

**CHISHOLM CITY COUNCIL
WORKING SESSION – NOVEMBER 29, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Adam Lantz called the City Council Meeting to order in the City Hall Council Chambers at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Council Members Marty Halverson, Cheyenne Mikkola-Raja, April Fountain, Jed Holewa, Travis Vake and Mayor Adam Lantz

Absent: None

Also Present: Clerk-Treasurer Eileen Zah, Police Chief Vern Manner, Building Official Mandy Galli, Confidential Administrative Assistant Susan Trunk, Attorney Andy Borland, HRA Board Members Lindsey Marold and Chris Erickson, HRA Administrative Assistant Santa Williamson, Marie Tolonen from the Masabi Tribune, and residents of the HRA.

ADOPT THE AGENDA

Moved by Councilor Mikkola-Raja and supported by Councilor Holewa to adopt the agenda as presented.

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

Voting Nay: Halverson

Absent: None

Motion Carried

HRA DISCUSSION

Mayor Lantz began the meeting by stating that after the Public Hearing on October 23, 2023 there seemed to be questions and conversations happening and it was prudent and fair for the information to be shared with everyone.

Attorney Borland provided the Council with the information per Minnesota Statute Chapter 469 Economic Development, Housing and Redevelopment Authorities 469.010 regarding the process of Council to remove a HRA Board member if they should choose to do so. That a majority of the council would need to vote in favor and declare what misfeasance occurred such as inefficiency, neglect of duty, or misconduct in office. Each commissioner that is considered for removal must be served written notice, appear in separate hearings from other commissioners, and have the opportunity to respond with legal counsel. He further clarified that the City Councilors, including Councilor Mikkola-Rahja had the authority to remove board members from the HRA, but the HRA Board members do not have the right to remove Councilor Mikkola-Rahja from the board, and that only the City Councilors can remove her from the HRA Board.

Councilors discussed the claims of misfeasance by the HRA Board such as the HUD communications with the board regarding the HRA Director's failure to comply with signing the Recovery Agreement and Corrective Action Plan, the contract for Director Jerry Culliton, the inspection summary report, the photos sent to council of maintenance concerns, the letter from HRA Commissioner Lindsey Marold, and a letter with pictures of text messages from HRA Commissioner Landacre.

Residents of the HRA shared some of their concerns and experiences they have had when attempting to have maintenance done on their units and responses they received from Director Culliton and Administrative Assistant Santa Williamson. Administrative Assistant Williamson stated that her role has its limits and she is doing the best she can.

Council and HRA Commissioners discussed that although there are many concerns, that some progress has been made. The Council discussed that there is a lack of communication within the HRA Board and that perhaps at the next HRA meeting the board members would be able to resolve concerns.

ADJOURN WORKING SESSION

Moved by Councilor Fountain and supported by Councilor Vake to adjourn the Working Session at 7:06 pm.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

/s/ Adam Lantz, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Stephanie Skraba, Administrator