

**MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF EAST GULL LAKE, COUNTY OF CASS, STATE OF MINNESOTA
REGULAR SESSION
August 4, 2020
6:30 PM**

Mayor Kavanaugh called the August 4, 2020 regular Council meeting to order at 6:30 PM. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Kavanaugh, Councilors Bergin, Ruttger, Demgen and Hoffmann, City Administrator Mason, Planning Commission Chair Bruce Buxton, Administrative Assistant Schack

Absent: None

Audience: Attorney Tom Pearson, Jerry Stromberg

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

4a. Additions: 8b. Letter regarding speed on Green Gables Road

Councilor Bergin moved and Councilor Ruttger seconded the motion to approve the agenda as presented. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Demgen moved and Councilor Bergin seconded the motion to approve the following Consent Agenda items. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

5a. July 7, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes

5b. Financial Report

- ◆ June, 2020 bank statement information:
 - Checking Account:
 - Total Additions: \$371,310.88
 - Total Subtractions: \$314,554.91
 - Ending Balance: \$162,694.94
 - Interest Earned to date: \$6.84
 - Money Market Account:
 - Interest Earned: \$65.31
 - Ending Balance: \$503,843.37
 - Interest Earned to date: \$1,465.61
- ◆ Approve July, 2020 Check Register
 - Claims 20719 to 20745 for total amount of \$86,658.55
- ◆ Approve July, 2020 Payroll Checks and EFT Transmittal payments
 - EFT Payroll: \$17,599.39; EFT Transmittals: \$15,040.33
- ◆ Monthly Budget Report, Delinquent WW Customers Report, Financial Statement

OPEN FORUM**

None

PLANNING & ZONING

7a. Public Hearing Report

Chair Buxton addressed the Council regarding the Planning Commission meeting and public hearing concerning helipads within city limits. He noted the Council was in attendance. He asked the Council if they have any questions for him. Administrator Mason noted the work session on August 24 and the next Planning Commission meeting on August 25 should be at Cragun's Legacy Clubhouse. It was also

noted that both sides would like to submit findings. Attorney Pearson stated that they could submit them and they will be in writing by early next week and readied for the commission. It was noted that the Comprehensive Plan needs to be considered but should only be used as a guideline. Mayor Kavanaugh noted that he feels there are some areas in East Gull Lake that a helicopter can land and it would not be spot zoning. The 1000 feet from lake shorelines was discussed.

WASTEWATER & ROAD REPORT

8a. Calls to references from the engineering companies are being made and interview meetings are in the process of being scheduled. Administrator Mason noted references the engineering companies included in their RFPs are being contacted by Joel and him.

8b. Traffic increase on Green Gables Road

Gary Scheeler sent a letter stating the issues with speed and increased traffic. Administrator Mason read the letter and noted he responded. He also noted he called the County asking if they would send more sheriffs to monitor the area. Discussion ensued regarding electronic speed signs.

PUBLIC SAFETY

No Report

PARK & TRAILS

10a. Committee Budget Recommendation for 2021 – \$28,000

Discussion ensued regarding trail maintenance, noting the need for the budget amount to cover maintenance and new construction.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

11a. Personnel Committee met to discuss the 2021 employee budget

Councilor Hoffmann noted that the committee has a recommendation of .75% increase. It was noted that insurance may increase next year by 10% – 12%.

BUDGET COMMITTEE

No Report

MAYOR'S REPORT

No Report

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

14a. Resolution 08:01-20 – Brainerd Chapter of MN Deer Hunters Raffle September 11, 2020

Councilor Ruttger moved and Councilor Bergin seconded, the motion to adopt Resolution 08: 01-20 – a raffle to be held by the Brainerd Chapter of MN Deer Hunters at Cragun's Legacy on September 11, 2020; absent: none. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried by 5/5 roll call vote.

14b. Ruth Lake Issue Update

Administrator Mason read a letter from Marissa Mills attorney regarding the issues that may come up and the directives that all matters must be contracted through the City including ongoing maintenance, responsibility, and liability. Mayor Kavanaugh stated the City would be held responsible for all aspects and he noted that is not what the city intended. Councilor Ruttger noted that the ditch would not need much if any maintenance as it is just gravity. It was noted that the agreement with Ms. Mills causes the burden of maintenance on the City including allowing only city employees on the property. Attorney Pearson noted that the next step would be to prepare an agreement between the City and the Association that would allow the city to meet the requirements set out in the response from Ms. Mills

attorney and be able to be transfer those requirements through an agreement between the city and the association. Mayor Kavanaugh stated he wants to make sure this is the solution that will work and discussion was held around various options. It was noted that the residents need to create a formal entity to be able to have an agreement between them and the City. Councilor Ruttger stated that, as a representative of the association, he would work with the City Attorney to establish an association that would meet requirements that would help protect the City from liability. Mayor Kavanaugh agreed that if the City were to go forward [with the terms Ms. Mills attorney is requesting] that would have to be the case. He also noted that the City should not be held responsible for any liability should the project be completed or terminated.

14c. GCOLA – Lake Steward Program

Administrator Mason read the information provided by Dorothy Whitmer regarding the Lake Steward program to improve water quality and increase awareness of lake-friendly practices. It was noted the program would ask for the City to purchase the signs: 60 signs for a \$3600 donation. The council discussed the program and expressed support for the concept of a Lake Steward Program including helping the awareness by marketing it on the City website and free space in the City Newsletter. Discussion on whether it was appropriate for the City to use taxpayer funding for a program that may only benefit a few East Gull Lake residents directly. The Consensus of the council was that GCOLA should be the entity to purchase the signs. It was decided to decline donating to the program.

14c. Sylvan Lake Invasive Species Washing Station

A presentation was given at the last Council meeting. Administrator Mason has contacted other communities and officials regarding results and costs. Based on concerns about liability and costs involved and that Cass County was not interested, it was decided that the City is not interested in sponsoring the program at this time.

OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS

None

NEXT REGULAR SESSIONS OF CITY COUNCIL/OTHER MEETINGS

Wastewater and Roads Committee MeetingWednesday, August 12, 2020 at 3:00pm
Wastewater and Roads Committee MeetingThursday, August 13, 2020 at 3:00pm
Planning Commission Work Session..... Monday, August 24, 2020 at 6:30pm
Planning Commission and Special Council Meeting Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 6:30pm
Budget Committee MeetingWednesday, August 26, 2020 at 3:00pm
City Council Meeting.....Tuesday, September 01, 2020 at 6:30pm

Councilor Ruttger moved and Councilor Bergin seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting. All present voted in favor thereof. Motion carried.

Transcribed by East Gull Lake Administrative Assistant
Kathy Schack

These minutes are paraphrased and are not written word for word.

***CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS** are considered to be routine and noncontroversial by the Council and will be approved by one motion. There will be no separate discussion for decision of these items unless a Councilmember, staff member, or citizen so requests due to a speculative controversy, in which case the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered under the regular agenda.

****OPEN FORUM** allows the public to speak to the Council regarding issues that are not on the agenda.