

CITY OF EAGLE LAKE
JUNE 22, 2020
SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL MEETING – GoTo Meeting

CALL TO ORDER

- Mayor Auringer called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

- Council Members present: John Ries, Ryan Short, Garrett Steinberg and Mayor Auringer.
- Staff present: City Administrator Jennifer Bromeland, Police Chief John Kopp, Public Works Director Brian Goettl, and Deputy Clerk Kerry Rausch.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None

AGENDA

1. Covid-19 Preparedness Plan for the City of Eagle Lake
 - Administrator Bromeland explained that the Governor's Executive Order 20-74 requires that local governments adopt a COVID-19 Preparedness Plan by June 29, 2020.
 - The proposed plan was explained covering the areas of sick employees, social distancing, work hygiene and source controls, workplace building and ventilation protocol, communications and training practices and protocols, and additional protections and protocols.
 - A plexiglass barrier has been installed at the front window at City Hall, employees are required to stagger breaks is 6 foot social distancing is not possible, masks have been provided employees and are required to wear when 6 foot social distancing is not possible, handwashing hygiene is encouraged and handwashing kits have been provided to police and fire departments for use in the field. Public meeting will continue to be held via GoTo Meeting until deemed safe for in person meetings.
 - A copy of the plan will be available at each work sight, all employees have been notified of plan and will be asked to sign off on receiving the plan.
 - Discussion included only renting of Council Chambers for after business hours and to limit to social distancing guidelines of six feet. This would limit the occupancy to 20 people. The use of ballfields was also discussed.
 - Council Member Steinberg moved, seconded by Council Member Short, to approve the COVID-19 Preparedness Plan as amended by Administrator Bromeland to include the ballfields. A roll call vote was taken with Council Members Ries, Short, Steinberg, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
2. Baseball Field Request from Eagle Lake Expos
 - Nate Gibson with the Eagle Lake Expos has contacted the city asking for approval to use the baseball field.
 - Administrator Bromeland contacted the city's insurance agent who contacted the League of MN Cities. The League does not recommend allowing use of ballfields but stated they would still defend the city if a claim arose due to COVID-19. It was recommended that the ball team should have liability coverage and that the city be named as an additional insured party.
 - Discussion included if it would be appropriate to have the Eagle Lake Expos sign a waiver releasing the city from liability, that the insurance recommendation is not appropriate, and since the park is open the ballfields should be open as well. Discussion also mentioned the thought that the Governor has opened ballfields for use.
 - Council Member Ries moved, seconded by Council Member Short, to authorize the City Administrator to provide the Eagle Lake Expos with a letter allowing them the use of the baseball field. A roll call vote was taken with Council Members Ries, Short, Steinberg, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
3. "Section 13.130 Peddler" of City Code – Review for Possible Amendments and/or Exceptions
 - Administrator Bromeland stated that subdivision 3 of city code states that the license fee shall be effective for one week. The city charges an annual fee for a permit and therefore it was recommended that a simple amendment to the ordinance reflecting the annual fee and license versus a weekly fee and weekly license be drafted. If the City Council agrees with this change, then a motion is necessary to schedule a public hearing for the August 3, 2020 meeting to amend the ordinance accordingly.

- Administrator Bromeland explained that subdivision 6 of City Code states that it is unlawful for any peddler, solicitor, or transient merchant to call attention to business or merchandise by crying out, blowing a horn, sounding a bell, or by any loud or amplified sound or noise.
 - City staff does not recommend amending code to allow music by any peddler due the intent of code being to protect the public from noise that can become a nuisance. It was asked if an exception could be made for ice cream trucks.
 - The ice cream truck applicant informed staff that she will not come to the city if she is not allowed to play music and call attention to business. The applicant was offered the opportunity to submit a written appeal.
 - Discussion included ice cream trucks are part of summer and that if the music could be turned off while stationary that would be acceptable. Mayor Auringer stated he researched if an ice cream truck should be included as a peddler or if it should be considered a food truck. Other cities do classify food trucks as a peddler. Council indicated they are comfortable of making an exception for ice cream trucks and directed the city administrator to use discretion when issuing the solicitor license. It was stated that no complaint was received, but rather a question was received as to if it was allowed by city code to pay music.
 - Council Member Short moved, seconded by Council Member Ries, to approve the Ice Queen's appeal and allow her to play music. A roll call vote was taken with Council Members Ries, Short, Steinberg, and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.
4. Staff Follow-Up Related to Recent Social Media Posts about City Water Quality and Entrance Signs
- Administrator Bromeland stated a police officer was given a water sample on a Sunday by a resident who posted on the community Facebook page about their water quality. Monday staff attempted to contact the resident and options were offered. Customer did not provide the needed new sample and staff were not allowed into the house to help troubleshoot the issue. Staff has exhausted options. This has been an ongoing issue for several years.
 - City entrance signs were approved by City Council in 2017 and delivered in 2019. Public Works has installed the signs and will be working to complete the landscaping around the signs. Mayor Auringer apologized if he has not risen to the responsibility to respond to social media posts and stated it is his opinion it is not appropriate for him to do so. If there are complains/concerns that residents should contact city staff to make an official complaint to go to the city council. Sue Nasinec, 220 Blace, apologized that her post on the city signs took on a negative tone and that this was not her intent. She also offered to help with positive campaign.
5. Spotlight Good Things Happening in Community with Some Fun Activities for Kids
- Administrator Bromeland stated city staff have been talking about ways to uplift and prompt positivity in the community during this difficult time with the pandemic. An idea is to invite residents to share good things happening in the community that staff can then post on the City's Facebook page over the course of 13 weeks to showcase kindness and positivity. In addition, the park board previously discussed the possibility of coordinating a scavenger hunt or medallion hunt for youth this summer to encourage physical activity outdoors since Rec on the Go was canceled due to the pandemic. Council consensus was to proceed with this campaign. Administrator Bromeland will promote and office staff will manage this campaign.

ADJOURNMENT

- Council Member Ries moved, seconded by Council Member Short, to adjourn the meeting at 12:57 p.m. Motion carried with Council Members Ries, Short, Steinberg and Mayor Auringer voting in favor.

Tim Auringer, Mayor

Kerry Rausch, Deputy Clerk