

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2024

The Kettle River Special City Council meeting was held in the meeting room of City Hall, Tuesday, April 9, 2024, at 7 p.m.

Members Present:

- Mayor Lucas
- Councilor Collier
- Councilor Kohmetscher
- Councilor Mascarenas

Members Absent:

- Councilor Doward

Staff Attending:

- Kathryn Lake, Administrator /Clerk/Treasurer
- Travis Leino, Maintenance/Utilities
- Thomas Simi, Interim Asst Fire Chief
- Isaac Gran, Fire Chief

Staff Absent:

- Robert Tschida, Building Inspector

Speaking Guests:

- Dakota Tjaden
- Dan Baier

Guests:

- Eric Senarighi
- Marcia Sarvela
- Laura Simi
- Thomas Simi
- Gary and Judy Marsayla
- Kevin Puera
- Kelly Dahl
- Judy Collier

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2024

Mayor Lucas called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

Dakota Tjaden (Bollig Engineering

- Updates on things they have been working on over the last few months.
- PER has been submitted to Rural Development and is in the RD apply process and the Environmental survey is also in process.
- Senator Klobuchar application is moving forward, she has requested that from the National Pool. Should find out in a couple of months what projects got awarded or selected for that.
- The Smith application they have not said one way or another if they are moving forward with it. Hopefully in the next week or two weeks Bollig should find out.
- Small Cities Development that has been turned in and usually find out late June or early July on that.
- Bollig staff (funding team) is looking at coming in the next 30-50 days and go over the details of the funding stuff.
- Lead service update, this is a federal mandate. MDH has grant money for this and it is 100% funded to inventory all the service lines within the city.

Dan Baier

- Owner of Park Lake Resort
- Ma and Pa Kettle Committee asked if he would provide alcohol for the fund raiser on June 1, 2024.
- He is seeking a Special Event permit.
- He will bring the city a copy of his liquor license and certificate of insurance.
- If the bar is not open by Ma & Pa Kettle Days, he is asking for a permit to sell for that event too.

Dan Reed:

- Overview, glad to have the Mud Bog back, and able to have refreshments served because that will bring in more people.
- We appreciate the city stepping up to the plate and hoping the bar will re-open sooner than later.

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2024

- There will be a steak fry here on Friday evening and they are planning to have live music.
- There is a lot of activity and requests to be part of the midway carnival style that we have done before and more and more they are eager to come because they like to talk to people.
- We have started clearing the Ma & Pa land next to the old tile plant and the whole old rail yard. Working on getting a streamline of funding to support the rail yard development.
- Polaris gave a \$10,000.00 grant for the project.
- The plan is to clear and level the rail yard area and get rid of everything that has been there as a dump.
- Plan for a washing station on Ma & Pa 4-acre lot. Exploring how to do pay as you go with debit card kind of thing.

Mayor Lucas gives reminder that there is a policy that prevents council members from recording the meetings.

Consent Agenda:

- Minutes of the April 9, 2024, meeting, and the Public Hearing
- Claims (6991 – 7010 = \$10,116.60).
- Cash control statement for May 2024.
- Receipts for May 2024.
- Disbursements for May 2024.
- First National Bank statement for May 2024.

Motion made by Councilor Kohmetscher to accept the consent agenda seconded by Councilor Collier with a few corrections.

Ayes: Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, Councilor Collier, and Mayor Lucas.

Nays:

Motion carries.

Administration Dept:

- Daily, weekly, and monthly paperwork.

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

May 21, 2024

- Went to the MMCI training in St. Cloud I did graduate from the three-year program and now need to keep up on CEU's to keep certification current.
- It has been a challenge doing both jobs, as to trying to figure out which one takes precedence each day.
- Went to talk with Todd Morgan about trimming back his tree, but he was out of town until the weekend.
- The personnel committee received my doctor's return to work note.

Utilities/Maintenance Department:

- Completed a locate done on the corner with no paperwork on depths and such as Bollig to the paperwork the day before the locate.
- One of the valves is leaking on the ton the lines between the filters.
- Discharge over at the ponds and there are a couple snapping turtles trapped in the discharge tank.
- Still working on getting rid of the potassium permanganate.

Fire Department:

- 2 Medical calls and 2 Fire calls.
- Received 2 new fire fighter applications, one is a former fire fighter Jon Lingle is returning, and the other has done fire fighting in the past and he is fully certified already.
- Trucks have been good the last couple of months,
- We have been working with North Star Training out of the Cloquet and Duluth area. He came down and ran us through the operations course. He will be coming back for the First Responders in the later part of June to do a course.

Personnel Committee:

- I just received Kathy's return to work with no restrictions effective May 20, 2024.
- Completed an interview and she seemed very qualified. Carol Grutkoski was interviewed.

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2024

Planning and Zoning:

- Talked to Terry O’Leary and he is not ready to build yet.
- The campground is still on hold.

City Council:

- Mayor Lucas thanked everyone who came out to the Annual BBQ, it was another successful event.
- Another lawsuit of Ms. Doward’s against the city has been dismissed.
- The judge dismissed it without prejudice. The order from the judge was read and anyone can ask to see a copy of it at any time.
- Table everything from Councilor Doward from A-W.
- Motion made by Councilor Kohmetscher to table everything from A-W from Ms. Doward, second by Councilor Collier
- Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas and Mayor Lucas.
- Nays:
- Motion carries
- Letter from the Attorney General and need to respond within 10 days. Ms. Doward is complaining that the city stole her vehicle because she was parked over the water shut-off.
- The city attorney is looking over our rebuttal and send it to the Attorney General Office.
- LMC sent an email that Councilor Doward has filed a claim against the city for stealing her work vehicle.
- She received a letter stating that she had 24 hours to move the vehicle, or it would be towed at her expense, she turned the vehicle around to face the other direction still over the water shut-off valve.
- Keep the removal of the potassium permanganate under Old Business until we can figure that out.

Motion made by Councilor Collier to accept Resolution 2024-06 Accept Donation from Northwoods Credit Union to the Fire Department for the Spaghetti Feed seconded by Councilor Mascarenas.

Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas and Mayor Lucas.

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2024

Nays: 0

Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilor Collier Resolution 2024-07 Accept Donation from Kwik Trip of \$250.00 to the Fire Department seconded by Councilor Kohmetscher.

Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, and Mayor Lucas.

Nays:

Motion carries

Motion made by Councilor Collier, Resolution 2024-08 to Accept Donation from Moose Lake Brewing Company for the Spaghetti Feed seconded by Councilor Mascarenas.

Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas and Mayor Lucas.

Nays:

Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilor Collier, Resolution 2024-09 to Censure Councilor Doward seconded by Councilor Kohmetscher.

Ayes: Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Collier, Councilor Mascarenas and Mayor Lucas.

Nays:

Motion carries.

Nays: 0

Motion carries.

Table the quotes for new doors and windows in the back room until next year.

Quotes to replace lights in the fire hall. Table until next month to see what is in the fire department budget.

Thomas Simi put in the letter to take Assistant Fire Chief position on a permanent basis.

Motion made by Councilor Collier to appoint Thomas Simi to the Assistant Fire Chief, seconded by Councilor Kohmetscher.

Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas and Mayor Lucas.

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2024

Nays:

Motion carries.

Special Event Permit on June 1, 2024, for Ma & Pa Kettle Fundraiser at the American Legion Building. Park Lake will be serving alcohol at this event.

Motion made by Councilor Kohmetscher to accept the Special Event Permit for Park Lake to sell alcohol, seconded by Councilor Mascarenas.

Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas and Mayor Lucas.

Nays:

Motion carries.

LMC conference June 26-28, 2024.

Motion made by Councilor Kohmetscher to send Kathy to the LMC Conference in Rochester June 25-28, 2024, seconded by Councilor Collier.

Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas and Mayor Lucas.

Nays:

Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilor Collier to hire Carol Grutkoski as the new Account Clerk, seconded by Councilor Mascarenas. Will start 6/28/2024.

Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas and Mayor Lucas.

Nays:

Motion carries.

Motion made by Councilor Mascarenas and seconded by Councilor Kohmetscher to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Next meeting June 11, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Motion carries.

Submitted By:

Kathryn Lake

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2024

City Administrator/Clerk/Treasurer