

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 8, 2022

The meeting was held in the meeting room of City Hall, Tuesday, March 8, 2022.

Members Present: Mayor Lucas, Councilor Collier, Councilor Doward, Councilor Mascarenas, and Councilor Kohmetscher.

Absent:

Staff Attending: Kathryn Lake, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer, Brent Milczark, Utilities Superintendent, Robert Tschida, building inspector

Others attending: Gary Marsyla, John Puera, Chad Schmidt, Theresa Schmidt, Marcia Sarvela

Mayor Lucas called the meeting to order at 7:00pm

Mr. Beutow addressed the council and stated that the water lines were not located which is why they were damaged. Mr. Beutow also stated that he felt like it was unfair that the matter was voted on when he wasn't there (due to Covid) at the last meeting, and he would like the council to reconsider. Councilor Doward stated that Pipeline stated we could be fined if a resolution can't be made with Mr. Beutow. Mr. Beutow stated that if the council won't reconsider, he will be involving a lawyer.

Councilor Kohmetscher made motion, seconded by Councilor Mascarenas to accept consent agenda

- Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Mascarenas, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Doward, and Mayor Lucas

~Motion carries

1. Minutes of February 2, 2022, regular council meeting and February 28, 2022 Special Meeting

2) Claims (6449-6451, 6453-6463 =\$2693.21)

3) Cash control statement, receipt, and disbursement registers.

Administrative Department:

- Regular daily, weekly, monthly duties were carried out.
- Working with the auditor
- Genesis called to let Kathy know there would be internet outages coming up
- Camera by the shop was put up, the second camera will be put back up
- Shop code was changed
- The locks need to be measured before they can be changed.
- There will be a 2nd year City Administrator training for Kathy May 9th-13th in St. Cloud. Kathy put in for a grant to cover this cost. She will let the council know if she receives the grant. The training will cost \$445 plus hotel costs if she doesn't get the grant.

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- On April 13, there is a workshop that administrators, clerks, EMS, Firefighters, and public works should attend about safety and total loss. Brent and Kathy should attend the training. This training costs \$20.00 per person and it is in Duluth.
- Councilor Mascarenas made a motion, seconded by Councilor Collier to send Kathy to St. Cloud for the Municipal Clerks training for the second year.
 - Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Mascarenas, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Doward, and Mayor Lucas

~Motion Carries

- Councilor Collier made a motion, seconded by Councilor Doward to send Kathy and Brent to the Safety and Loss control training in Duluth for \$20.00 per person.
 - Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Mascarenas, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Doward, and Mayor Lucas

~Motion Carries

Utilities Department:

- Total water usage for the month of February: 235,900 gallons
- Waiting on update about Transformers
- There is no update on the generator
- Cleaning garage, in process.
- Biohazard locker, they will need to check into the city's needs before purchasing.
- The burnpile has been burned once, they will burn again.
- Something needs to be built to protect the Air Condition unit.

Fire Department:

- Fire chief was at the Silver Township meeting.
- There was a discussion of coding, the disbursement register, billing, and the budget for the fire department and the townships.

Planning and Zoning:

- Getting at least 2 estimates for windows/doors, redoing the siding, and insulating the roof, rain gutters and stops for snow and ice on the roof..

City Council:

- Permits: There was a discussion of permits and that council members should be setting an example.
- Reminders to members of the city council: Audio recordings are not permissible by council members during the council meeting. There is a policy that all emails need to go through Mayor Lucas, and there is a policy about who can contact the city attorney, these people are Kathy and Mayor Lucas.
- There was a letter sent to all city council members: Mayor Lucas wanted to address untruths in the letter:
 - Wendy didn't resign due to harassment; she didn't give a reason.
 - Recording, Mayor Lucas is asking all council members to stop recording, as per the city policy.
 - there was a discussion of misinformation.

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- Councilor Doward stated that she wouldn't be following the policies
- There was a discussion of what the city will do when the water and sewer reports that need to get turned in by a licensed individual come due. They will contact Barnum and Moose Lake to see if they can contract with them until Brent gets his licenses. Dave Issacson will get Brent a list of training options to get these licenses.
- The Council discussed that the water and sewer billing should not be estimated. If someone doesn't clear the snow from around their meter, their billing can be estimated, but the rest of the community's meters will be read monthly.
- The oldest 20-25 water/sewer meters need to be replaced; Kathy will get some figures put together to present at the next meeting.

New Business:

- The Commercial Building Inspector from Sandstone, Hinkley, and Rock Creek has a bid for the city. This bid is more reasonable than the previous bid with no monthly fixed cost.
- Councilor Collier made a Motion, seconded by Councilor Kohmetscher to accept the contract from Richard Drotning for the Commercial Building Inspector.
 - Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Mascarenas, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Doward, and Mayor Lucas

~Motion Carries

- Councilor Collier made a motion, seconded by Councilor Doward Motion to accept the resolution to re-establish precinct boundaries.
 - Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Mascarenas, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Doward, and Mayor Lucas

~Motion Carries

- The annual City barbeque will be held on May 7th from 12-4. The funds come from the lawful gambling funds. \$200-250 are budgeted for this BBQ. Council members are expected to attend.

- Councilor Collier made a motion seconded by Councilor Mascarenas to hold the 3rd annual Kettle River BBQ.
 - Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Mascarenas, Councilor Kohmetscher, and Mayor Lucas
 - Nays: Councilor Doward

~Motion Carries

Councilor Collier made a motion, seconded by Councilor Kohmetscher to adjourn the meeting at 8:09

~All in favor, motion carries

The next City Council meeting will be held Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at 7 p.m. at the City Hall.

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Submitted by,

Kathryn Lake City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer