

**THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
HIBBING CITY COUNCIL  
Wednesday February 15, 2023**

**TIME AND PLACE:** A Regular meeting of the Hibbing City Council was held on Wednesday, February 15, 2023 in the City Hall Council Chamber.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Pete Hyduke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Present at roll call Mayor Pete Hyduke, Councilor James Bayliss, Councilor Justin Fosso, Councilor Jay Hildenbrand, Councilor Jennifer Hoffman Saccoman, Councilor John Schweiberger and Councilor Chris Whitney. Also present were City Administrator Greg Pruszinske, City Clerk/Deputy Administrator Candie Seppala, City Attorney Andy Borland, City Engineer Jesse Story, and Deputy Chief of Police Tyler Schwerzler. Treasurer/Finance Director Sheena Mulner and Chief of Police Steve Estey were absent.

**ADDs/DELETES:**

- **ADD: CONSENT AGENDA #7**
- **ADD: DEPARTMENT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS #2d, #2e & #3b**
- **ADD: LICENSES AND PERMITS #4**

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:**

Councilor Bayliss, supported by Councilor Fosso, moved to approve the Agenda.

Motion CARRIED

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Councilor Fosso, supported by Councilor Schweiberger, moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Hibbing City Council Meeting of February 1, 2023.

Motion CARRIED

Councilor Whitney, supported by Councilor Hildenbrand, moved to approve the minutes of the Hibbing City Council Workshop Meeting of February 1, 2023.

Motion CARRIED

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Councilor Hoffman Saccoman, supported by Councilor Fosso, moved to approve the Consent Agenda #s 1-7.

## Motion CARRIED

1. Approve Accounts Payable dated:
  - 02/07/2023, check #174032, in the amount of \$50,000.00
  - 02/10/2023, checks #174033-174127, in the amount of \$935,614.71
2. Approve City Payroll for the pay period ending:
  - 01/27/2023, checks #168665-168671, in the amount of \$533,242.82
3. Accept the Hibbing Police Department activity report for January, 2023
4. Authorize the posting for a full-time Equipment Operator II in the Public Works Department
5. Set the next Regular City Council Meeting for Wednesday, March 1, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in the Hibbing City Hall Council Chamber
6. Set the next City Council Workshop Meeting for Wednesday, March 1, 2023 following the Regular City Council Meeting in the Hibbing City Hall Council Chamber
7. Authorize the Hibbing City Council to attend a Public Meeting Listening Session regarding the Facilities Assessment by ICS on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 in the Hibbing City Hall Council Chamber at 7:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC FORUM:****DEPARTMENT AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:****Offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-03 TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT COMMERCIAL REDEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDING FROM THE IRRR TO ALLOW FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE FIRE-DESTROYED PROPERTY AT 1831 3<sup>RD</sup> AVE EAST, HIBBING**

Community Development Director Betsy Olivanti explained that this grant will help by filling the gap of demolition costs not covered fully by the business's insurance.

Councilor Bayliss, supported by Councilor Hoffman Saccoman, moved to offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-03 TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT COMMERCIAL REDEVELOPMENT GRANT FUNDING FROM THE IRRR TO ALLOW FOR THE DEMOLITION OF THE FIRE-DESTROYED PROPERTY AT 1831 3RD AVE EAST, HIBBING.

## Motion CARRIED

**Offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-04 PROVIDING A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE CTC MN DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BORDER TO**

**BORDER BROADBAND APPLICATION THAT WILL CONTAIN A FEW NON-CONTIGUOUS AREAS AND INCLUDE APPROXIMATELY 38 HOUSEHOLDS IN THE NORTHEAST HIBBING AREA**

Community Development Director Olivanti explained that she is looking for approval of this Resolution to provide CTC the letter of support for their grant fund with MN DEED.

Councilor Fosso, supported by Councilor Hildenbrand, moved to offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-04 PROVIDING A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE CTC MN DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BORDER TO BORDER BROADBAND APPLICATION THAT WILL CONTAIN A FEW NON-CONTIGUOUS AREAS AND INCLUDE APPROXIMATELY 38 HOUSEHOLDS IN THE NORTHEAST HIBBING AREA.

Motion CARRIED

**Authorize removing the encumbrance of funds for the Mediacom Project as they've notified Community Development that they will no longer need the financial contribution**

Community Development Director Olivanti explained that Mediacom reached out to her and indicated that they will be sending the grant funding back to MN DEED; they will no longer be using any of the grant funds to build out that project. Community Development Director Olivanti stated that Mediacom indicated that they still intend to build out that project, they just won't be utilizing any grant funding, and also do not need the funds from the City.

Councilor Whitney, supported by Councilor Hoffman Saccoman, moved to authorize removing the encumbrance of funds for the Mediacom Project as they've notified Community Development that they will no longer need the financial contribution.

Motion CARRIED

**Approve the use of funds from the General Fund 101-24210 in the amount of \$35,000 towards the CTC project**

Community Development Director Olivanti explained that she is looking for approval for the use of funds from the General Fund 101-24210 in the amount of \$35,000 towards the CTC project for the Hibbing portion of the fiber.

Councilor Hoffman Saccoman, supported by Councilor Schweiberger, moved to approve the use of funds from the General Fund 101-24210 in the amount of \$35,000 towards the CTC project.

Discussion: Mayor Hyde stated that CTC has been in the Memorial Building for a few years now and it is outstanding; he's glad to see they are expanding, and the City has an opportunity to help them. Councilor Hoffman Saccoman asked Community Development Director Olivanti if the others are going to be contributing about the same amount, or

is the amount based on the City's population; Community Development Director Olivanti stated that it is based on the number of households they are going to target.

Motion CARRIED

**Approve the proposed Development Agreement between the City of Hibbing and JT Ventures LLC**

Community Development Director Olivanti explained that she has been working on this agreement with City Attorney Andy Borland since late in 2022. Community Development Director Olivanti stated this agreement includes a reversionary clause in which the property would come back to the City if the project does not commence.

Councilor Bayliss, supported by Councilor Hoffman Saccoman, moved to approve the proposed Development Agreement between the City of Hibbing and JT Ventures LLC.

Discussion: Mayor Hyde stated for those watching the meeting, the property they are talking about is the old suburban lanes property.

Motion CARRIED

**Offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-05 AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO AND ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE IRRR MINE LAND RECLAMATION GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MINE VIEW BUILDINGS**

City Services Director Nick Arola explained that there is still a funding gap in the Mine View construction budget, and so they are going after any grant funding possible to help fill that gap.

Councilor Bayliss, supported by Councilor Whitney, moved to offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-05 AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO AND ACCEPT FUNDS FROM THE IRRR MINE LAND RECLAMATION GRANT PROGRAM FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE MINE VIEW BUILDINGS.

Motion CARRIED

**Offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-06 COMMITTING AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS TO FILL THE FUNDING GAP FOR THE MINE VIEW PROJECT**

City Services Director Arola explained that they still plan to go after other outside funding; the American Rescue Plan funds will make the project fully funded, so that the Bonding Agents will release the 1.3M State Bonding funds.

Councilor Schweiberger, supported by Councilor Fosso, moved to offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-06 COMMITTING AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDS TO FILL THE FUNDING GAP FOR THE MINE VIEW PROJECT.

Discussion: Mayor Hydeke stated he wanted to clarify what City Services Director Arola said, that he wants to start moving forward to stay on schedule and any other funding that comes in will release the American Rescue Plan funds back to the City; City Services Director Arola stated yes, the goal is to use as few of the American Rescue Plan dollars as possible by continuing to look for outside funding.

Motion CARRIED

**Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contract with Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc. (SEH) for the pickleball court design**

City Services Director Arola explained that this was discussed at the last workshop and he is looking for Council approval to execute the contract for \$26,000; the funds are available from the funds raised by the fundraising group.

Councilor Hoffman Saccoman, supported by Councilor Fosso, moved to authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to execute the contract with Short Elliot Hendrickson, Inc. (SEH) for the pickleball court design.

Discussion: Mayor Hydeke asked City Services Director Arola what the time frame is they are looking at; City Services Director Arola stated they hope to have design completed this spring, go out for bids in May and award the bid in early June.

Motion CARRIED

**Offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-08 AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION PROCESS AND ACCEPT MONEY FROM THE IRRR GRANT WRITING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

City Services Director Arola explained that the MN DNR Outdoor Recreation grant process has been revamped and is much more thorough; he feels getting some outside help on the grant application would go a long way.

Councilor Whitney, supported by Councilor Bayliss, moved to offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-08 AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION PROCESS AND ACCEPT MONEY FROM THE IRRR GRANT WRITING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM.

Discussion: Councilor Hoffman Saccoman stated that this IRRR program is available on an annual basis, and she feels this might be something the City wants to do from here on out.

Motion CARRIED

**Authorize the agreement between the City of Hibbing and Community Coaching, Inc. for grant writing services with the application for the MN DNR Outdoor Recreation grant for the Carey Lake Campground project**

City Services Director Arola explained that he is looking for Council approval to execute this agreement to get assistance with the MN DNR Outdoor Recreation grant application.

Councilor Hoffman Saccoman, supported by Councilor Fosso, moved to authorize the agreement between the City of Hibbing and Community Coaching, Inc. for grant writing services with the application for the MN DNR Outdoor Recreation grant for the Carey Lake Campground project.

Motion CARRIED

**Offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-07 APPROVING CHARITABLE GAMBLING AUTHORIZATION TO CLIMB THEATRE AT LA TEQUILA, 2520 EAST BELTLINE, HIBBING, MINNESOTA**

City Clerk/Deputy Administrator Candie Seppala explained that there is a process they go through every year, and they have fulfilled their portion of the legal side of it; she is looking for Council approval so she can get the documents to the State.

Councilor Bayliss, supported by Councilor Hildenbrand, moved to offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-07 APPROVING CHARITABLE GAMBLING AUTHORIZATION TO CLIMB THEATRE AT LA TEQUILA, 2520 EAST BELTLINE, HIBBING, MINNESOTA.

Discussion: Councilor Whitney asked City Clerk/Deputy Administrator Seppala who is this is; City Clerk/Deputy Administrator Seppala explained it is a American-Mexican restaurant located where the old Country Kitchen used to be.

Motion CARRIED

**Offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-09 ACCEPTING A DONATION FROM THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS FOR THE HIBBING PUBLIC LIBRARY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$120**

City Clerk/Deputy Administrator Seppala explained that the General Federation of Women's Clubs chooses a charity every year, and this year they chose the Hibbing Public Library

Councilor Bayliss, supported by Councilor Schweiberger, moved to offer RESOLUTION NO. 23-02-09 ACCEPTING A DONATION FROM THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS FOR THE HIBBING PUBLIC LIBRARY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$120.

Motion CARRIED

Discussion: City Clerk/Deputy Administrator Seppala stated that the Library will be sending a thank you card.

**Authorizing the City Administrator to submit to St. Louis County, our 120-day written notice of our intent to terminate the City Office Space And Support Agreement**

City Administrator Greg Pruszinske explained that this agreement has been in place for about 10 years and will good through June 30, 2023; they are working on renewing that space and support agreement.

Councilor Hoffman Saccoman, supported by Councilor Bayliss, moved to authorizing the City Administrator to submit to St. Louis County, our 120-day written notice of our intent to terminate the City Office Space And Support Agreement.

Motion CARRIED

Discussion: Mayor Hyduke stated that this agreement needs to be cancelled before a new one can be constructed; City Administrator Pruszinske stated yes, that is correct.

### **City Administrator's Report**

City Administrator Pruszinske wanted to let the residents know that himself, along with Mayor Hyduke and Community Development Director Olivanti attended St. Louis County Day at the State Capital last week. City Administrator Pruszinske and Mayor Hyduke spoke briefly about their time at the Capital.

### **BIDS AND QUOTES:**

#### **Approve the price increase to the Sanitation Truck Purchase from May, 2021 to Mid-State Truck Service, Inc. in the amount of \$7,048.02**

City Engineer Jesse Story explained that this truck is ready for delivery, he received the invoice with the price increase. City Engineer Story stated that Sam Powers with Mid-State Truck Service is present to explain the reasons for the price increase. Mr. Powers gave a detailed explanation for the price increase; there was some discussion between Councilors, Staff and Mr. Powers.

Councilor Schweiberger, supported by Councilor Bayliss, moved to approve the price increase to the Sanitation Truck Purchase from May, 2021 to Mid-State Truck Service, Inc. in the amount of \$7,048.02.

Motion CARRIED

#### **Approve the quote from L&L Rentals for a Grapple Bucket for the ASV in the amount of \$5,500**

City Engineer Story explained that this will be used at the Recycle Center and blight properties; he is looking for Council approval.

Councilor Fosso, supported by Councilor Whitney, moved to approve the quote from L&L Rentals for a Grapple Bucket for the ASV in the amount of \$5,500.

Motion CARRIED

**Approve the quote from Ziegler, Inc. for a D.P.F. (Diesel Particulate Filter) for the Vactor Truck in the Waste Collection Systems Department in the amount of \$8,281.35**

City Engineer Story explained that they have cleaned the filter multiple times, and now the engine goes in to shut down mode; this is not a budgeted item, but there is money in the repair and maintenance for this department.

Councilor Schweiberger, supported by Councilor Hildenbrand, moved to approve the quote from Ziegler, Inc. for a D.P.F. (Diesel Particulate Filter) for the Vactor Truck in the Waste Collection Systems Department in the amount of \$8,281.35.

Motion CARRIED

**Approve the purchase and installation of a replacement controller for the existing AHU1 at the Hibbing Public Library from Pro Control Technologies in the amount of \$3,242.11**

City Clerk/Deputy Administrator Seppala explained that the controller went out unexpectedly, and it couldn't wait, so it was ordered a couple of weeks ago, she is looking for Council approval.

Councilor Bayliss, supported by Councilor Fosso, moved to approve the purchase and installation of a replacement controller for the existing AHU1 at the Hibbing Public Library from Pro Control Technologies in the amount of \$3,242.11.

Discussion: City Clerk/Deputy Administrator Seppala wanted to let the Council know that the Hush Booth that they approved for the Library has been installed if they want to go check it out.

Motion CARRIED

**BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:**

**Housing & Redevelopment Authority**

- One vacancy completing a 5-year term ending 12/31/2027 for a Hibbing resident

**Applicants**

- **Tina Swader**

Councilor Hoffman Saccoman, supported by Councilor Bayliss, moved to nominate Tina Swader to one vacancy completing a 5-year term ending December 31, 2027.



Motion CARRIED

**Planning and Zoning Commission**

- One vacancy completing a 3-year term ending 12/31/2024 for a Hibbing resident
- One vacancy completing a 3-year term ending 12/31/2025 for a Hibbing resident
- One vacancy completing a 3-year term ending 12/31/2025 for a Hibbing resident

**Applicants**

- **Demetre Karahalios**
- **John Petrangelo**
- **George Pogachnik**

Councilor Schweiberger, supported by Councilor Bayliss, moved to nominate Demetre Karahalios to one vacancy completing a 3-year term ending December 31, 2024.

Motion CARRIED

Councilor Bayliss, supported by Councilor Hoffman Saccoman, moved to nominate John Petrangelo to one vacancy completing a 3-year term ending December 31, 2025.

Motion CARRIED

Councilor Bayliss, supported by Councilor Hildebrand, moved to nominate George Pogachnik to one vacancy completing a 3-year term ending December 31, 2025.

Discussion: Councilor Whitney wished to thank all the those that applied for wanting to step up and help out.

Motion CARRIED

**LICENSES AND PERMITS:**

Councilor Fosso, supported by Councilor Schweiberger, moved to approve the Raffle Permit Application Request of the Minnesota Trappers to hold their raffle at the Hibbing Memorial Building on Wednesday, October 18, 2023.

Motion CARRIED

Councilor Hoffman Saccoman, supported by Councilor Bayliss, moved to approve the Raffle Permit Application Request of the Hibbing Softball Booster Club to hold their raffle at Cheever Field at Bennett Park on Tuesday, May 9, 2023.

Motion CARRIED

Councilor Schweiberger, supported by Councilor Fosso, moved to approve the Bingo Permit Application Request of the Red Rock Riders to host their bingo event at the Elk's Lodge on Wednesdays in March (March 8, 15, 22 & 29, 2023).

Motion CARRIED

Councilor Fosso, supported by Councilor Hoffman Saccoman, moved to approve the Special Event Permit Application Request of the Hibbing Curling Club to hold the Hibbing Last Chance Bonspiel April 12-16, 2023 at the Hibbing Curling Club and the Hibbing Memorial Building.

Motion CARRIED

Discussion: City Clerk/Deputy Administrator Seppala stated that she needed to make an Amendment to the Agenda. Discussion: City Clerk/Deputy Administrator Seppala explained Beth Pierce wished to give a short presentation to the Council and she told her to come at 6:00 p.m. Beth Pierce, Director of Iron Range Tourism Bureau gave a short presentation. There was some discussion between Councilors, Staff and Ms. Pierce after the presentation.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m. by Councilor Whitney and supported by Councilor Bayliss.

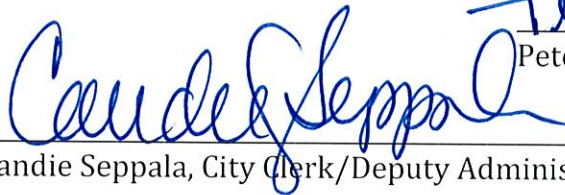
Motion CARRIED

CITY OF HIBBING



Pete Hyduke, Mayor

ATTEST:



Candie Seppala, City Clerk/Deputy Administrator