

**CHISHOLM CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING – OCTOBER 26, 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 Attorney Bryan Lindsay, City Ambulance Director/Emergency Manager Jess Davis, Police Chief Vern Manner, Consultant Engineer Jim Johnson, Public Works Supervisor Larry Folstad, Parks/Trails/Recreation Director Bridget Maruska, Clerk-Treasurer Eileen Zah, Confidential Administrative Assistant Susan Trunk, Eric Tweten from Mesabi Community TV, Marie Tolonen from the Mesabi Tribune, Andy Enricho, Ed Chamernick and Mandy Flack.

ADOPT THE AGENDA

Moved by Councilor Lantz and supported by Councilor Mikkola-Rahja to adopt the agenda with corrections: 1) Clerk-Treasurer Zah D2- Will include 2nd & 3rd Qtr. 2022 report & presentation. 2) Administrator Skraba E1- Airport Resolution 1022-95 (number not listed) Purchase of Airport Property by Hibbing PUC.

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

Andy Enricho expressed his concerns about noise, traffic congestion and the smell of diesel fuel from the generator and deliveries taking place at Heritage Manor.

REPORTS

Councilor Fountain, no report.

Councilor Halverson reported that he attended the joint meeting with Balkan Township to discuss the Fire Department Agreement between Balkan and Chisholm. He also attended and volunteered at the MCA event at Redhead a couple of weekends ago, attended the highway 169 open house and an IROC meeting.

Councilor Lantz, no report.

Councilor Mikkola-Rahja, no report.

Councilor Vake reported that volleyball home playoffs are tonight. Saturday is boys football playoff game in Deer River and a fan bus is available. Cross-country is running their section tournament Thursday. He confirmed the Trick-or-Treating event is on Friday, October 28th, Trunk-or-Treat is on Sunday.

Mayor Champa reminded everyone that November 8th elections are coming up, wished everyone good luck and to get out and vote. He expressed his support for the school referendum that is on the ballot. The PUC is working on the budget so it can go to council, there are some big increases coming out of sanitary sewer district and a PUC special meeting is scheduled to discuss the budget. During Covid there was a pause in public participation for HRA meetings. The HRA will be developing a policy for public participation to be implemented at the November meeting and reinstate the public participation in HRA meetings. The Maple View project is moving along nicely. He will be at the rally in support of Hibbing Taconite on Saturday in Chisholm. The mine is said to be out of iron ore in two years, but there are additional deposits and he encourages people to work with Hibbing Taconite. Essar Steel is at the top of that list, it's been in a court nightmare, they need the ore and we need the jobs. With mining, there are production taxes coming in that go to Iron Range Resources and come back to us.

Ambulance Director Davis reported that the cardiac monitor that was ordered last December has arrived. The drawings for the new ambulance have been submitted to her for review.

Fire Chief Masucci, absent.

Police Chief, Manner reported that the number one cause of death in St. Louis County is overdoses. He expressed kudos to his officers and the ambulance crews who have had a lot of saves this year. The Police and EMS work tirelessly to save a lot of lives. For every overdose death in St. Louis County there has been at least a dozen saves. In one case, it took many doses of Narcan to keep the individual alive. Cases are getting worse, even in Chisholm. This Saturday there's a State Campaign to turn in prescription drugs for appropriate disposal. Prescriptions can be brought year-round to the police department for proper disposal and should not be disposed of down the sink, flushed or thrown away in the garbage.

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Building/Zoning and Safety Director Galli, absent.

Consultant Engineer Johnson, no report.

Public Works Supervisor Folstad reported that MnDOT will be patching on 73 corridor. Knife Lake Concrete was in town completing the concrete work. The traffic light on 1st Avenue was hit costing 25 thousand dollars to repair. The Police were able to find who did it and it will be charged to their insurance. Street sweepers are out every day and the streets are ready for the upcoming rally and trick-or-treating activities. He clarified that a flashing red light should be treated as if you are at a four way stop.

Parks/Trails and Recreation Director Maruska reported that there is an additional dress up Halloween event at the youth center. She said that the MCA event was wonderful and herculean with about 2000 racers, a total of about 4000 to 5000 attendees. It was a lot of work and they are debriefing with IROC and the City group that helped make it happen on how to make it even better in future years. Kari Kilen had an article about her in the Duluth News Tribune about her hiking at Redhead. Hiking at Redhead is a great way to get to know the trails. The campground is staying open for camping until the 8th.

Library Supervisor Christenson, absent.

City Attorney Lindsay, no report.

Clerk-Treasurer Zah reported that there is a public accuracy test on Thursday, November 3rd where they test the ballot machines. The public is welcome and it has been published in the paper. The wonderful Halloween decorations in the lobby were done by Denise and Kristi. During the staffing meeting this week they discussed putting together a grants committee to collaborate on getting grants for the city. She is working on some Truth in Taxation preparation for December. She will explore how write in votes are processed.

Administrator Skraba, no report.

ACCEPT THE CONSENT AGENDA

Moved by Councilor Vake and supported by Councilor Lantz to Accept the Consent Agenda, including the List of Bills, Communications, Meeting Minutes from the September 28th, 2022 Regular Meeting-corrected, October 12, 2022 Joint Meeting with Chisholm City Council and the School Board, October 12, 2022 Public Assessment Hearing 3rd Street NW Infrastructure Improvement Project, October 12, 2022 Regular Meeting, October 18, 2022 Special Meeting, Payroll and overtime.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

CASSIDY KAMPSULA RESIGNATION

Moved by Councilor Lantz and supported by Councilor Vake to accept Cassidy Kampsula's resignation and send a thank you letter.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

**RESOLUTION NO. 1022-94 MUNICIPAL CONSENT FOR CULVERT AND STREET
IMPROVEMENTS ON 8TH STREET NORTH**

Moved by Councilor Fountain and supported by Councilor Mikkola-Rahja to adopt Resolution No. 1022-94 Municipal Consent for Culvert and Street Improvements on 8th Street North.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

INFLOW/INFILTRATION REDUCTIONS IN SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM

Moved by Councilor Halverson and supported by Councilor Mikkola-Rahja to start the process of getting the letters sent out and start solving problem areas.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

**CHISHOLM CITY COUNCIL
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ST. LOUIS COUNTY HAULAGE AGREEMENT

Moved by Councilor Fountain and supported by Councilor Vake to approve the amendment to the St. Louis County Haulage Agreement with CPI increase.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

FY 2022 BUDGET AMENDMENT NOTIFICATION FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT

Clerk-Treasurer Zah provided information on the Budget Amendment for the Police Department that was approved by the corresponding department head, Administrator Skraba and Clerk Treasurer Zah. This was informational only.

2ND AND 3RD QUARTER 2022 REPORT AND PRESENTATION

Clerk-Treasurer Zah provided the status of revenues and expenses for the General Fund, Permanent Improvement Fund and Enterprise Funds for the 2nd and 3rd quarters for 2022. This was informational only.

RESOLUTION NO. 1022-95 PURCHASE OF AIRPORT PROPERTY BY HIBBING PUC

Moved by Councilor Mikkola-Rahja and supported by Councilor Halverson to adopt Resolution No. 1022-95 for the purchase of Airport Property by Hibbing PUC.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

GARTH AND BRENDA BECKWITH PURCHASE OF ADJACENT LOT

Moved by Councilor Fountain and supported by Councilor Lantz to table the request to purchase adjacent lot and to allow time to research the history of property costs.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

ICE ARENA MANAGEMENT OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

The council approved moving forward with adjustments to the Ice Arena Management Operations & Maintenance Agreement to include cleaning and general interior maintenance of the Fieldhouse, cost change, and to bring forward to council for final approval.

SCHEDULE A SPECIAL MEETING TO DISCUSS 3RD STREET PROJECT

Moved by Councilor Vake and supported by Councilor Fountain to schedule a Special Meeting to discuss the 3rd Street Project on November 7th, 2022 at 5:15 pm.

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

Voting Nay: None

Absent: None

Motion Carried

HIBBING TACONITE RALLY

There is a rally in Chisholm to keep Hibbing Taconite open on Saturday, October 29th, 2022 at 10:00am. This was informational only.

ADJOURN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

Moved by Councilor Vake supported by Councilor Fountain to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:05 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