Rasmussen made a motion to approve the minutes for the October 12, 2021 meeting as submitted, J. Swanson seconded the motion. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor with a roll call vote. R. Lewis Absent.](#)

Special Guests

City Residents letters of interest to fill vacant council seat: Included in the meeting packet were two letters of interest, that L. Beede-Slocum received from Ken Grey and Kris Phillips. The council had a brief discussion with the two candidates and asked some questions. It was explained that whoever fills the position by appointment, will need to run on the ballot for the 2022 elections. The council agreed, they did not want to make appointments with one member being absent. They closed the time period for accepting letters of interest and tabled this issue for the December Meeting.

City Engineer Tim Korby: Shared that the bonding bill for next year has seven million dollars available for paving projects. He offered to work on finding funds for roads and a new City Hall and Fire Hall. In using grants, the city needs to pay 20% of the project and 80% is paid by the grant. He suggested organizing some meetings with legislators and council.

Fire Department Report

Fire Department Report: Fire Chief Al Cekalla reported the department has applied for 3 grants, for a tanker, turnout gear and radios. A. Cekalla followed up with L. Beede-Slocum if new members had completed the required background checks. In closing he shared that the department is busy organizing the Turkey Bingo which is this weekend at Doc's.

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Financial Report

Claims Paid and Unpaid Claims: The Clerk/Treasurer presented the claims paid to the council. Any questions the council had about the claims paid were answered satisfactorily by the Clerk/ Treasurer. L. Beede-Slocum asked for approval and information on the following claims: The renewal of the property/liability insurance policy, she shared that the policy was approximately \$100 more than last year. MN Pump works bill for new E-1's, ML Implement. T. Danelski shared that this was for a replacement door on the tractor. The glass shattered when a tree was backed into during back grading. The tire needed to be confirmed with Mark. Sandberg Construction bill for grading, R. Lewis and Mark needed to be contacted to confirm dates.

[T. Danelski made a motion to approve the paid and unpaid claims pending confirmation with R. Lewis and M. Noyes, seconded by E. Rasmussen. Motion carried with a roll call vote with all members present voting in favor, R. Lewis Absent](#)

L. Beede-Slocum provided the financial reports for council review. She shared that the Fire Department had created a Fire Truck & Equipment fund as a requirement of applying for the grant. L. Beede-Slocum transferred \$100,000.00 from the fire operating fund to this special fire fund. Any questions the council had on the financial reports, were answered satisfactorily by the Clerk/ Treasurer.

Reports of Departments

Roads: R. Lewis was absent. Mayor Danelski shared for M. Noyes that grading was done on the 10th, 11th, 22nd and 30th of November to smooth out the roads before frost. M. Noyes uses a drag behind his ATV to smooth out the berms on the side of the roads.

Solid Waste: E. Rasmussen questioned the council if campers are being allowed? T. Danelski and L. Beede-Slocum shared that city ordinances do not allow campers as a primary structure or dwelling. The council had discussion about newly placed campers violating the nuisance-blight ordinance.

Park Advisory Committee: T. Danelski reported that the signs came in but the holes did not get drilled. With the frost the ground may be too hard packed to put them up this year. L. Beede-Slocum asked about the cost of the signs for budget planning. T. Danelski shared that the cost of the signs was \$475.00 which he paid for and is going to donate to the park. T. Danelski reported for M. Noyes that the can recycling will be shut down for the winter.

Storage Facility: L. Beede-Slocum reported that small storage 21 is moving out the end of the month. T. Danelski and R. Lewis took the items left behind in the two storage units to the dump. R. Lewis donated the cost of disposing of the items. They also fixed the light in the unit that was burnt out.

Water/Sewer Operator: M. Noyes was absent.

Cemetery: T. Danelski nothing new.

City Clerk Treasurer: L. Beede-Slocum reported that she included in the meeting packet, the information requested from the 2020 Mediacom quote for broadband expansion. She also shared contact

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information for Lezlie Sauter of Pine Co. She encouraged council members to contact her or join the zoom meeting for additional funding info for broadband expansion.

L. Beede-Slocum expressed the desire to have the interview committee do interviews the end of November for the Deputy Clerk Position. E. Rasmussen and J. Swanson offered to be on the committee. L. Beede-Slocum reported that she had to file a claim with the city insurance at the request of a resident. The homeowner reported that his home had been flooded when M. Noyes removed his water meter. The Clerk/Treasurer referenced the ordinance in the meeting packet pertaining to repairs. Please remember if a repair is on the resident's land or in their home, they need to have their contractor address it. If it is an issue with a water meter, the meter should be provided to Mark so he can have it replaced or repaired. In closing, L Beede-Slocum shared that we had an offer for the purchase of 9010 Royal but the buyers changed their mind a few days before the meeting. Also, Vern Anderson's real estate sign was vandalized at the property so he removed it.

Zoning: R. Lewis was absent.

Public Works Reports: M. Noyes was absent. T. Danelski reported that the gates at the water tower were stolen for a second time. The plan is to place a snow fence for the winter. The suggestion was made to have a chain link fence constructed in the spring to protect the water tower.

Mayor: T. Danelski had nothing new to share.

Old Business

Review updated zoning map: Tim Korby reviewed the updated zoning map with the council. T. Danelski shared that some additional editing was needed. Verification of N.E. property on Greenleaf Rd believed to be in the city limits. East side of commercial area should be removed as it is not in the city limits. T. Korby shared that he would confirm the areas and make the edits before the next meeting.

[T. Danelski made a motion to approve the confirmation and edits on the zoning map by T. Korby, seconded by J. Swanson. Motion carried with a roll-call vote with all members present voting in favor. R. Lewis absent.](#)

Security City Hall: A quote from the city technology provider Cybert PC was reviewed. The quote was for a video surveillance system including install and set up, to address the vandalism at city hall. The council had discussion and asked the Clerk/Treasurer to get an additional quote for cameras at the water tower.

[E. Rasmussen made a motion to approve the quote of \\$2900.00 from Cybert PC for the video surveillance system, seconded by J. Swanson. Motion carried with a roll-call vote with all members present voting in favor. R. Lewis absent.](#)

New Business

Land Use Permit L&L Granite: Clerk/Treasurer L. Beede-Slocum wanted council approval before issuing a land use permit, due to the violations of the sewer and nuisance ordinances. T. Danelski asked about the potential for the new building to be hooked up to the city water & sewer. Business owner Dave Larson shared that a rough in was being installed and inspected by a plumber but

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not being hooked up. The council reviewed the application submitted for a land use permit. D. Larson was asked to provide the side lot line setbacks, as they were omitted from the application. D. Larson also shared that he was in the process of purchasing the lot beside the existing property. L. Beede-Slocum asked if the site was steaked off for R. Lewis to inspect, D. Larson reported that it was. T. Danelski shared that the new building will allow the owner to get all the granite off the street and improve the appearance. D. Larson reported that the Hydro water clarification system was installed by Park Industries. This system will alleviate the granite fines from entering the city sewer system and lessen water consumption by 90%. D. Larson also reported to the council that the old barrels of drain oil will be hauled away on November 17, 2021. E. Rasmussen asked if L&L Granite had returned the waste dumping reports that were requested to them by the city. L. Beede-Slocum responded that the reports were never provided. D. Larson reported that Sandberg Construction would haul the fines away but that he never kept a record of it.

[T. Danelski made a motion to approve the land use permit for L&L Granite with the provision that the oil barrels get removed, the hydro system installed and waste dumping records provided to M. Noyes seconded by J. Swanson. Motion carried with a roll-call vote with all members present voting in favor, R. Lewis absent.](#)

LMC Online Council Training: L. Beede-Slocum reported that since 2019 \$3,750.00 were budgeted for council training. We have not spent \$1.00 to date. The League of MN Cities has 3 online classes that they recommend for all council members. The cost is \$15 per person. The council was in agreement to purchase these classes. L. Beede-Slocum will email the link and the classes can be completed at times that work for each council member. She also reminded the council to track their hours and email her, per the city fee and compensation schedule, councilmembers get paid for training.

Approve 2022 Liquor Licenses renewals for JJ's & Pizza Pub:

[J. Swanson made a motion to approve the renewal of the off sale liquor license for JJ's and the on sale liquor license for the Pizza Pub of Sturgeon Lake for the year 2022, seconded by E. Rasmussen. Motion carried with a roll-call vote with all members present voting in favor, R. Lewis absent.](#)

Approve 2022 cigarette sale licenses for JJ's and S.L. Fas-Stop:

[E. Rasmussen made a motion to approve the renewal of the cigarette sale licenses for 2022 for JJ's and Sturgeon Lake Fas Stop, seconded by J. Swanson. Motion carried with a roll-call vote with all members present voting in favor, R. Lewis absent.](#)

Announcements

Next Regular City Council Meeting: December 14, 2021 at 6 pm..

Fire Department Turkey Bingo, Friday November 19th at Doc's Sturgeon Lake

Adjournment

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[E. Rasmussen made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by J. Swanson. Motion carried with a roll-call vote with all members present voting in favor, R. Lewis absent. Meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.](#)

Respectfully submitted,

L. Beede-Slocum Clerk/Treasurer

Todd Dannelski, Mayor