

Regular Meeting

Roll Call

Councilors Present: Bailey, Bjerckness, Kolodge, Langley, Maki, Rock, Mayor Hallback

Councilors Absent: None

Pledge of Allegiance

AGENDA

MOTION: Mayor Hallback moved and Councilor Langley seconded the motion to approve the October 17, 2017 agenda with the addition of *Item 8.D., Appointment of Jeff Palmer to Chief of Police for a probationary period of one year, effective October 17, 2017.* The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

MINUTES

MOTION: Councilor Rock moved and Councilor Langley seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the Work Session and Regular Meeting of October 3, 2017. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Councilor Bjerckness moved and Councilor Kolodge seconded the motion to adopt the consent agenda of October 17, 2017, approving the necessary motions and resolutions. The motion carried unanimously (6-0). Councilor Bailey abstained.

- a. Resolution No. 17-83, Resolution Authorizing the Payment of Bills
- b. Resolution No. 17-84, Resolution Approving Waiver of City Code Section 6.2.33, Subd. 3 Related to Hours of Sunday Sales of On-Sale Intoxicating Liquor.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were none.

PRESENTATIONS

- a. Mayor's Proclamation, the week of October 23rd as Manufacturing Week in the City of Cloquet

DOWNTOWN CLOQUET REVITALIZATION STRATEGY

MOTION: Councilor Bjerckness moved and Councilor Maki seconded the motion to accept the Downtown Cloquet Revitalization Strategy. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

APPOINTMENT OF POLICE OFFICER

MOTION: Councilor Rock moved and Councilor Langley seconded the motion to approve the probationary appointment of Larry Sherk, effective October 23, 2017 to the position of Police Officer. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE POLICE SECRETARY

MOTION: Councilor Bailey moved and Councilor Langley seconded the motion to approve the six-month probationary appointment of Mindy Marczak to the position of Administrative Police Secretary. The motion carried unanimously (7-0).

APPOINTMENT OF POLICE CHIEF

MOTION: Councilor Rock moved and Councilor Langley seconded the motion to approve the change in status of Jeff Palmer from Interim Police Chief to Police Chief, with a probationary period of one year, effective immediately. The motion carried (4-3), Councilors Bjerckness, Kolodge and Maki opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Barb Wyman, Nelson Road, congratulated the Council on the decision to appoint Jeff Palmer to Chief of Police. Ms. Nelson stated that she has heard positive feedback from officers that the police department is functioning well since the appointment of Mr. Palmer to Interim Chief in March.
- Jan Anderson, West Taylor Avenue, addressed the Council on her disappointment in the lack of an open process with former Police Chief Stracek's investigation and outcome when it was clear the community wanted an open process. Ms. Anderson also voiced her concern over the unprofessional behavior of Council members during the Work Session.
- Mike Pappas, 17th Street, questioned why the City isn't following a proper decision-making process. The current problems the city is facing is caused by a closed process. The position of Interim Chief should not guarantee the promotion to Chief.
- Wade Lamirande, Roland Road, shared his disappointment in the decision to not have an outside method in hiring a Chief. Mr. Lamirande shared his background and the steps that lead to his previous appointment to Chief and the difference now. He agrees with hiring from within the police department but through a procedure. Mr. Lamirande stated his hope for success for Mr. Palmer and the police department.
- Chris Pappas, 17th Street, stated her disappointment in the lack of a procedure in this Police Chief appointment. If Mr. Palmer is the best candidate, he would rise to the top during a search process. The Council is doing a disservice to the City by not having a vetting process.

COUNCIL COMMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND UPDATES

There were none.

CLOSED MEETING

Mayor Hallback announced that the City Council would now adjourn into a closed meeting as permitted under M.S. 13D.03, Subd. 1(b), for the purpose of discussing the pending labor negotiations with the Teamsters. The time is 7:27 p.m.

Mayor Hallback reopened the regular meeting at 8:13 p.m.

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



 Aaron Reeves, City Administrator