

**CHISHOLM CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 12, 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 April Fountain, Marty Halverson, Adam Lantz, Cheyenne Mikkola-Rahja, Travis Vake and Mayor John A. Champa

Absent: None

Also Present: Administrator Stephanie Skraba, City Ambulance Director/Emergency Manager Jess Davis, Police Chief Vern Manner, Fire Chief Chris Masucci, Building/Zoning and Safety Director Mandy Galli, Consultant Engineer Jim Johnson, Public Works Supervisor Larry Folstad, Library Supervisor Katie Christenson, Confidential Administrative Assistant Susan Trunk, Attorney Colleen Kosluchar from Trenti Law Firm, Eric Tweten with Mesabi Community TV, Marie Tolonen from the Mesabi Tribune, Jim Labernik from Mesabi Fit Coalition, Alex Peritz from MnDOT and Cheryl Brottem.

ADOPT THE AGENDA

Moved by Councilor Lantz and supported by Councilor Vake to adopt the agenda with additions: 1) Field House Quote under Building/Zoning and Safety Director Galli, 2) CMAR-RFP Choice Adolfson & Peterson Construction under Mayor Champa, 3) Jim Labernik from Mesabi Fit Coalition under Public Participation.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Jim Labernik from Mesabi Fit Coalition, a group of community members that is seeking City Council Support in their efforts to reopen the YMCA Building that is located in Mountain Iron as a Community Recreation Center. Other surrounding communities have provided their support. They are not requesting any monetary donations.

REPORTS

Councilor Fountain reported that the Chisholm Kids Plus is putting on a “Trunk or Treat” October 30th at the Highschool from 1:00-3:00 pm. Archeology Day is at MDC on October 29th at 11:00 am. The Chamber is putting on a Holiday Market & Chamber Expo on November 19th at 10:00 am to 4:00 pm and are they are still looking for vendors, crafters and home business. The Pink Night fundraiser to fight breast cancer will be at Valentini’s Supper Club in support with the Angel Fund on October 28th. There will be drawings and door prizes.

Councilor Halverson reported attended the Park and Recreation Board meeting where they toured the parks and came up with ideas for the parks. He also attended a Campground Committee meeting, many Public Safety Building meetings including the interviews for the CMAR RFPs, School Board Joint Meeting to hear about the Referendum which he encourages Chisholm Citizens to support. Rock Solid is back working at Redhead Mountain Bike Park to finish the scope of their work for this year. This weekend will be the Minnesota Cycling Association final races of the season with approximately 1500 riders and their families. They are looking for volunteers to help with parking, contact Parks/Trails and Recreation Director Bridgit Maruska for details.

Councilor Lantz reported that Superintendent Norman was very helpful in reaching out, educating and informing about the referendum. The last 3 years has been busy trying to build the town and make it a better place and without a school it would very hard to fill in areas of development. On October 4th, he joined Director Maruska, Donna Johnson and Jordan Metsa over at MDC where Congressman Stauber visited, checked out Redhead and listened to the need for a safe transit across the highway, MDC’s needs for building up the infrastructure and the lack of funding available.

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There were great candidates that came forward for the CMAR-RFP. He congratulated Chris Charter on his 3-year anniversary with the Fire Department.

Councilor Mikkola-Rahja, no report.

Councilor Vake reported that on November 3rd there will be an empty bowl event at the Chisholm Elementary School Cafeteria from 5:00-7:30 pm. The soups are donated by Valentini's, Jim's and Snicker's. Councilor Vake supports the school referendum and thinks it is the right thing to do. He encouraged those with questions to ask the superintendent. He also reported the final home game of the regular season football game tomorrow will have Barb's Fried Bread food truck at the game. Go Bluestreaks!

Mayor Champa thanked Councilor Lantz for running the meeting last time. He commented that Chisholm is one of the friendliest ATV cities and reminded everyone there are rules in place and that ATVs are not allowed on Mainstreet outside of events where council has provided special approval. He has thought about sitting down with Chief Manner so that his officers, if they have time, would educate those who parked outside of the restaurants in town. Another place you are not allowed to drive is from the McDonalds on the south end of town to the storage unit by Lucky 7 as it is a state highway.

Ambulance Director Davis, no report.

Fire Chief Masucci reported that this week is National Fire Prevention week, "fire won't wait, find your escape". He encouraged people to sit down with those living in the home to discuss the best way to get out of the home in case of fire. A common question is about kids on the second story. There are retractable ladders that can be purchased and can be deployed by a child as young as 4 or 5 years old. He encourages everyone to have a plan because you can have less than a minute to get out. The Fire Department is out at the schools to talk about fire prevention. The previous Wednesday there was a training at the Mesabi College in Virginia hosted by the East Range Fire Coalition. It was a really good training with over 100 firefighters from the region.

Police Chief, Manner, no report.

Building/Zoning and Safety Director Galli, no report.

Consultant Engineer Johnson, no report.

Public Works Supervisor Folstad reported in honor of Director Maruska to ask for volunteers for parking at the Bike Race Events, he has golf carts available for the weekend. Public Works is finishing up putting the 15 mph signs up at Vaughan-Steffensrud Elementary. The sweeper is out cleaning up all the leaves and sticks before it gets in the storm sewer system.

Library Supervisor Christenson reported that Story Time is happening on Wednesdays at 10:00 am. Numbers have been consistent, around 15-20 under school age kids.

Supervisor Christenson is looking forward to the Third Graders annual fieldtrip this upcoming Tuesday. The kids have a lot of enthusiasm and excitement. She thanked the council for allowing the library to be fine-free.

City Attorney Lindsay, absent. No report given by Attorney Colleen Kosluchar.

Administrator Skraba wanted to thank the staff. The collaboration and teamwork are amazing and above and beyond in her opinion.

ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Councilor Lantz and supported by Councilor Fountain to Accept the Consent Agenda, including the List of Bills, Communications, September 28th, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes with the addition of the date and time of the special meeting, Payroll and overtime.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION NO. 1022-90 JAXSON HANSON PERA
POLICE OFFICER DECLARATION**

Moved by Councilor Mikkola-Rahja and supported by Councilor Halverson to adopt Resolution Number 1022-90 Jaxson Hanson PERA Police Declaration.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

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IRRR RESIDENTIAL REDVELOPMENT GRANT AGREEMENT

Moved by Councilor Fountain and supported by Councilor Mikkola-Rahja to approve the IRRR Residential Redevelopment Grant Agreement.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

FIELDHOUSE QUOTE

Moved by Councilor Vake and supported by Councilor Lantz to move forward with the work to be done on the Fieldhouse based on the quote presented by Kyle Gorick's Exterior for \$31,970.00.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION NO. 1022-91 ADOPTING ASSESSMENT FOR 3RD STREET NW
INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT**

Moved by Councilor Vake and supported by Councilor Halverson to adopt Resolution No. 1022-91 Assessment for 3rd Street NW Infrastructure Improvement Project.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

HIGHWAY169 UPDATE

Project Manager, Alex Peritz from MnDOT provided an update on the MnDOT Ice Study. They are looking at the whole corridor, have had it on their radar due to safety issues, started the process studies in August and are holding meetings and gathering input from the community. They will use the feedback and traffic patterns they see and analyze to come up with alternatives. They hope to have a single alternative with in a month, figure out how to fund the project and the best solution for the area. This was informational only.

**THE ROLE OF THE CITY IN THE BRIDGE FOR
SENATOR DAVID TOMASSONI**

The team that has been working on the Senator David Tomassoni Bridge project is moving forward with funding and design. The project is fully funded through donations and grants. Once all design work is completed the city will put the project out for bid and provide in-kind services through staff time facilitating the project. This was informational only.

RESOLUTION NO. 1022-92 DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP GRANT FROM IRRR

Moved by Councilor Fountain and supported by Councilor Mikkola-Rahja to adopt Resolution No. 1022-92 for the development partnership grant from IRRR for work at the Wenton Addition site up to \$25,000.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

CHISHOLM CASH

Moved by Councilor Fountain and supported by Councilor Lantz to approve the Chisholm Chamber of Commerce request for support of their Christmas Shopping Promotion in November and December in the amount of \$7250.

Voting Aye: Councilors Fountain, Lantz, Vake and Mayor Champa

Voting Nay: Councilors Halverson and Mikkola-Rahja

Absent: None

Motion Carried

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**RESOLUTION NO. 1022-93 SUPPORTING THE MISSION OF THE
MESABI FIT COALITION**

Moved by Councilor Lantz and supported by Councilor Vake to adopt Resolution No. 1022-93 supporting the mission of the Mesabi Fit Coalition.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

RAMS ANNUAL DINNER

RAMS is holding their annual dinner inviting Council Members and Administration to the Iron Trail Event Center in Virginia, MN. honoring Senators David Tomassoni and Tom Bakk on Thursday, December 15, 2022. This was informational only.

CMAR RFP ADOLF & PETERSON CONSTRUCTION

Moved by Councilor Lantz and supported by Councilor Halverson to approve Adolf & Peterson Construction as the CMAR for the Public Safety Building project.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

ADJOURN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Councilor Vake supported by Councilor Fountain to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 6:20 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