

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
September 12, 2023

The Kettle River City Council meeting was held in the Senior Community Center of City Hall, Tuesday, September 12, 2023, at 7 pm.

**Members Present:** Mayor Lucas, Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas.

**Members Absent:** Councilor Doward

**Staff Attending:** Jamie Dobosenski, Deputy Clerk; Chad Schmidt, Utilities/Maintenance; Isaac Gran, Fire Chief; Rob Tschida, Building Inspector.

**Staff Absent:** Kathryn Lake, City Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer

**Others attending:** Laura Simi, Marcia Sarvela, Kevin Peura, Eric Senarighi, Mark Peters, John Peura

Mayor Lucas called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Moment of Silence in Honor of 9/11

Mark Peters and Eric Senarighi representing a group that are working with the Ma & Pa Kettle Days Committee to get the original Mud bog started again. They are allowed to stir the original pit, but not allowed to add or subtract any fill from it. They are checking in with the city to make sure they are okay with it as some of the property needed to do the event belongs to the city. City Council has no issue with the Mud Bog being there and would like it added to the agenda for October's meeting to discuss further.

Motion to Accept consent agenda made by Councilor Mascarenas and seconded by Councilor Kohmetscher. Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, Mayor Lucas. Motion carries to approve the following consent agenda items:

- Minutes of the August 8, 2023 , regular council meeting, with the correction of adding the property ID number: 19-140-0030 to the rezoning of the campground, the budget workshop was not a special meeting, remove Kevin from attendance.
- Claims (6792-6816=\$11,148.93)
- Cash control statement, receipts, disbursement registers and bank statement.

CITY OF KETTLE RIVER  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
September 12, 2023

**Administration Department** report submitted by Jamie Dobosenski, Deputy Clerk:

- Regular daily, weekly, monthly work.
- Kathy will be finalizing the Conditional Use Permit for the campground; another workshop will need to be scheduled.
- Jamie is working on the ordinances for snowmobile and ATV use within the city limits.

**Utilities Department**

- Water pumped during August 200,000 gallons
- The chickens at Ms. Doward's are still running loose and there are now skunks eating from the chickens feeding dishes. Daily fines have been being assessed to the property owner and letters have been sent.
- There is a paddle boat tied to the dock in the river that needs to be removed before the dock can be removed.
- Ponds will be discharged
- Rural Water will be coming to check filters
- The brush pile burn should be held off until there is snow on the ground because of the size of the pile.

**Fire and First Responder Department:**

- 4 calls in August and September; 2 were medical, 1 mutual aid false alarm, 1 in town false alarm.
- Packs tested good
- New turnout gear was ordered for a current fire fighter and more will need to be ordered for new fire fighter. Anything over budget will be covered by the relief association.
- New radio equipment is needed.

**Personnel Committee:**

**Planning and Zoning Commission:**

- Owners of the campground are working on getting plans drawn, they are going to check in with the commercial inspector and contact a surveyor to figure out setbacks.

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CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
September 12, 2023

**Building Inspector:**

- 1 building application for the LaBelle Property
- Sent a letter to Browns about clean-up of their property.

**City Council:**

- Bob Kohmetscher is willing to help with plowing this winter.
- The city should look into automated meter readers and funding available for upgrades.

**Old Business:**

- Motion to accept Advanced Utility Solutions, LLC to take over water/sewer operations starting October 1, 2023, made by Councilor Kohmetscher and seconded by Councilor Mascarenas. Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, Mayor Lucas. Nays: O. Motion carries.
- Motion to accept McGuire Iron, Inc. for the water tower cleaning and inspection made by Councilor Kohmetscher and seconded by Councilor Mascarenas. Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, Mayor Lucas. Nays: O. Motion carries.

**New Business:**

- Motion to approve the re-zoning of the LaBelle property ID number: 19-140-0052 from commercial to residential made by Councilor Collier and seconded by Councilor Kohmetscher. Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, Mayor Lucas. Nays: O. Motion carries.
- Quotes for Lawn Care: Tabled
- Quotes for Electrical work: Tabled
- Motion to accept purposed budget made by Councilor Kohmetscher and seconded by Councilor Mascarenas. Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, Mayor Lucas. Nays: O. Motion carries.
- Motion to accept \$94,220 Tax Levy made by Councilor Mascarenas and seconded by Councilor Collier. Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, Mayor Lucas. Nays: O. Motion carries.
- Motion to accept total proposed Sewer Budget \$43,298.75 made by Councilor Kohmetscher and seconded by Councilor Collier. Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, Mayor Lucas. Nays: O. Motion carries.
- Motion to approve water rate increase by 11% starting January 1, 2024, and proposed Water Budget of \$92,000 made by Councilor Collier and seconded by

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CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
September 12, 2023

Councilor Mascarenas. Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, Mayor Lucas. Nays: 0. Motion carries. Consumption and Sewer rates will stay the same. Debt Service will go from \$26.25 to \$29.14, WHP will go from \$.75 to \$.83, Testing will go from \$.90 to \$1.00.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Councilor Mascarenas and seconded by Councilor Kohmetscher. Ayes: Councilor Collier, Councilor Kohmetscher, Councilor Mascarenas, Mayor Lucas. Nays: 0. Motion carries.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

The next regular city council meeting will be held on October 10, 2023, at 7 pm. in the meeting room of City Hall.

Submitted by,  
Jamie Dobosenski  
Account Clerk