

**CHISHOLM CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 28, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor John Champa called the City Council Meeting to order in the City Hall Council Chambers at 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Council Members Marty Halverson, Cheyenne Mikkola-Rahja, April Fountain, Adam Lantz, Travis Vake and Mayor John Champa

Absent: None

Also Present: Administrator Stephanie Skraba, City Attorney Bryan Lindsay, Fire Chief Chris Masucci, Building Official Mandy Galli, Public Works Supervisor Larry Folstad, Parks/Trails/Recreation Director Bridgit Maruska, Library Supervisor Katie Christenson, Confidential Administrative Assistant Susan Trunk, Eric Tweten from Mesabi Community TV, Marie Tolonen from Mesabi Tribune, Brandon Kellermann from Adolfson & Peterson Construction via Zoom. Public Participants Lisa Howard, Amy Samsa and Collin Howard.

**ADOPT THE AGENDA**

Moved by Councilor Vake and supported by Councilor Halverson to adopt the agenda.

Voting Aye: Councilors Halverson, Mikkola-Rahja, Fountain, Lantz, Vake and Mayor Champa.

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Lisa Howard presented questions and concerns about the rezoning for her business location and stated that she is opposed to the changes.

Amy Samsa asked questions about the previous meeting discussion about taxes, zoning and building code.

Collin Howard asked questions and expressed concerns about the Lake Street rezoning.

**REPORTS**

Councilor Fountain had no formal report but wished everyone a Happy New Year, to stay safe and use a sober ride.

Councilor Halverson reported that he participated in the Ambulance Director Interviews and acknowledged Mayor Champa for his contributions.

Councilor Lantz did not have a formal report but thanked everyone, the employees of the city and Mayor. He wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilor Mikkola-Rahja did not have a formal report but thanked Mayor Champa for coming back and wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Councilor Vake did not have a formal report but thanked Mayor Champa for taking a brand-new council four years ago, showing them the ropes and sharing his knowledge.

Mayor Champa provided council members with a final report. The city received a donation of a 1930's vintage Fire Fighter's uniform from Tom Tiburzi whose grandfather had been a Fire Fighter. He hopes to get some newspaper articles reproduced to give to the family. He hopes the uniform can be displayed in the Public Safety Building. He encouraged the councilors to continue to be respectful of each other and wished everyone a happy new year. He acknowledged the recent tragedies of losing loved ones that have happened.

Interim Ambulance Director Peyton Johnson, absent

Fire Chief Masucci reported that the Fire Department had 196 calls this year (average is 120-140 calls per year) He thank his Fire Fighters. There were no injuries this year. Engine one was brought to Osceola, Wisconsin. Almost the entire maintenance budget was gone through this year, fire trucks are showing their age and are in need of replacement. He reminded everyone to check their smoke detectors as he has seen too many homes without working detectors.

Police Chief Manner, absent

City Building Official/Zoning Administrator Galli reported that there were 183 permits applied for, bringing in permit fees of \$ 29,639.00. The value of the projects was \$5,482,713.00. Six single family dwellings and six garages were taken down. A total grant amount of \$38,523.00 was received. She encouraged anyone with zoning questions to ask and that she has an open-door policy.

City Engineer Johnson, absent.

Public Works Supervisor Folstad reported they are short staffed in public works and utilities, there was a main water break on windy hills over the Christmas Holiday. He is hoping to get staffing back to normal soon and clean up Lake Street.

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REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 28, 2022**

Parks/Trails/Recreation Director, no report.

Library Supervisor Christenson reported that Story Time on Wednesdays at 10:00 am continues to be a well-attended event each week (14 kids today). They are preparing for a new year and said it was a pleasure working with the council.

City Attorney Lindsay no report

Clerk-Treasurer Zah, absent

Administrator Skraba reflected on the many things that were accomplished this past year. She acknowledged and thanked the city staff for all of their hard work and the support of council. She thanked the Mayor for helping through the process.

**ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA**

Moved by Councilor Lantz and supported by Councilor Mikkola-Rahja to Accept the Consent Agenda, including the List of Bills, Communications, Meeting Minutes from the December 14, 2022 Public Hearing Meeting Minutes, December 14, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes, December 20, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes, Payroll and Overtime.

Voting Aye: Councilors Fountain, Halverson, Lantz, Mikkola-Rahja, Vake and Mayor Champa

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

**REBUILD OF MAIN LIFT STATION PUMP**

Public Works Supervisor Larry Folstad provided information on the premature failure of a pump in the main lift station. The repairs to this pump are being performed by the authorized retailer with a service center in Bemidji, MN. Repairs and services are estimated to be around \$15,000.00.

**ADDITIONAL SPARE MAIN LIFT STATION PUMP**

Moved by Councilor Fountain and supported by Councilor Vake to approve the purchase of a Hydromatic 50 hp pump for the lift station for \$45,484.00.

Voting Aye: Councilors Fountain, Halverson, Lantz, Mikkola-Rahja, Vake and Mayor Champa

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

**INCIDENT/ACCIDENT REPORTING POLICY**

Moved by Councilor Lantz and supported by Councilor Mikkola-Rahja approve the Incident/Accident Reporting Policy.

Voting Aye: Councilors Fountain, Halverson, Lantz, Mikkola-Rahja, Vake and Mayor Champa

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

**ICE ARENA/FIELD HOUSE CONTRACT**

Moved by Councilor Lantz and supported by Councilor Mikkola-Rahja to approve the Ice Arena/Fieldhouse Contract.

Voting Aye: Councilors Fountain, Halverson, Lantz, Mikkola-Rahja, Vake and Mayor Champa

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 1222-112 PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING APPROVAL OF PLANS AND SPECS AND AUTHORIZATION TO BID**

Moved by Councilor Halverson and supported by Councilor Lantz to adopt Resolution Number 1222-112 for the Public Safety Building Approval of Plans and Specs and Authorization to Bid.

Voting Aye: Councilors Fountain, Halverson, Lantz, Mikkola-Rahja, Vake and Mayor Champa

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 1222-113**

Moved by Councilor Halverson and supported by Councilor Lantz to adopt Resolution Number 1222-113 to set the final Levy for 2023 at seven (7) percent and establish Governmental Funds Budget for 2023.

Voting Aye: Councilors Fountain, Halverson, Lantz, Mikkola-Rahja, Vake and Mayor Champa

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

**CHISHOLM CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING – DECEMBER 28, 2022**

**ADJOURN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

Moved by Mayor Champa and supported by Councilor Vake to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:23 pm.

Voting Aye: Councilors Fountain, Halverson, Lantz, Mikkola-Rahja, Vake and Mayor Champa

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

Attest:

/s/ John A. Champa, Mayor

/s/ Stephanie Skraba, Administrator