

COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDING OF THE CITY OF LADYSMITH

Monday, July 24th, 2023

5:15PM

Ladysmith Council Chambers

Members Present: Mayor Grotzinger, Nathan Johnson, Gordon Pedersen, Al Christianson, Dr. Steve Weiss, Allen Hraban, John Hoover. Absent: Richard Ostenso.

Others Present: Terry Carter, D. Parker, S. Nelson, A. Kenyon, Luke Klink, A. Christianson, John Pohlman II, K. Gibbs, Greg Wagner, Ray Carlson, John Smatlak.

Call to order. Mayor Grotzinger called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Roll Call. Deputy Clerk Nelson took roll call and a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mr. Johnson.

Minutes and Agenda. Motion by A. Hraban to approve July 10th, 2023 council minutes and this evening's agenda. Seconded by N. Johnson. Motion passed by voice vote. 6-yes, 0-no.

Introduction of Guests, Public Hearings, Comments.

Greg Wagner extended a thank you to the City for paving Flambeau Ave. Mr. Wagner wanted information regarding the future committee for the Landmarks and Historic Preservation. Mayor Grotzinger reported that the committee will consist of five (5) members. The final committee members have not been determined or approved by the council at this time. Mayor Grotzinger reported that the guidelines for this committee are laid out in Ordinance 2023-02 Landmarks and Historic Preservation. Admn Christianson stated that he would make a copy available to Mr. Wagner. Atty Kenyon reported that the State Historical Society does offer a training class for members of the commission.

John Smatlak addressed the council regarding ordinances not being enforced. Mayor Grotzinger encouraged Mr. Smatlak to attend a Police & Fire Commission meeting to address his concerns directly. Mr. Smatlak inquired about the break schedule for the Public Works employees.

Resolution 2023-19: Motion by A. Christianson to adopt Resolution 2023-19 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of up to \$107,275 Sewer System and Water System Revenue Bonds, Series 2023A and Providing for Other Details and Covenants with

Respect Thereto, seconded by A. Hraban. Motion passed by roll call vote. 6-yes 0-no, N. Johnson-yes, G. Pedersen-yes, A. Christianson-yes, S. Weiss-yes, A. Hraban-yes, J. Hoover-yes, R. Ostenso-absent.

District One, Ostenso.

Approval to fill vacancy in Public Works due to a resignation. D. Parker reported the Personnel Committee puts together an eligibility list as needed, when a position becomes available, they hire the next candidate in line from the list. If an offer of a position is declined, they simply make the offer to the next candidate on the eligibility list. Motion by A. Hraban for approval to fill vacancy in Public Works due to resignation, seconded by S. Weiss. Motion passed with voice vote. 6-yes, 0-no.

District Two, Johnson.

Per recommendation from the Park Board, approve turning over Corbett Lake Folders 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 and 10 to City Hall Staff for archiving. Ray Carlson reported that many of these folders are still active; with folders one through four (1-4) being information folders only. Admn Christianson stated by having them available at City Hall, the appropriate people would always have access to the information and it could easily be requested. N. Johnson stated the files would not be closed. Motion by A. Christianson to approve turning over Corbett Lake Folders 1,2,3,4,6,7,8 and 10 to City Hall Staff for archiving, seconded by A. Hraban. Motion passed with voice vote. 6-yes, 0-no.

District Three, Pedersen. Mr Pedersen reported that there will be a Cemetery Board meeting on July 25th, 2023 at 2pm.

District Four, Christianson. Mr. Christianson reported that following tonight's council meeting there will be a Community Development meeting.

Mr. Christianson also wanted to commend everyone involved in putting on The Northland Mardi Gras over the past weekend. He specifically acknowledged Mr. Johnson, as he represents one of a handful of people that put in a great deal of effort into the event. Many people deserve a thank you for their contributions, regardless of how small. Mr. Christianson also wanted them to reflect on what they accomplished, what worked well and what could be improved to make The Northland Mardi Gras better in the future.

District Five, Weiss. Dr. Weiss reported on the upcoming Legal Affairs meeting. Dr. Weiss also acknowledged Mr. Johnson's effort over the weekend when he was down enjoying the event.

District Six, Hraban. Nothing to report.

District Seven, Hoover.

Review Railroad Display List of Projects Accomplished and List of To Do Items in 2023: Ray Carlson provided a list of To Do items for 2023 and also included what has been accomplished so far this year.

John Pohlman II stated that he hoped to see more advertising for the display in the future. Admn Christianson recommended that Mr Pohlman II possibly attend the Community Development meeting, where they would be discussing possible future area marketing material.

Police and Fire Report. Chief Gibbs reported that the pancake breakfast that was held on Saturday served about 750 people. The water fights also had a large turnout. The funds collected during these events goes to the purchase of new equipment and other purchases. Chief Gibbs also reported on a fatal structure fire that occurred early Sunday morning in the Town of Dewey.

J. Pohlman II commented regarding an incident earlier in the day, acknowledging that it was coordinated by all emergency services very well, with a positive outcome.

Admn Christianson thanked the Fire Department for holding events this weekend that brought people out and also for the fireworks show; the Police Department for patrolling the park and responding to incidents when needed along with the Sheriff's Department. Lastly he thanks the EMS Service for everything that they do, as it takes all of the emergency service crews to help make the event possible. Chief Gibbs thanked Admn Christianson and stated he would relay the thank you to all members.

Public Works Report.

Approval to purchase a 2014 Ford F-250 from Flambeau Auto for \$13,500. Motion by A. Christianson to approve purchase of 2014 Ford F-250 from Flambeau Auto for \$13,500, seconded by A. Hraban. Motion passed by roll call vote.6-yes, 0-no. S. Weiss-yes, A. Hraban-yes, J. Hoover-yes, R. Ostenso-absent, N. Johnson-yes, G. Pedersen-yes, A. Christianson-yes.

D. Parker reported that the brush and yard waste collection is back on schedule to begin next week. Road construction continues throughout town and there could be possible road closures as they work to finish Flambeau Ave and 5th Street.

Administrator's Report. Admn Christianson wanted to thank everyone for their work in putting on the Northland Mardi Gras and the community for coming out and enjoying the event. Admn Christianson was impressed with the turnout for Friday night. It was a successful event throughout Ladysmith, with large turnouts at the farmer's market, pancake breakfast and craft show. Admn Christianson hopes that each year it will continue to grow.

Attorney's Report. Atty Kenyon reported that in this month's magazine subscriptions they discuss the number of jobs brought into the area regarding Henry Rifle.

Licenses and Permits.

Motion by N. Johnson to approve David J. Engel for a 2023-2024 Operator's License pending police department approval, seconded by A. Hraban. Motion passed by voice vote. 6-yes. 0-no.

Mayor's forum. Mayor Grotzinger wanted to thank everyone from the Northland Community Club for all their hard work to make the 2023 Northland Mardi Gras enjoyable. Mayor Grotzinger attended the event with his family and everyone had a great time. Mayor Grotzinger and family also ate the pancake breakfast Saturday morning and commented about the large turnout. Mayor Grotzinger again thanked everyone who made the event a success.

Adjourn. Motion by A. Hraban to adjourn the meeting, seconded by N. Johnson. Motion passed with voice vote. 6-yes. 0-no.

Respectfully submitted by:

Sara Nelson
Deputy Clerk