

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

A work session was held beginning at 3:30 p.m. and the regular meeting of the Coleraine City Council was held at 4:00 p.m., Monday, September 14th, 2020 in the Council Chambers of Coleraine City Hall with some members attending via telephone conference.

WORK SESSION

3:30 p.m.

Karin Grandia, County Engineer, addressed the Council to inform of the progress of the modification to the pedestrian crosswalk at the Hwy 169 and CSAH 61 intersection. She provided a set of approved shop drawings and indicated that the work will probably not begin until spring. She did inquire about whether anyone knew if the sidewalk across the highway got used. MNDot will fund the removal if it is not necessary. Removal of this sidewalk will help funnel the pedestrian traffic to the modified crossing. She asked if the Council would communicate with residents to find out and she would appreciate input within the next month.

Resident Lloyd Anderson asked what the hold up was with the rerouting of garbage trucks through the City. Councilperson Troumbly indicated that Barb did make a map of what she recommended, and everything probably got dropped when covid hit. Council requested a public hearing on the matter. A public hearing will be set up for Monday, October 26th at 5:00 p.m. so residents can express their opinions on proposed routes.

REGULAR MEETING

4:00 p.m.

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Mandich at 4:00 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. A roll call was done by Clerk Anderson. Members present: Councilpersons Sutherland, Troumbly, Pollard, Stish, and Mayor Mandich. Attorney Dimich arrived at 4:02p.m.

Moved by Councilperson Stish, supported by Pollard, **to approve the consent agenda which included Council meeting minutes of 8.24.20 and 9.4.2020, correspondence, public utility claims of \$20,446.13 and regular claims of \$13,162.88.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Stish, Pollard, Troumbly, Sutherland, and Mayor Mandich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Moved by Councilperson Stish, seconded by Pollard, **to approve the meeting agenda with the attrition of “deferment of payroll taxes” and “Rapid Rooter lease”.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Stish, Pollard, Sutherland, Troumbly, and Mayor Mandich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Resident Mary Drewes expressed her concern with the state of the road/retaining wall on Lakeview Blvd. The torrential rain of August 14 and 15 caused more deterioration. Her request was that the Council take steps to review the condition, have someone make an assessment, and possibly add it

to the Capital Improvement Plan. Discussion followed as to what may be needed. There was consensus that this can be looked at. Councilperson Troumbly will ask a contractor to take a look.

DEPARTMENT HEADS

Police Department

Police Chief Mjolsness was not available but had provided a written report. There were no questions.

Public Works (Street):

Public Works Supervisor Bertram had provided a written report that he went over. He also indicated that the mowing to be done in the rural district was again at a stand still since the mower broke down again. Bertram indicated that he will be on vacation from September 24th to the 8th or 9th of October.

ATTORNEY:

Attorney Dimich had nothing to report.

NEW BUSINESS:

Police Officer Resolution-PERA fund – standard resolution adding qualified part-time officer to PERA benefits. **Motion** by Councilperson Stish, supported by Troumbly, **to approve Police Officer Declaration Resolution-Police and Fire PERA fund for Adrian Nelson.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Stish, Troumbly, Pollard, Sutherland, and Mayor Mandich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Brock Lane – A quote had been received from Hawkinson Construction for just over \$118,000 to reclaim, shape and pave approximately 2100 feet of Brock Lane. It was noted that the road had deteriorated beyond the point of doing an overlay. Discussion ensued regarding possibilities of repairs and what could be done with the possibility of adding work on Nick and Susanna Lane at the same time. Public Works Supervisor will get additional estimates. Council requested this be added to the CIP and costs be added to the 2021 budget.

Resolution Accepting Donation-Stormwater Project – **Motion** by Councilperson Pollard with the support of Sutherland **to approve the resolution accepting a \$1,200 donation from the Trout Lake Association for the Trout Lake Stormwater Project.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Pollard, Sutherland, Stish, Troumbly, and Mayor Mandich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

2020 Taconite Municipal Aid-reg \$91,124-excess school \$18,877. Clerk Anderson reported that \$18,877 had been received as part of the excess school Taconite Municipal Aid Distribution and \$91,124 would be received in mid-September. This is a distribution as a result of mining production taxes (2019 pay 2020). **Motion** by Councilperson Troumbly, supported by Pollard, **to put the \$18,877 in the capital equipment replacement fund.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Troumbly, Pollard, Sutherland, Stish, and Mayor Mandich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilperson Pollard with the support of Troumbly **to put \$11,124 of the distribution towards the capital equipment replacement fund and the remaining \$80,000 into the special projects fund.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Pollard, Troumbly, Stish, Sutherland, and Mayor Mandich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Tentative CBA with AFSCME represented employees – brief discussion on date changes needed on tentative agreement with direction of Council to have Clerk contact Ms. Stoll with comments.

Mayor and Councilperson Compensation – discussion around what other municipalities in the area are doing. Contacts will be made and a spreadsheet created for review. Tabled and moved to next agenda.

Remaining \$ for fire truck (paid 50%--15% remains unresolved) – Motion by Councilperson Troumbly with the support of Pollard **to pay the remaining 15% of \$8,436.92 at this time.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Troumbly, Pollard, Sutherland, and Mayor Mandich. Abstain: Councilperson Stish. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Review any offers on old fire hall building – One proposal had been received, opened, and briefly reviewed from Prairie River Minerals. A discussion on how to proceed ensued. At the advice of Attorney Dimich, Council requested a closed session be set up to discuss and negotiate.

Deferment of payroll taxes – Clerk Anderson provided an email from the League of MN Cities regarding IRS Guidance on the Payroll Tax Executive Order which indicated the deferment is optional and what the potential impact would be to both employee and employer in 2021. **Motion** by Councilperson Stish, supported by Pollard **that the City of Coleraine, employer, will not proceed with offering or processing tax deferrals to its employees made optional by Presidential Executive Order issued August, 2020 due to the potential detrimental tax implications for both the employee and employer in 2021.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Stish, Pollard, Troumbly, Sutherland, and Mayor Mandich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Rapid Rooter lease – Attorney Dimich addressed the e-mail received from Rapid Rooter. He stated the City did not know the leasing of public property created a private property tax on the leasee by the County. Upon request of the leasee through their attorney, the City paid their property tax and then provided notice that a portion of the payment would be added to the rent and issued a new agreement. Since the request came through their attorney, the new lease agreement amount was conveyed by the City Attorney. Dimich did not advise any reduction in rent nor the payment of their attorney fees. Council requested a letter be written to the renters addressing these facts. It was also noted that Rapid Rooter has given notice of terminating the lease as of the last day of November.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Day(s) of Action – It was noted that the last day for volunteers to work on resident/city projects would be Friday, September 30th. Clerk Anderson indicated she would be taking a personal day off to volunteer for this event.

Longyear Park Gazebo – Clerk Anderson reported that the TED grant has been tentatively approved but that formal approval would not occur until after the County's final budget is set in December. County Commissioner stated this could be a reimbursement grant if the City wished to have the work done on the Gazebo right away. **Motion** by Councilperson Pollard, supported by Troumbly, **to have the work completed this fall per the quote and have the City reimbursed the TED funds after the first of the year.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Pollard, Troumbly, Stish, Sutherland, and Mayor Mandich. Nays: none. Motion carried.

Storm Drain Grates – Mitchell & West plus – Bertram reported that the work is being completed now for the one on West Ave. Others still looking for parts.

Nyberg Community Center—flooring replacement – Clerk has not had time to work on this; tabled until next meeting

CARES Act/CRF monies – Several items were discussed. **Motion** by Councilperson Stish with the support of Troumbly **to pursue the purchase of a one ton pick up truck from Dondelinger Chevrolet for a purchase price of \$41,227 plus TT & L and the purchase of a John Deere UTV through Pokegama Lawn & Sport and for the monies to come from the CARES Act/CRF monies with the articulations that the expenses are necessary due to covid and employee safety measures put in place.** Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Stish, Troumbly, Pollard, Sutherland, and Mayor Mandich. Nays: none.

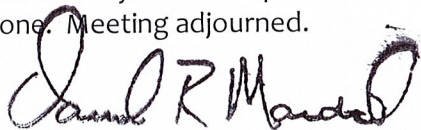
The technology discussion is tabled until an additional quote comes in.

A comment was made that Public Works Supervisor Bertram get two hard quotes for the repair of the current pick-up.

COUNCIL CONCERNS:

Stish: Stated that Western Mesabi Mine Planning Board dues will probably go up to \$400/yr.
Troumbly: None
Pollard: None
Sutherland: None
Mandich: None

Motion by Councilperson Pollard with the support of Troumbly **to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m.**
Roll Call: Ayes: Councilpersons Pollard, Stish, Sutherland, Troumbly, and Mayor Mandich. Nays: none. Meeting adjourned.



Dan Mandich, Mayor



Briana Anderson, Clerk-Treasurer