

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
May 10, 2022

Kettle River City Council meeting was held in the meeting room of City Hall, Tuesday, May 10, 2022

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

Absent:

Staff Attending: Kathryn Lake, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer, Robert Tschida, Building Inspector, Kyle Riel, Fire Chief, Jerry Peterson, Maintenance worker, Brent Milczark, Utilities

Others attending: Morgan Yeats, Judy Collier, Marcia Sarvela, Mary Sanders, Laura Simi, Jim Sanders, Judy Marsyla, Gary Marsyla, Patty Lund, Beckie Morse, Ed Lund, Kevin Peura, Jerry Peterson, John Mikrot, Sue Pederson.

Mayor Lucas called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

- Laura Simi asked if the rumors about Councilor Doward writing resignation and termination letters on behalf of other council members and city employees is true. The council verified that she did write said letters without approval from the council.

Motion by Councilor Kohmetscher seconded by Councilor Collier and carried unanimously to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Minutes, minute corrections for April 12, 2022, regular council meeting
- Claims (6481-6502=\$13,520.39)
- Cash control statement, receipt, and disbursement registers.

Administration Department report submitted by Kathryn Lake, City Administrator, City Clerk/Treasurer:

- Regular daily, weekly, monthly work.
- Grant approved from county to reimburse \$412.50 for City picnic
- City Auditor states monies paid to city for legal gambling can be used for any city expenses because the city is not actively involved in gambling.
- Kathy, Brent, and Jerry attended and completed prevention and loss training
- Bernadine Reed was in office to help Kathy
- There were 2 water shut offs and 4 shut off notices delivered
- Loan for the amount of \$97,700 is completed

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Utilities Department

- Water use 145,800 gallons
- Rest area is open
- Barricade installed on 3rd and Birch due to road collapse
- Garage purchased a hazmat cabinet and toolbox for tools donated to city
- Fluoride report turned in
- John Deere tractor disabled and parked outside of garage
- Worked on shop house keeping
- Flushing hydrants on May 17th or 19th
- Monitoring river to put out dock
- Training for Brent on June 22nd and 23rd in Wahkon, MN. Training is free, mileage and lunch reimbursement is requested. Motion to approve made by Councilor Collier and 2nded by Councilor Doward. Ayes unanimous, motion passed.
- 2 quotes for a new tractor received financing is an option. OSHA grant cannot be used for the purchase of said tractor, needs to be for a specific use. There is money budgeted for purchase of a tractor. Motion made to accept financing on a new tractor with an interest rate of 6% or less+ the down payment on a John Deere Compact Tractor model 3025E. Motion 2nded by Councilor Mascarenas. Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, and Mayor Lucas
- Nays: Councilor Doward
- Motion carries on purchase of new tractor for city.

Fire and First Responder Department

- April: 3- fire and 6-medical
- May: 3-fire and 7-medical
- Tanker 428 is going in for repair in Lino Lakes
- 2 new fire fighter applications have been received
- Mutual aid agreement between Barnum, Blackhoof, Carlton, Thompson (Esko), Kettle River, Mahtowa, Moose Lake, Cromwell, Wright, Wrenshall and Cloquet.
- Insurance to cover pump repair on tanker 428. Motion to approve repair to tanker 428 made by Councilor Collier and 2nded by Councilor Kohmetscher.
- Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Doward, Councilor Mascarenas, and Mayor Lucas, motion carries.

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- Motion to approve addition of cold weather package to Tanker 428 made by Councilor Collier and 2nded by Councilor Mascarenas,
- Ayes Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Doward, Councilor Mascarenas, and Mayor Lucas, motion carries.

City Council:

- Councilor Doward would like to review payment of City Inspector Tschida. She was informed he is a city employee and paid as such.
- Councilor Doward would like to see the credit card statements for the city and was informed the statements are already available in her binder.

Committees-

Planning and Zoning Commission:

- Interested party in purchasing the old K.R. Mart lot. Inquiry only no offer has been made.
- Interested party in purchasing 3 acres
- Interested party in purchasing old feed mill, grocery store, and storage building between. Possible plan to put in personal storage and rental storage units.
- Question as to why building permits are not made available for public knowledge, person informed the state should have a list of all building permits issued and property owners must post permit in a visible area.

Personnel Committee:

- Councilor Collier submitted a letter to the personnel committee pertaining to false accusations made against him by Councilor Doward. Councilor Kohmetscher read the letter to the public.
- Accusations made by Councilor Doward against the rest of the Councilors and city workers brought up. These accusations have no evidence.
- Resignation letters Councilor Doward wrote for other city councilors to resign were read aloud.
- Brent's 60-day review was performed and went well. Will continue with a 90-day review and a 6-month review. He will continue to work on his training and certifications also.

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Safety Committee:

Correspondence:

Building Inspector:

- 14 spring cleanup compliance letters were issued
- Brown Property discussed- can anything be done? Dumpster needs to be removed. Miscellaneous trash around property needs to be cleaned up. House needs to be repaired or torn down. 3984 Cedar Street could cost the city up to \$25,000 to clean up, would need to be tested for Methamphetamine residue. Discussion tabled for now, as city does not have funds available for cleanup

New Business:

- Claim submitted for damage done to sewer line by Mr. Buetow, who is also responsible for fixing the road. Insurance adjuster coming on Tuesday to look at damages.
- Water/Sewer agreement with Mr. Isaacson will end in May. Mr. Mikrot has offered his services. Motion to pay Mr. Isaacson what he has billed the city for March and April made by Councilor Collier and 2nded by Councilor Kohmetscher. 4- Ayes, 1- Nay, Motion carries.
- Motion to pay Mr. Isaacson for May services made by Councilor Kohmetscher and 2nded by Councilor Mascarenas.
- Ayes Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, and Mayor Lucas
- Nays: Councilor Doward
- Motion carries.
- Meeting set for June 7th, 2022, to finalize contract with Mr. Mikrot.

Old Business:

- Standpipe to be replaced, will need to be chlorinated and pressurized, work will start at the end of June and be finished the 3rd week of July.
- Discussion of quotes for re-siding city hall will be held off until next meeting.
- Fire service contracts: Silver Township has paid the 2021 fire service contract, they need to sign the 2022 fire service contract, deadline was discussed since the contract should have been signed already.
- Suggestion made to have another fire commission meeting to resolve issues with the fire service contract for 2023

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- Playground equipment needs to be repaired; Kathy will reach out to Kurt for when this will happen.
- Resolution 2022-05, \$18,796.15 allocated to the city, Motion to accept by Councilor Collier, 2nded by Councilor Doward. Ayes unanimous, motion carries.
- Resolution 2022-06, Authorizing Carlton County voting system. Motion to accept made by Councilor Kohmetscher, 2nded by Councilor Mascarenas. 4- Ayes, 1- Nay, motion carries.
- Resolution 2022-07, to change the base rate and water debt service rate on water and sewer billing. No change in rates, just correcting what category the money should be in. Motion to accept made by Councilor Collier and 2nded by Councilor Mascarenas. Ayes unanimous, motion carries.
- Resolution 2022-08, Mutual aid between area fire departments discussed earlier in meeting. Motion to accept made by Councilor Kohmetscher 2nded by Councilor Collier motion carries.
- Councilor Doward question city debt

Motion made to adjourn by Councilor Mascarenas and 2nded by Councilor Collier at 9:26 pm.

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

Submitted by,

Jamie Dobosenski, Account Clerk