

**CITY OF EAGLE LAKE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
APRIL 5, 2021**

CALL TO ORDER

- Mayor Auringer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

- Council Members present: Garrett Steinberg, Beth Rohrich, Anthony White, and Mayor Auringer.
- Staff present: City Administrator Jennifer Bromeland, Chief John Kopp, Fire Chief Dan Ruschmeyer, and Deputy Clerk Kerry Rausch.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Mike Guentzel, 60374 224th Lane, Madison Lake, stated he feels they won the appeal in that the EAW was not sufficient in the area of wildlife and global warming. He is hoping for more open mindedness from the Council and that an EIS would be more thorough, and that the City should rely on specialists in this area. He also stated the EIS would require a final design for the motorsports project and would look at traffic and artifacts. He also stated that the project scope has changed and not all items were included in the EAW. Mr. Guentzel also mentioned changes to the proposed events and hours for the motorsports park. Blue Earth County Road 27 is being redone and this was not taken into consideration in the EAW. He also stated that he believes the location for the proposed motorsports park is not good due to prevailing winds and noise. He stated the developers are talking about winter events and with no grass and tree foliage, noise will carry further. He also stated he believes Eagle Lake has construction hours and asked that the City hold the developer to these hours. He stated they are not done fighting and will pursue all options.
- Darrell Guentzel, 22083 604th Ave, Eagle Lake, stated the proposed location was not the developer's prime site and that Lime Township rejected this project due to noise. He also stated former Eagle Lake Council Member Terrell stated the cars at the Brainerd International Raceway made a "woosh" noise and Mr. Guentzel stated that 110 decibels are not a "woosh" and will be annoying. He stated he knows this location will eventually be developed and that a housing project would be less obtrusive. He stated he is not in favor of giving up peace and tranquility for a wealthy man's playground.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- Administrator Bromeland stated Council may want to pull the two resolutions in the consent agenda regarding fire department staffing for discussion.
- Council Member Rohrich moved, seconded by Council Member White, to approve the agenda. Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- Council Member White moved, seconded by Council Member Rohrich, to approve the April 5 and 26, 2021 City Council meeting minutes. Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA

- Council Member White moved, seconded by Council Member Rohrich, to approve the consent agenda.

Monthly Bills	Treasurer's Report	Police Report
Fire Report	Public Works Report	Building & Zoning Permits
Gambling Report	Resolution 2021-16 Britton to Day Time Rescue	
Resolution 2021-17 Trainor to Day Time Rescue		
- Chief Ruschmeyer explained that Chelsea Britton is currently on the reserve roster for the fire department and will not be eligible for the pension until all fire fighter training is complete. Adding her to the Day Time Rescue until said training is complete would be an added benefit to the community. Mr. Trainor will be a valuable asset to the Day Time Rescue with his training and experience. Currently there are six Day Time Rescue persons with one expected to leave soon.

- Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Shannon Sweeney with David Drown Associates, Inc (Public Finance Advisors): General Obligation Improvement Bonds – Series 2021A
 - Mr. Sweeney explained that the city’s bond rating came in at AA- which is very good for a city the size of Eagle Lake. Three bids were received with the lowest from Northland Securities. Interest rates came in lower than anticipated at 1.4406% net interest rate for a 15-year term, which will result in approximately a \$33,000 savings.
2. Brian Sarff, Engineer with Bolton and Menk: CSAH 27 (Agency Street) Reconstruction Project
 - Mr. Sarff stated that before Council are two resolutions regarding the 429-process relating to the CSAH 27 reconstruction project. In the council packet is information showing the initial assessment roll which will be sent to property owners; however, some parcels are still open ended.
 - Mr. Bob Winkler, 313 S. Agency St, stated that he spoke with the individual who conducted the special benefit analysis who explained that it is the city’s decision if they will combine parcels into one residential unit if a parcel is deemed unbuildable. This item has not been finalized and is not reflected in the assessment roll.
3. Roger Bechel, 312 S Agency Street: Concerns about Existing Sidewalk
 - Mr. Bechel stated that when the current sidewalks were installed the right of way was less that it is now. He also stated that other property owners thought the right of way was 33 feet and not the current 40 feet from the center line.
 - Mr. Sarff clarified that the right of way is different on east side of the road and that the right of way line is very definite on the west line of the plat. With this project the right of ways will be recorded. The new sidewalk will be moved closer to the road than the existing sidewalk. Mr. Sarff stated all issues have been resolved.
 - Bob Winkler stated there are three different setbacks along South Agency.
 - There will be a neighborhood meeting for this project at the City’s Public Works building on Thursday, May 6 at 6:30 p.m.
4. Dan Ruschmeyer, Eagle Lake Fire Chief, Review of Fire Department Roster
 - This was discussed under the Consent Agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Resolution Providing for the Issuance and Awarding the Sale of \$1,295,000 General Obligation Improvement Bonds, Series 2021A, Pledging for the Security Thereof Special Assessments and Levying for a Tax for the payment Thereof
 - Council Member Steinberg moved, seconded by Council Member White, to approve the resolution authorizing the issuance and awarding the sale of \$1,295,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2021A. Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
2. Resolution Providing for the Issuance and Sale of \$1,398,000 General Obligation Refunding Bond, Series 2021 B and Levying a Tax for Payment Thereof
 - Mr. Sweeney recommended the City Council consider refinancing the 2013A General Obligation Bond. The current rate is 2.25 percent and Cornerstone State Bank is offering bonds at 1.1 percent which will result in a savings of \$36,719 over the life of the bond. This would result in annual payments being reduced by approximately \$4,800. There are nine years left on the current bond and it is recommended that if refinanced that the nine-year bond life remain.
 - Council Member White moved, seconded by Council Member Rohrich, to approve the resolution authorizing the issuance and sale of \$1,398,000 General Obligation Refunding Bond. Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
 - It was noted that the closing for both bonds will be on June 1, 2021.
3. Resolution Declaring Cost to be Assessed and Ordering Preparation of Proposed Assessment
 - The preliminary assessment roll can be found in the council packet and is proposing a 4 percent interest rate. It was stated that a 3-4 percent interest rate will cover costs and that a 3 percent rate would be reasonable.
 - Council Member Steinberg moved, seconded by Council Member White, to approve Resolution 2021-20 with amending the interest rate to 3 percent. Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

4. Resolution for Hearing on Proposed Assessment
 - Bolton and Menk will prepare the assessment roll which will be provided to property owners. The public hearing will be held on June 7, 2021 in which residents will see the final assessment amounts proposed.
 - Council Member Rohrich moved, seconded by Council Member Steinberg, to approve Resolution 2021-21 a Resolution for Hearing on Proposed Assessment. Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
5. Appointment to Fill City Council Vacancy
 - Council Member Rohrich moved, seconded by Mayor Auringer, to appoint John Whittington to the City Council to fill vacancy. A roll call vote was taken with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
 - Mr. Whittington will be sworn into office at the June 7, 2021 City Council meeting.
6. Relief Association Pension Valuation
 - Administrator Bromeland explained that according to the City's auditing firm Eide Bailly, a valuation report is needed this year to ensure compliance with GASB 84. According to MN State Statutes, the City is ultimately responsible for any shortfalls in the Fire Relief Association's pension assets. This means that the related pension liability or pension assets need to be recorded on the City's financial statements. To determine the dollar amount an actuarial valuation must be done so that the auditors can use that report to complete the audit and financial reporting for year ending 2020.
 - Three actuarial service proposals were received with the lowest from VanIwaarden in the amount of \$2,200 for year ending 2020 GASB 67/68 actuarial report and \$900 for year ending 2021 for GASB 67/68.
 - Since the need for the report was not known until recently, it was not budgeted. It was proposed that this be paid for by the fire relief association although it will likely be reallocated into the City's annual pension fund contribution.
 - Mayor Auringer moved, seconded by Council Member Steinberg, to accept the proposal from VanIwaarden for actuarial services. Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
7. Capital Outlay
 - City staff requested that an assigned fund balance be included on the balance sheet for the annual audit ensuring capital outlay funds that have been set aside for capital outlay expenditures. Currently, capital outlay funds are reflected in the unassigned fund balance.
 - The proposed amount for assigned funds is \$1,414,442.93, which is a pre-audit adjustment amount.
 - Administrator Bromeland explained that City Council has the authority to determine how to spend these funds.
 - Council Member White moved, seconded by Council Member Rohrich, to authorize the assigned fund balance on the balance sheet in the amount of \$1,414,422.93 and allowing for changes from audit adjustments. Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
8. Park Board Recommendation to Review Parking Along Thomas Drive by Ballfield Area
 - Administrator Bromeland explained that the Park Board discussed the traffic congestion on Thomas Drive and safety for pedestrians in this area and is asking City Council to consider making this section of Thomas Drive a no parking area. Administrator Bromeland spoke with Al Keifer of MAYBA who voiced concerns with eliminating 15-20 parking spaces.
 - Council Member Rohrich stated with Agency Street being closed for road construction there is concern with the amount of traffic which will be routed onto Thomas Drive and that the additional traffic will increase pedestrian safety concerns.
 - Council discussion included the concern that eliminating parking along Thomas will cause more congestion on other roads and the desire to find alternatives to slow traffic, including signage, in the area of Lake Eagle Park. It was suggested that Council Members watch the traffic in this area in the evenings around 5:30-6:00 p.m.
 - Mayor Auringer asked that this issue be addressed at the June City Council meeting.
9. Court Data Service Subscriber Amendment to CJDN Subscriber Agreement
 - Chief Kopp explained the department uses this system to gain access to the BCA to run driver's license reports and gain other BCA information. He also stated that he does not believe there is a fee for this access.
 - Council Member Rohrich moved, seconded by Council Member White, to approve Resolution 2021-21. Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

10. Commence Hiring Process for Additional Part-Time Police Officer

- Chief Kopp explained the department currently has two part-time officers, one of whom most likely will be offered a full-time position with another department but would like to stay part-time with Eagle Lake. The other officer has another two other jobs. The hiring of an additional part-time officer will help alleviate overtime.
- Council discussion included the consistent turnover in part-time officers and that the starting wage for a part-time officer is low.
- Council Member Rohrich moved, seconded by Council Member Steinberg, to authorize the hiring of a part-time police officer. Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

11. Music on Parkway

- The first music event will be May 20, 2021 and will be held the third Thursday each month through August. North Third Street between the Legion and the Eagle's Nest will be blocked off. Council was asked to consider waiving the peddler's license fee for these events. Police will have extra coverage during these events.
- Council Member White moved, seconded by Council Member Rohrich, to waive peddler's license fees for vendors participating in the Music on Parkway events. Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

1. CSAH 27 (Agency St) Project Newsletter #2 – Neighborhood Meeting

- Residents have received information.

2. Upcoming Mosquito Treatment Dates

- Weather permitting treatment dates are scheduled for May 24, June 7, 14, and 21, July 6, 12, and 19, and August 2 and 16th.

3. Upcoming Spring Curbside Cleanup

- Spring Clean up will be held Saturday, May 15, 2021. Appliances put curbside will need a sticker which can be purchased at city hall.

4. Review Status of Settlement Agreement with property Owner for Damage at Lake Eagle Park

- Discussion took place at the December 7, 2020 City Council meeting about entering into a settlement agreement with a resident that allowed a guest of his to ride and AVT on City park property. At the time, it was thought that the ATV damaged park property. The City Council approved entering into an agreement with the resident that required the resident to pay \$500 in damages within three months of signing the agreement. To date, no payment has been received from the resident. City staff inspected the park land and found no permanent damage.
- Council Member Rohrich moved, seconded by Council Member White, to waive and the void the agreement and waive the fee with property owner. Motion carried with Council Members Steinberg, Rohrich, White and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

5. Recap of Meeting with Blue Earth County Wetland Officials

- Administrator Bromeland met with Blue Earth County Wetland Officials Dane Lynch and Tim Grant to review several wetland parcels in Eagle Lake and to keep an eye on as development occurs. One of the parcels identified is located near the area that the public works department is stockpiling leaves. City staff was informed that this practice must be discontinued at this location because of its proximity to a wetland. A work session may be indicated to discuss the leaf collection process and potential alternate locations, if any, to stockpile leaves and to review equipment needs.

6. 2021-2022 Forestry Corps Site Award

- Eagle Lake will share a full-time forestry corps member with Lake Crystal.

COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT

- None

CLOSED SESSION

1. Recess Regular Meeting and Adjourn into Closed Session as Permitted by MN Statutes

- a. The meeting will be closed as permitted by the attorney-client privilege (section 13D.05, subdivision 3(b)) to discuss pending litigation involving Citizens Against Motorsports Park, et al. vs. City of Eagle Lake.

- b. The meeting will be closed as permitted by section 13D.05, subdivision 3(c), to consider offers relating to the sale of 301 and 305 Parkway Avenue.
2. Resume Regular Meeting

ADJOURNMENT

- Council Member Steinberg moved, seconded by Council Member Rohrich, to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Tim Auringer, Mayor

Kerry Rausch, Deputy Clerk