

Cloquet City Hall Council Chambers  
6:00 P.M. October 15, 2024

Roll Call

Councilors Present: Carlson, Keller, Kolodge, Jaakola, Mayor Maki

Councilors Absent: Lamb, Wilkinson

Pledge of Allegiance

### **AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Councilor Keller moved and Councilor Jaakola seconded the motion to approve the October 15, 2024 agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

### **MINUTES**

**MOTION:** Councilor Carlson moved and Councilor Kolodge seconded the motion to approve the Regular Meeting minutes of October 1, 2024 as presented. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were none.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Councilor Jaakola moved and Councilor Keller seconded the motion to adopt the Consent Agenda of October 15, 2024, approving the necessary motions and resolutions. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

- a. Resolution No. 24-65, Authorizing the Payment of Bills
- b. Authorize Lake Superior Waterline Pump #3 Replacement
- c. Resolution No. 24-68, Approving Application for Exempt Permit to Conduct a Raffle Event for Cloquet Amateur Hockey Association

### **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- Proposed 2025 Improvement of Armory Road

John Anderson, Assistant Public Works Director, presented an overview of the proposed 2025 reconstruction of Armory Road from TH 33 Frontage road to White Pine Trail.

Mayor Maki announced now is the time and place for the public hearing related to the reconstruction of the proposed reconstruction.

**MOTION:** Councilor Keller moved and Councilor Jaakola seconded the motion to open the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously (5-0). The time is 6:12 p.m.

Hearing no public comments, Mayor Maki closed the public hearing.

**MOTION:** Councilor Carlson moved and Councilor Kolodge seconded the motion to close the public hearing. The motion carried unanimously (5-0). The time is 6:13 p.m.

Council discussion followed the public hearing:

Councilor Kolodge asked for details on the detours that will be in place.

Councilor Jaakola questioned the impact on businesses and homeowners during reconstruction.

Administrator Peterson thanked Public Works Director Peterson and Assistant Public Works Director Anderson for their conversations with Miners, Good Hope Church and McDonalds regarding a plan for sewer main takeover during reconstruction.

**MOTION:** Councilor Kolodge moved and Councilor Jaakola seconded the motion to adopt **RESOLUTION NO. 24-66, ORDERING IMPROVEMENT FOR THE 2025 RECONSTRUCTION OF ARMORY ROAD FROM TH33 FRONTAGE ROAD TO WHITE PINE TRAIL.** The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

**WHEREAS,** The City has completed a feasibility study to reconstruct Armory Road from TH Frontage Road to White Pine Trail

**WHEREAS,** The City Engineer has identified a need to replace the street as well as improvements to the sanitary sewers, and water utilities; and

**WHEREAS,** A resolution of the Council adopted September 17, 2024, set a date for a Council hearing on the proposed improvement; and

**WHEREAS,** Ten days mailed notice and two weeks published notice of the hearing were given and the hearing was held thereon on the October 15, 2024, at which time all persons desiring to be heard were given an opportunity to be heard.

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

1. Such improvement is necessary, cost effective, and feasible as detailed in the City's feasibility study.
2. The City Engineer is hereby designated as the engineer for this improvement.
3. Such improvement is hereby ordered.

**MOTION:** Councilor Keller moved and Councilor Jaakola seconded the motion to approve **RESOLUTION NO. 24-67, A RESOLUTION RELATING TO PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON ARMORY ROAD FROM TH 33 FRONTAGE ROAD TO WHITE PINE TRAIL.** The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

**WHEREAS,** The City has planned the improvement of Armory Road, State Aid Route No. 129, from TH 33 Frontage Road to White Pine Trail; and

**WHEREAS,** the City will be expending Municipal State Aid Funds on the improvements of this street; and

**WHEREAS,** this improvement does not provide adequate width for parking on both sides of the street; and approval of the proposed construction as a State Aid Street project must therefore be conditioned upon certain parking restrictions.

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

That the City shall restrict the parking of motor vehicles on Armory Road from TH 33 Frontage Road to Olympic Drive, to one side only; and

That the City shall restrict the parking of motor vehicles on Armory Road from Olympic Drive to White Pine Trail, on both sides;

**PRESENTATIONS**

Carlton County Riders

Eric Senarighi from the Carlton County Riders requested a resolution of support from City Council to designate a trail through Cloquet that will connect with trails to the north and south. A resolution will allow the club to be part of a grant aid program and receive reimbursement for signage and trail maintenance and be shown as a designated trail on DNR maps.

A resolution will be presented to the council at a future city council meeting.

**SET SPECIAL MEETING TO CANVASS THE GENERAL ELECTION**

**MOTION:** Councilor Jaakola moved and Councilor Kolodge seconded the motion to schedule a special meeting to canvass the General Election results for 8:00 a.m. Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

**TEMPORARY INTERN COMMUNITY SERVICES OFFICER (CSO)**

**MOTION:** Councilor Jaakola moved and Councilor Carlson seconded the motion to approve the implementation of a temporary Intern Community Services Officer (CSO) position and job description. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

**LIBRARY BOARD APPOINTMENT**

**MOTION:** Councilor Kolodge moved and Councilor Keller seconded the motion to appoint Henry Backus to the Library Board for a term expiring December 31, 2027. The motion carried unanimously (5-0).

**UTILITY RATE DISCUSSION**

Staff reviewed annual budgets, cash positions and projected rate increases for the Sewer and Water funds. The sewer fund is performing better than anticipated so the forecasted rate increase for 2025 is recommended to decrease to \$0.15 per thousand gallons. Water rate increases are proposed to be consistent with 2024 due to upcoming regulatory requirements. Proposed rate increases for 2024 would have an estimated impact of \$3.10/month to an average residential customer. Staff also shared results of a statewide 2024 rate survey which reflects Cloquet's utility rates are competitive with other outstate communities.

**FIRST READING OF ORDINANCE NO. 514A – AMENDING CHAPTER 17 OF CITY CODE**

Council is asked to review **ORDINANCE NO. 514A, AMENDING CHAPTER 17 OF CITY CODE BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF CLOQUET FROM “FR-FARM RESIDENTIAL” TO “R-2 ONE-AND-TWO FAMILY RESIDENCE”**. The second reading will take place November 7, 2024.

Comments were heard from Bill Soboleski who resides on the lot east of the subject property and is not in favor of the amendment or the proposed construction on this lot. His main concern is water run-off from the pond as well as the property losing its rural character.

Stacy Nelson, 1563 Carlton Ave West, lives directly north of the subject property. Ms. Nelson is also not in favor of this amendment and construction on the lot. She is also concerned about the water run-off and what development will do to the wildlife that currently lives on the lot.

Kevin Vegar of Vegar Properties addressed the council stating he will do whatever he can to avoid issues the neighbors are concerned about and will construct a swale and culverts by the driveways to help alleviate any drainage issues. He also commented he will be leaving the back of the lot in its natural state.

Administer Peterson explained there will be no council action tonight as this first reading is to explain the process of the amendment and next steps. Peterson also commented with the housing study that council just accepted, this fits a need that Cloquet has. It is suggested to have a meeting with Mr. Vegar about adding modifications for drainage and grading plans to alleviate the neighbors' concerns.

Ordinance No. 514A:

**Section 1.** The Zoning Map of the City of Cloquet is hereby amended to change the zoning designation of the following described property from FR – Farm Residential to R-2 – One- and Two-Family Residence:

A tract of land on Government Lot 7 of Section 22, Township 49, North of Range 17, West of the Fourth Principal Meridian, more particularly described as follows: Commencing at the Northwest corner of said Government Lot 7; thence bearing North 88 degrees 55 minutes 33 seconds East on the North line thereof a distance of 631.21 feet to the point of beginning of the tract to be herein described; thence bearing South 0 degrees 25 minutes 01 seconds East a distance of 669.04 feet to a point on the East-West centerline of said Government Lot 7; thence running Easterly on the East-West centerline of said Government Lot 7 (the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 ) a distance of 324.96 feet to a point; thence running Northerly along a line parallel to the West boundary line of the tract herein described to a point on the North boundary line of said Government Lot 7; thence running Westerly on said North boundary line of Government Lot 7 a distance of 324.96 feet to the point of beginning, Carlton County, Minnesota.

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

### **COUNCIL COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND UPDATES**

Chief Randall stated Cloquet PD staff will be at the Cloquet HS job fair to pitch the Police Explorers program to students interested in law enforcement.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

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

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Tim Peterson, City Administrator