



**Fire Contract Council Meeting  
June 27, 2023, at 6 pm  
Sturgeon Lake City Hall**

The following council members were present at the hall: Mayor Scott Helfman, Council member Adam Langhorst and Council member David Lingle.

The following council members were absent: Council member Nick Dagele and Council member Kris Philipps

The following city employees were present at the hall: Fire Chief Al Cekalla and City Clerk/Treasurer Sandra Osterdyk

The following city staff members were absent: Public Works Superintendent Larry Coursolle and Public Works Bob Pladson

The following members were present from Sturgeon Lake Township: Nedene Kuhlman, Edward Magdziarz, and Bernard Zuk

The following members were present from Birch Creek Township: Marissa Rayburn, Brandon Rayburn, Karen Youngberg, Yvonne Seger and Mark Seger

**Call to order:** Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, Mayor Helfman called Fire Contract Council Meeting to order at 6:00 pm, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Fire Contract Meeting**

Presented for review were the figures from Pine County on the number of structures in each city/township and the proposed amounts due for fire protection in 2024. Nedene Kuhlman, Clerk for Sturgeon Lake Township expressed she would like to see the Fire Financials, Revenue, Disbursement and Purposed Budget going forward on a quarterly basis. The 2024 fire contract increase is at 5 %. The increase in the fire department budget is reviewed annually by the council and voted on. The fire chief shared that it is needed to keep up with the costs of equipment maintenance and much needed upgrades. N. Kuhlman asked the council if they would compromise at 4 % as it was at 3% last year. Fire Chief Cekalla explained the need to replace the tanker and the costs involved to make this happen are around \$300,000.00- \$400,000.00. Every time a grant writer is hired there is a \$500.00 expense with no guarantee the grant request will be approved. Currently the tanker has the City of Sturgeon Lake Fire Department limited to approximately a 2,000 gallons tank. There was discussion around the percentage history and what can be expected going forward. There was an ask that the rate for 2025 be considered to be set 4 %. The Fire Chief and council explained that they will continue to review the Fire Contracts each year and adjust fairly based on the figures received from Pine County which determine the Proportional District Percentage which is made up of the Market Value of all Taxable and Non-Taxable Structures, Number of Structures Including Homes and Population Estimates in each Jurisdictions. All Fire Council Jurisdictions members present, Fire Chief Cekalla and the council agreed on the 5 % increase for the 2024 Fire Contract costs.

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	<b>2024 Contract</b>	<b>2024 Increase</b>
Birch Creek Twp.	\$16,208.40	\$220.20
Denham City	\$ 2,600.28	\$104.83
Sturgeon Lake City	\$22,965.78	\$945.97
Sturgeon Lake Twp.	\$29,624.39	\$999.91
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$71,398.85</b>	<b>\$2,270.90</b>

Council member A. Langhorst made a motion to accept the 2024 Fire Contract rate increase of 5 %, seconded by Council member D. Lingle. Motion carried with a roll-call vote with all members present voting in favor, Council member N. Dagele and K. Philipps absent.


#### **Announcements**

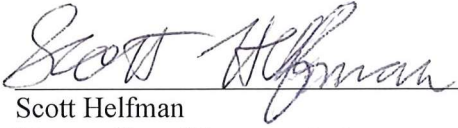
**Next Regular City Council Meeting:** The next regular meeting will be Tuesday, July 11, 2023, at 6:00 pm.

#### **Adjournment**

Council member A. Langhorst made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded Council member D. Lingle. Motion carried with a roll-call vote with all members present voting in favor, Council member N. Dagele and K. Philipps absent. The meeting was adjourned at 6:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Sandra Osterdyk  
City Clerk/Treasurer, City of Sturgeon Lake

  
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Scott Helfman  
Mayor, City of Sturgeon Lake