

**CITY OF KETTLE RIVER
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
May 9, 2017**

The regular meeting of the Kettle River City Council was held in the meeting room of City Hall, Tuesday, May 9, 2017.

Members present: Kris Miller, Jason Montgomery, George Klaskin, Tina Tollgaard and Dave Lucas.

Absent: None

Staff Attending: David Isaacson, Utilities Superintendent; Nick Wright, Asst. Fire Chief; Robert Tschida, Building Inspector, Jerry Peterson, Maintenance Assistant and Bernadine Reed, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer.

Others attending: Jen Montgomery, Eddie Pelkey, Todd Lawrence, Marcia Sarvela, Guy Collier, Jon Lund, Jeff Adamzak, Nick Nummela and Trey Morgan.

Mayor Klaskin called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m..

Guy Collier addressed the Council with a question to Mayor Klaskin requesting the reason for the rush to fill the vacated Council seat. Mayor Klaskin stated that he had a short list of candidates that he spoke to and that Mr. Collier would not talk to him when he went to his home. Mr. Collier clarified that this was several months ago not recently to discuss the vacated position. Mr. Collier asked why the position was not advertised or announced to the public prior to filling the position. Mayor Klaskin stated he felt there was an urgency to appoint, he did not state what the urgency was when asked. Mr. Collier requested that the minutes reflect that in his opinion Mayor Klaskin took it upon himself to recruit and appoint the position without contact to residents who were on the ballot or received votes in the last election, publicly advertising or announcing the vacated position.

Motion by Councilor Tollgaard, seconded by Councilor Miller and carried unanimously to approve consent agenda items:

- Minutes of April 11, 2017, regular council meeting;
- Claims (5133-5154 - \$10,144.71)
- Accounts payable - \$13,697.19;

Administration Department report submitted by Bernadine Reed, City Clerk/Treasurer:
April/May 2017:

- Attended meeting with Bob Hattenberger and Nick Wright;
- Attended April 19, 2017 Fire Commission meeting;
- Completed Mayor's information request and notified Councilor Montgomery, Budget Committee of the availability;
- Viewed a webinar sponsored by the League of MN Cities;
- Regular daily and monthly work;

Utilities Department report submitted by Dave Isaacson, Utilities Department.

- Daily work of readings at the water plant, lift station and ponds, fluoride sample collections;
- Secondary pond will be discharged again in June;
- Fluoride report and wastewater reports have been submitted;
- The main water meter testing was completed and passed;
- Approval of city/fire hall plans was given by Duane Grace, Building Official and ongoing work to obtain repair estimates;
- Problems with computer reported;
- Water meters have been ordered and the 20 top water consumption residents obtained, installation will begin when received;
- Annual ordinance compliance inspection and letters were completed;
- Notification that the city garage is in need of lighting updating;
- Notification of the need to replace the city tractor and opinion that it does not meet OSHA safety requirements;
- Submittal of quotes for mower.

Northwoods Hydraulic & Equipment - \$8,500.00

Moose Lake Implement - \$9,380.00

Motion by Councilor Montgomery, seconded by Councilor Miller and carried (Tollgaard -aye, Montgomery-aye, Miller – aye, Lucas – aye and Klaskin – nay) to approve request to purchase a mower from Northwoods Hydraulic & Equipment for the amount of \$8,500.00 and to advertise the JD1420 mower for sale with a minimum bid of \$2,000.00.

Fire Department report submitted by Nick Wright, Assistant Fire Chief.

- One fire run (mutual aid) and three first responder calls;
- Submittal of quote for turnout gear, ten turnout gear sets - \$15,640.00; discussion was held about how to budget/fund replacements; Tabled.
- Recommendation to offer a firefighter “conditional membership” to Chad Schmidt. Motion by Mayor Klaskin, seconded by Councilor Tollgaard and carried to offer a conditional membership to Chad Schmidt;
- Applications were received from Nick Wright for Fire Chief and Kyle Riel for Assistant Fire Chief. Following application review and discussion, motion by Mayor Klaskin, seconded by Councilor Montgomery to appoint Nick Wright to the position of Fire Chief. Discussion was held concerning the combination of Assistant Fire Chief and Training Officer. Motion by Councilor Tollgaard, seconded by Councilor Miller and carried unanimously to waive the five-year membership requirement for the position of Assistant Fire Chief and appoint Kyle Riel as Assistant Fire Chief/Training Officer.

Building Department report submitted by Robert Tschida, Building Official.

- Annual spring ordinance compliance inspection and letters have been sent;
- Discussion was held concerning annual compliance process and nuisance ordinance compliance; Councilors will review the ordinance and bring suggestions to a future meeting.
- Robert attended a recent training session.

Committees:

- Todd Lawrence, Planning and Zoning Commission, gave a brief statement of appreciation for the community. Discussion was held of a lack of members on the Planning and Zoning Commission, advertising for members is ongoing.
- Budget committee will be meeting soon. Mayor Klaskin shared a portion of the League of Minnesota Cities communities' property tax information.

Unfinished Business:

- Air-fiber & Tom Simi lease agreement discussion, Mayor Klaskin will contact Mr. Simi as to the status of the lease agreements.
- Councilor Tollgaard requested an update of the Fire Department SOP, information was not available at this time. The status of the update will be brought to the next meeting.
- Councilor Miller requested information from Jon Lund about the dedication of the ball field. August 21, 2017 has been set for the dedication with a time to be announced. Mr. Lund updated the Council about fund raising.

Correspondence:

- Acknowledgement of correspondence from Minnesota Pollution Control Agency;
- Correspondence from Croix Management Company requesting a water and sewer rate reduction. Discussion was held of prior requests and prior City responses. No action taken.

Councilor Tollgaard requested that the ordinance regulating liquor sales be reviewed for compliance with the July 1st law change to off sale liquor.

Motion by Mayor Klaskin, seconded by Councilor Montgomery to appoint David Lucas to the Personnel Committee and Planning and Zoning Committee.

Motion by Councilor Miller seconded by Councilor Montgomery and carried unanimously to adjourn at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernadine L. Reed
City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer