

Cloquet City Hall Council Chambers
6:00 P.M. December 5, 2023

Roll Call

Councilors Present: Lamb, Keller, Kolodge, Jaakola, Wilkinson, Mayor Maki

Councilors Absent: Carlson

Pledge of Allegiance

AGENDA

MOTION: Councilor Jaakola moved and Councilor Lamb seconded the motion to approve the amended December 5, 2023 agenda with the addition of *8.a, Pine Valley Regional Designation*. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

MINUTES

MOTION: Councilor Kolodge moved and Councilor Keller seconded the motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of November 21, 2023 as presented. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Councilor Lamb moved and Councilor Wilkinson seconded the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda of December 5, 2023, approving the necessary motions and resolutions. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

- a. Resolution No. 23-64, Authorizing the Payment of Bills Payroll
- b. Approve 2023 Independent Auditor

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Mayor Maki announced now is the time and place for the Truth in Taxation public hearing.

City Administrator Peterson reviewed the proposed 5-year CIP, 2024 Budget and Levy for 2023 payable in 2024. Peterson explained the majority of the budget remains the same as the preliminary except the levy decreased from the preliminary of 4.5% to 2.85%.

MOTION: Councilor Wilkinson moved and Councilor Jaakola seconded the motion to open the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously (6-0). The time is 6:16 p.m.

Jim Kuklis, owner and operator of Trails Edge addressed Councilors on how property taxes are affecting their business and their clients. Any tax increases have to be passed down to their clients who are already on fixed incomes. 2024 proposed taxes are above what they should be.

Hearing no further public comments, the meeting was closed.

MOTION: Councilor Lamb moved and Councilor Wilkinson seconded the motion to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously (6-0). The time is 6:35 p.m.

MOTION: Councilor Wilkinson moved and Councilor Kolodge seconded the motion to adopt the Five-Year Capital Improvement Plan for 2024-2028. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

MOTION: Councilor Keller moved and Councilor Lamb seconded the motion to adopt **RESOLUTION NO. 23-67, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2024 BUDGET**

WHEREAS, The City Administrator has prepared an annual budget and the City Council has reviewed the 2024 budget; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 275, Section 065 of Minnesota Statutes requires that the City adopt a 2024 levy and budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLOQUET, MINNESOTA, That there be and is hereby set aside for the year 2024 for the following departments and funds:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Revenues</u>	<u>Expenditures</u>
General	\$8,988,674	\$9,288,674
LDO Loan (EDA)	15,500	2,200
Federal CDBG Loan (EDA)	10,000	10,000
Economic Development Loan (City)	11,550	2,000
Small Cities Development (EDA)	2,250	0
Library	778,000	789,250
Tax Increment – Trails Edge	33,500	33,500
Tax Increment – 14 th Street Apartments	58,300	58,300
Tax Increment – Oakwood Estates	55,000	55,000
Tax Increment – Patio Homes	55,000	55,000
Landfill Host Fee	105,000	25,000
Cable Television	103,000	107,500
Swimming Pond Bonds	83,500	103,750
City Sales Tax Bonds	545,500	545,500
Facility Bonds	98,150	95,000
Permanent Improvement	100,000	6,500
Public Works Reserve	638,700	638,700
Revolving Capital Projects	1,456,000	1,456,000
City Sales Tax Projects	1,015,000	1,480,175
City Sales Tax Pine Valley	1,000,000	350,000
Employee Severance Benefits	10,000	30,000
Water – Lake Superior Waterline	3,000,000	3,435,080
Water – In Town System	2,580,310	2,875,525
Sewer Utility	2,146,983	2,222,730
Stormwater Utility	332,000	610,200
TOTAL:	<u>\$23,221,917</u>	<u>\$24,275,584</u>

MOTION: Councilor Lamb moved and Councilor Jaakola seconded the motion to adopt **RESOLUTION NO. 23-68, A RESOLUTION ADOPTING MONEY TO BE LEVIED FOR LEVY YEAR 2023, PAYABLE IN 2024.** The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

BE IT RESOLVED, By the City Council of the City of Cloquet, Minnesota, that the following sums of money be levied for the levy year 2023, payable in 2024, upon taxable property in the City of Cloquet, for the following purposes:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>Levy</u>
General	\$2,408,850
Library	561,000
GO Swimming Pond Debt	83,500
GO Facilities Debt	98,150
Public Works Reserve	<u>388,700</u>
 TOTAL LEVY	 <u><u>\$3,540,200</u></u>

PRESENTATIONS

Assistant Public Works Director, Ross Biebl, announced that after an extensive application process, Pine Valley has been awarded the status of Regional Designation, one out of 72 in the state and the only one in Carlton County. The next step is to apply competitively for Legacy Funding which could allow the city to leverage sales tax funding already allocated for improvements to Pine Valley such as ski jump rehabilitation, lighting upgrades, improvements to the chalet and parking lots.

PARKS MAINTENANCE FULL TIME AND PART TIME APPOINTMENTS

MOTION: Councilor Kolodge moved and Councilor Lamb seconded the motion to approve the probationary appointments of Bryce Oslin to the position full-time Parks Maintenance Worker and Donald Christensen to the position of part-time Parks Maintenance Worker. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

ORDINANCE NO 509A, AMENDING CHAPTER 17 TO ALLOW MOBILE STORAGE STRUCTURE/SHIPPING CONTAINERS IN THE FR-FARM RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT – SECOND READING

MOTION: Councilor Lamb moved and Councilor Jaakola seconded the motion to adopt **ORDINANCE NO. 509A, AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 17 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE TO ALLOW MOBILE STORAGE STRUCTURES/SHIPPING CONTAINERS IN THE FR-FARM RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT.** The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

The City Council of the City of Cloquet does hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1. Section 17.5.07, Mobile Storage Structures/Shipping Containers, Subd. 2, Special Requirements for Residential Properties, is amended to include the following:

D. FR – Farm Residential District. On lots larger than 2-acres no more than one mobile storage structure/shipping container up to 40 feet in length or two up to 20 feet in length are allowed. The container(s) must be screened from view from the public right of way.

Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication in accordance with the law.

SUPPORTING SUBMITTAL OF SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL FUNDING APPLICATIONS

MOTION: Councilor Wilkinson moved and Councilor Keller seconded the motion to adopt **RESOLUTION NO. 23-65, SUPPORTING SUBMITTAL OF SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL (SRTS) FUNDING APPLICATIONS**. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

WHEREAS, Safe Routes to School (SRTS) funding is available, with a minimum of \$50,000 and cap of \$1,000,000 for each project; and

WHEREAS, A joint study by SRF Consulting in coordination with the City, County and School District identified needs for intersection improvements along City owned streets including Doddridge Avenue and 18th Street; and

WHEREAS, The total estimated cost to improve adjacent intersections is estimated at \$662,940 with \$256,555 coming from local funding sources; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 13 of City Code requires the construction of Safe Routes to School infrastructure (sidewalks) in new developments, a requirement of SRTS funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLOQUET, MINNESOTA:

1. The City Council hereby approves submittal of the 2023 SRTS funding application in the amount of \$406,385.
2. The City Council supports the construction of the project and agrees to maintain such improvements.
3. The City Council pledges support to fund engineering, inspection and all other non-SRTS costs as well as SRTS items in excess of the grant amount.

SUPPORTING PURSUIT OF 2023 LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (LRIP) FUNDING

MOTION: Councilor Lamb moved and Councilor Jaakola seconded the motion to adopt **RESOLUTION NO. 23-66, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PURSUIT OF 2023 LOCAL ROAD IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (LRIP) FUNDING**. The motion carried unanimously (6-0).

WHEREAS, The Local Road Improvement Program has been established through Statute 174.52 to provide funding assistance to local agencies; and

WHEREAS, The City of Cloquet is currently preparing engineering plans for improvements along Armory Road including pavement reconstruction and pedestrian improvements; and

WHEREAS, Implementation of Armory Road improvements will have a positive regional impact to the area and the TH Highway System, and

WHEREAS, The Armory Road improvements need additional funding in order to be implemented.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CLOQUET, MINNESOTA, That the City Council hereby supports the pursuit of Local Road Improvement Program (LRIP) funding and authorizes staff to prepare and submit an application.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That the City Council supports the reconstruction of Armory Road and agrees to maintain such improvements

COUNCIL COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND UPDATES

Administrator Peterson stated he would like to form an Ice Arena Lease Negotiating Committee to participate in the 3 ice arena leases that are expiring. The leases are with the Cloquet School District, CAHA and the Wilderness. Peterson stated these lease agreements are typically handled internally but would like to form a committee that includes 2-3 city councilors, the school district and other use groups. Councilors Keller and Kolodge are interested and Peterson will reach out to Councilor Carlson.

Mayor Maki extended a thank you to the Pine Knot News for the success in the Home for the Holidays celebration.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Tim Peterson, City Administrator