



City of Medicine Lake

September 18, 2023

City of Medicine Lake Council Minutes

Present: Mayor Chris Heim; Councilors Ron Tomczik, Bill McNaughton; Treasurer Gary Englert, City Clerk Therese Polum, BCWMC Commissioner Clint Carlson, Fire Mike Fox, Public Works Superintendent Chris Klar, Planning Commissioner Jesse Swanson, BCWMC TAC Susan Wiese

Council and Staff Absent: Councilors Ruth Hovey, Connie Shaffer, BCWMC Alt TAC Shaun Kennedy

Other attendees: Jevne Park Committee Kirstin Nielsen, and other citizens to discuss Jevne Park specifically pickleball

Mayor Heim called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes and Agenda

- **Motion to approve the agenda forwarded by Councilmember McNaughton and seconded by Councilmember Tomczik. Councilmembers Heim, Tomczik, McNaughton in favor. Councilmembers Hovey and Shaffer absent. Motion passed.**
- **Motion to approve the August 7, 2023 city council minutes forwarded by Councilmember McNaughton and seconded by Councilmember Tomczik. Councilmembers Heim, Tomczik, McNaughton in favor. Councilmembers Hovey and Shaffer absent. Motion passed.**

Hennepin County Sheriff – Sergeant Nelson

- Reported 7 contacts for July
- Disturbance in July (attempted auto theft, no weapons involved)
 - Resident was moving boxes in/out of his car, middle of the day, people playing pickleball (very near the car theft home), and someone tried to steal his car.
 - The Sheriff sees this in Golden Valley and Plymouth, people casing vehicles and taking items from the vehicle, mostly from unlocked vehicles.
 - Sheriff recommends city post on social media for citizens to be aware of these events and that they are occurring.
 - Sheriff recommends citizens also post crime on social media.
 - Sheriff recommends keeping vehicles locked, homes locked, garages locked.
 - Sheriff says video from personal property is valuable and Sheriff welcomes the use of private video footage from doorbell cameras etc...
 - Sheriff reported if city does surveillance, government processes/procedures need to be followed
 - Sheriff reported auto thefts are often crimes of opportunity, however a specific type of vehicle matters.
 - Sheriff reported the County is seeing crime with weapons in the surrounding communities.
 - Sheriff will try to get the speed limit signs out again this fall.
- Average 13 hours per week (contract is 4 hours per week)

Open Forum

- Les Young reported on city insurance policy

I move that the city of Medicine Lake does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minn. Stat. 466.04 forwarded by Councilmember McNaughton and seconded by Councilmember Tomczik. Councilmembers Heim, Tomczik, McNaughton in favor. Councilmembers Hovey and Shaffer absent. Motion passed.

- Jevne Park: Kirstin Nielsen
 - Reported planning to ask for work at the next meeting
 - Reported fundraising is on track to meet the match
 - Reported design work is next
 - Select playground equipment is coming
 - Mitigation design plan and construction (SEH): will discuss next month moving forward on the mitigation construction this fall
 - Mayor asked that all final details be prepared ahead of the next meeting for review.
- Pickleball in regards to Jevne Park: Several citizens offered their views with regards to pickleball as follows. Open forum speakers included Justin Kirven, Nancy Pauly, Nina Perdue, and others
 - Community events were discussed as a community building activity for all.
 - Potential concerns with property values was presented.
 - Concerns with regards to noise was presented with regards to decibel readings.
 - Hopeful for mitigation efforts to offset the sound.
 - Two courts would be wonderful.
 - Pickleball noise is a coast-to-coast issue that if googled research shows this as a national topic
 - City of Plymouth has 4 outdoor courts, in their large parks.
 - Maple Grove recently opened an indoor pickleball complex.
 - This is a complex issue and hard for objectors to feel comfortable presenting on this topic.
 - Mayor Heim offered his questions during a citizen's presentation.
 - Mayor Heim was asked if other people have submitted comments with regards to noise
 - Mayor Heim stated he is focusing on the conversation with the people in the room
 - Nina mentioned that she understands the noise factor and would like to keep pickleball and find ways to mitigate the noise issues.
 - Les Young reported that others have submitted that they are disturbed by the pickleball noise.
 - Mayor Heim stated this is not a decision-making meeting.
 - Mayor Heim would like the community to develop a comprehensive plan with a proposal to the council.
 - Where would funds come from to mitigate the sound?
 - Could it be added to the scope of the park project. Mayor is hopeful for this.
 - Councilmember Tomczik reported citizens are concerned with increased traffic and speeds.
 - Discussion that the improved park is low budget compared to other parks and maybe won't be a big draw.
 - Councilmember McNaughton has heard from others with regards to future park use and increased traffic.
 - Jesse reported volleyball is used by outside residents and those volleyball players speed on the road.

- Donations to the park, for tax purposes, have to be for a public purpose.
- Mayor Heim asked the community to discuss the issues and develop a response to present to council at the October meeting.
- Mayor Heim may share a list of suggestions he has; however ultimately Mayor Heim asked our citizens to discuss today's concerns, offer suggestions and develop a response for council.
- The group asked who, how, when this decision will be made:
 - Mayor Heim stated he would like the citizens to develop an agreed proposal; if that does not happen then the city will need to take next steps, potentially steps to create an ordinance.
- Mayor closed the topic at 7:06pm.

Fire Department Report – Rich Halvorsen

- Reported three calls (one medical, two water mutual aid)
- Reported on a donation of a fire suppression tool
- Reported on pizza delivery fundraiser (94 orders) for the relief association
 - Mayor stated the overall funding is for the future vehicle
 - Mayor would like to see the donations to be directed to the vehicle fund
 - General fund should also be an option
- Training 'Live' with Osseo high school students September 19, 2023.

Public Works Superintendent Report – Chris Klar

- Reported Jevne Park will be closed about November 1
- Reported on mitigation plan from lift station project
 - Mitigation is part of the road project funds
- Reported street sweeping in early October

Bassett Creek Watershed Management Commission Report – Clint Carlson

- Reported on the approved regular budget
- Reported the CIP goes to the commission this month
- Reported on the 10-year plan is ongoing
 - Shaun Kennedy is representing city

Planning Commission Report – Jesse Swanson

- No report

Treasurer's Report – Gary Englert

- Receipts in reporting period: \$42,284
- Receipts year to date: \$464,416
- Disbursements in reporting period: \$61,099
- Disbursements year to date: \$497,008
- Capital Project Reserve Balance: \$871,965
- Debt Service Reserve Balance: \$24,305
- FD donation from Plymouth Lions Club
- Donations to the Jevne Park project
- 2024 preliminary budget and Levy
 - Discussion continued on the preliminary budget
 - Councilmember Tomczik expressed that he needs to be a part of the conversation leading up to the preliminary budget

- Councilmember Tomczik and Mayor Heim have disagreements about the preparation of the preliminary budget
- Councilmember Tomczik stated he did spend time reviewing the budget

Motion to approve the summary spending, receipts and cash balances through August 31, 2023 forwarded by Councilmember Tomczik and seconded by Councilmember McNaughton. Councilmembers Tomczik, Heim, McNaughton in favor. Councilmembers Hovey and Shaffer absent. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Resolution 23-19 a resolution accepting a monetary gift of \$84,350 from the attached list to benefit the city of Medicine Lake Parks Department for Jevne Park forwarded by Councilmember McNaughton and seconded by Councilmember Tomczik. Councilmembers Tomczik, Heim, McNaughton in favor. Councilmembers Hovey and Shaffer absent. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Resolution 23-20 a resolution accepting a monetary gift of \$2,000 from the Plymouth Lions Club for the fire department forwarded by Councilmember McNaughton and seconded by Councilmember Tomczik. Councilmembers Tomczik, Heim, McNaughton in favor. Councilmembers Hovey and Shaffer absent. Motion carried.

Motion to approve the preliminary budget in the amount of \$631,054 for 2024 forwarded by Councilmember McNaughton and seconded by Councilmember Tomczik. Councilmembers Tomczik, Heim, McNaughton in favor. Councilmembers Hovey and Shaffer absent. Motion carried.

Motion to approve Resolution 23-21 a Resolution Adopting Preliminary Tax Levy for Taxes Payable in 2024 with a general levy of \$581,354.87; bonded indebtedness of \$49,699.13 and total levy of \$631,054.00 forwarded by Councilmember McNaughton and seconded by Councilmember Tomczik. Councilmembers Tomczik, Heim, McNaughton in favor. Councilmembers Hovey and Shaffer absent. Motion carried.

Total donations for the year 2023 is \$147,182.83 for the Jevne Park Project. \$16,600 remaining from previous year's donations. \$163,782.83 total for all years donations to the park project.

Officer Reports:

Councilmember Hovey

- Absent

Councilmember Tomczik

- Reported he had a meeting with others regarding wake boats
- Reported on water quality

Councilmember Shaffer

- Absent (however the City Hall painting was in progress today)

Councilmember McNaughton

- Reported on the no solicitation signs and if they are enforceable
- Reported on the city entrance signs

- Consider creating new signs for the technical entrance to the city in each direction
- Reported on Natural Resource Committee progress
- Reported on Wake Surf working group started (Three Rivers, City of Plymouth, and Rep Klevorn stated she would like to be involved).
 - Group agreed to meet monthly
- Reported on CIP committee meeting regarding developing cost estimates for citizens to hook-up to future city water
- EAB: grant funds hopeful in the near future to be used to mark city trees the City
 - Davey Tree company provided a low bid
 - Include assessment and map of infected trees on private property

Mayor Heim

- Reported JPA is signed
- Reported on the lake levels report from BCWMC
- Reported on cannabis and opioid topics
- Reported on the Highway 55 project
 - Lots of construction for the next two years in this area

New Business

- Laker publishing discussion (\$3,000 per year plus volunteer hours)
 - Discuss moving this all to electronic form

Motion to adjourn forwarded by Councilmember Tomczik and seconded by Councilmember McNaughton. Councilmembers Tomczik, Heim, McNaughton in favor. Councilmembers Hovey and Shaffer absent. Motion carried at 8:31pm

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Polum
City Clerk

Approved on: **October 2, 2023**