



**City Council Meeting
July 16, 2024, at 6 pm
Sturgeon Lake City Hall**

The following council members were present at the hall: Mayor Scott Helfman, Councilmember Nick Dagle, Councilmember Adam Langhorst, and Councilmember David Lingle

The following council members were absent:

The following city employees were present at the hall: Fire Chief Al Cekalla, City Clerk/Treasurer Sandra Osterdyk, and Public Works Superintendent Larry Coursolle

The following city staff members were absent:

Members of the public that were present: Ken Grey and Judy Koch

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

Fire Contract Meeting

The Fire Chief reported they responded to 10 calls in the past month. They currently have a bid on a 2,000-gallon tanker that will go up to \$15,000 during this auction. They are waiting for an update on the Feasibility Study and will inform Mayor Helfman when he hears anything. There is a new Standard Operating Procedure in the works coming from Pine County regarding Tornado Watch/Warnings where there will be one person stationed at the Fire Hall to watch and warn where not everyone is at the fire hall but spread out instead. More information will follow as the procedure is written. The Fire Hall roof requires repairs. There is leaking all over the first responder bay and along the flashing. The replacement cost is approximately \$30,000. The Fire Chief will look at getting quotes and hopes it can be repaired again.

Special Guests and Visitor

Ken Grey would like the city to consider purchasing American flags to fly around town, especially during holidays. The roads at Cathedral Pines need to be touched up, and some spots around it, especially the right-of-way areas, need to be mowed.

Fire Department Report

Fire Department Report: Fire Chief Cekalla reported that he still has to hear from Widseth regarding the feasibility of the onsite visit. The Fire Chief would like to schedule something with the Mayor, himself, and Widseth to address any end-product questions. Joseph Pelawa has been asked to connect with Ryan at Widseth and everyone to schedule this. The Fire Chief shared that the DNR grant was received in the amount of just shy of \$5,000.00, along with the new equipment for the truck and gloves. There had been a total of 6 calls. National Night Out has been scheduled for Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at 5:30 pm. They are working on flyers for the event and will provide one to the city when they are done. They are possibly looking at a new tanker to bridge the gap. This one is under \$8,000 and has under 23,000 miles. To build a new truck would cost approximately \$200,000 - \$220,000.

Approval of Minutes

The June 25, 2024, Regular City Council Meeting minutes were submitted for approval. One edit was to be made to the minutes, noting why Councilmember A. Langhorst abstained from approving the Claims Paid due to a conflict of interest as an item for reimbursement.

Councilmember N. Dagle motioned to approve the minutes for the June 25, 2024, Regular City Council Meeting, with one edit as requested. Councilmember N. Dagle seconded the motion. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Financial Report

Claims Paid: 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.

Councilmember A. Langhorst motioned to approve Claims Paid, seconded by Councilmember N. Dagle. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Unpaid Claims: The Clerk/Treasurer presented the Unpaid Claims to the council. Any questions the council had about the Unpaid Claims were answered satisfactorily by the Clerk/Treasurer.

Councilmember A. Langhorst motioned to approve the Unpaid Claims, seconded by Councilmember D. Lingle. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Financial Report/Review: The Clerk/Treasurer presented the Financial Report/Review. Any questions the council had were answered satisfactorily by the Clerk/Treasurer.

Councilmember N. Dagle motioned to approve the Financial Report/Review, seconded by Councilmember A. Langhorst. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor.

Reports of Departments

Park Committee: The park received a nice donation from the American Legion for additional fencing around the park and from the Sturgeon Lake Lions Club for all the playground equipment items. Resolution No. 2024-05, A Resolution to Approve Donations and Grants for 2024, which was adopted by the Sturgeon Lake City Council on January 9th, 2024, allows the city to accept these donations without motions being made by the council. The Sturgeon Lake Lions Club is also looking at donating a Lion drinking fountain to the park.

Public Works: The city park's bare ground is starting to spread out where the grass mixture was laid out. Continue to mow. Repairs the toilet at city hall.

Roads: The City Clerk/Treasurer reminded the council that the Snow Plow and Road Grading contract is coming up for renewal in September. The council discussed the bidding process for this contract renewal. An additional batch of gravel will be delivered before the end of the current contract. The roads at Cathedral Pines will be addressed as well.

Solid Waste: Mayor Helfman asked that the council compile a list of the top few ordinances they would like to have addressed. The goal is to create a simple template to use. Then, narrow it down to several properties. The first round will focus on what can be seen from the public's point of view on the road.

Storage Facility: There was one new rental last month. The trees hanging over the property line need to be trimmed. It was confirmed that you can unplug the garage door opener to open and close the door in the event of a power outage.

Water/Sewer Operator: Lift Station #3 pump is operational again today. An upcoming compliance review is scheduled with the MPCA to review some missing data or incorrectly entered data from 2021 to the present. There is a Wellhead Protection Plan meeting scheduled for Thursday. Widseth will be onsite on Friday to conduct ESRI GIS training.

Zoning: There has been one building permit since the last meeting.

City Clerk/Treasurer: The City Clerk/Treasurer reported completing all the monthly and quarterly reports. At this time, we do not need any more election judges. Training is being completed for those who have signed up.

Mayor: Nothing new to report that wasn't already talked about.

New Business

The Minnesota Power franchise agreement has expired and will be sent to the city attorney for review before renewal under a new ordinance. Additional information will follow.

The council discussed a donation letter from the Initiative Foundation, which was declined at this time.

Old Business

The council had a brief discussion on the MN Power Franchise Agreement. The city attorney is currently reviewing it. More information will be provided at the next meeting.

Announcements

The 2025 Budget Meeting will be on Tuesday, July 23, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

The Sturgeon Lake Fire Department will host the 2024 National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6, 2024, at 5:30 pm.

The Primary Election is on Tuesday, August 13, 2024.

The City Council Meeting/Finish 2025 Budget will be held on Tuesday, August 20, 2024, at 6:00 pm.

The Special Assessment Hearing/City Council Meeting, September 17, 2024 at 6:00 pm.

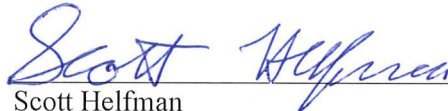
Adjournment

Councilmember A. Langhorst motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilmember N. Dage. The motion carried with all members present voting in favor. The meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Sandra Osterdyk
City Clerk/Treasurer, City of Sturgeon Lake



Scott Helfman
Mayor, City of Sturgeon Lake