

Via Teleconference
6:00 P.M. June 1, 2021

Regular Meeting

Roll Call

Councilors Present: Carlson, Lamb, Swanson, Kolodge, Jaakola, Wilkinson, Mayor Maki

Councilors Absent: None.

Pledge of Allegiance

AGENDA

MOTION: Councilor Lamb moved and Councilor Carlson seconded the motion to approve the June 1, 2021 agenda. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

MINUTES

MOTION: Councilor Jaakola moved and Councilor Swanson seconded the motion to approve the amended Regular Meeting minutes of May 18, 2021, to reflect a change in wording to the motion made for Reconsideration of the PLA Repeal, to read “Councilor Lamb moved and Councilor Swanson seconded the motion to reconsider the May 4th Council discussion regarding the PLA repeal.” The motion carried (7-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Councilor Lamb moved and Councilor Wilkinson seconded the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda of June 1, 2021, approving the necessary motions and resolutions. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

- a. Resolution No. 21-28, Authorizing the Payment of Bills and Payroll
- b. Approval of 2021-2022 Liquor and Related Business License Renewals
- c. Approval of Taxicab License – Jkroll Transport, LLC

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

PRESENTATIONS

- a. CAT-7 Update
Pete Radosevich gave a brief update on the status of CAT-7 since the Pine Knot News took over the station in January and began broadcasting in February, indicating things are going very well. Mr. Radosevich stated the goal is for CAT-7 to be a resource for the community by posting items and programs of public interest as well as events happening in the city. They also plan to begin live streaming of city meetings in the near future.

14th STREET RECONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Public Works Director Caleb Peterson updated Council members on the status of the 14th Street / CSAH 3 reconstruction project. Construction is scheduled to begin June 7th from Cloquet Avenue to Prospect Avenue. Roads will be closed with the exception of local traffic. Updated information will continue to be posted on the city’s website as well as Council updates throughout the project.

PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENT DISCUSSION

Mayor Maki invited public comments at this time regarding the Project Labor Agreement Repeal, requesting no more than two people from each side comment. Individuals who spoke include:

- Lee Anderson
- Craig Olson
- Wayne Nordeen

City Council discussion followed the public comments.

- Councilor Lamb stated she has had numerous conversations with City of Duluth officials and various individuals since the May 4th vote to repeal the City's PLA. After conversations and more research in the PLA lawsuits, she would like to change her vote to keep the PLA but with the language changes that were made.
- Councilor Wilkinson stated she would like to find balance to keep jobs local but not overlook problematic issues that come with the PLA.
- City Administrator Peterson clarified that the ordinance was to repeal the entire PLA and amendments could be discussed at a later date.
- Councilor Kolodge stated he agrees with City Administrator Peterson and would be in favor of considering compromise such as focusing on prevailing wage.
- Mayor Maki commented he is in favor of repealing the PLA but is willing to look at the prevailing wage aspect.
- Councilor Jaakola opposed the repeal of the PLA but is also interested in a compromise.
- Councilor Swanson stands by his vote to not repeal the PLA but understands the tension and concern, however, is not convinced the voices of the working people are heard. A compromise is worth considering but review amendments rather than removing PLA completely.

MOTION: Councilor Swanson moved and Councilor Lamb seconded the motion to keep the PLA and reinstate as it was prior to May 4, 2021. Motion passed (4-3). Councilors Kolodge, Wilkinson and Mayor Maki opposed.

COUNCIL COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPDATES

- Mayor Maki commented on the Memorial Day program at Veterans Park. He also gave a reminder that Sr. Citizens' Day is June 15th with activities taking place at Veterans Park.
- Councilor Jaakola encouraged councilors to read the article in the Minnesota Cities magazine titled "Understanding Your City's Past to Advance Racial Equity".
- Councilor Wilkinson congratulated graduating seniors.
- Councilor Kolodge said its good to be back to in-person meetings.
- City Administrator Peterson welcomed councilors back and asked for input on removing the "Masks Required" signs in City Hall. Council agreed to remove them.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion duly carried by a unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call, the Council adjourned.

Tim Peterson, City Administrator