



**MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
November 26, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm.

Present: Mayor: Charlie Miner; Council: Jahn Dyvik, Mike Feldmann, Gina Joyce, and Deirdre Kvale

Staff Present: City Administrator: Scott Weske; and City Clerk: Jeanette Moeller

Absent: None

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR'S COMMENTS – LONG LAKE NEWS, MEETING REVIEW AND UPDATES

Mayor Miner offered the following comments and updates:

The Council held a work session meeting prior to the regular meeting and had met in a closed session to discuss enforcement action related to the fire services contract.

Mayor Miner had recently attended a retirement recognition event for Wayzata Police Chief Marc Schultz. The City of Long Lake wishes Chief Schultz well in his upcoming retirement and on the next chapter ahead in his life.

The City will be holding its annual Holiday Tree Lighting event on Friday, December 6 at 5:30 pm at Holbrook Park. Additionally, the City's annual Holiday Home Decorating Contest will be coming up and Mayor Miner encouraged residents to be watching for more details.

He reported that City offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 28 and 29 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Lastly, Mayor Miner highlighted the Long Lake Fire Department Auxiliary's annual Food and Toy drive event coming up at Fire Station 1 on Saturday, December 7.

APPROVE AGENDA

A motion was made by Kvale, seconded by Joyce, to approve the agenda as presented. Ayes: all.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consisted of the following:

- A. Approve Minutes of November 12, 2024 Long Lake Canvassing Board (City Council) Meeting
- B. Approve Minutes of November 12, 2024 City Council Meeting
- C. Approve Vendor Claims and Payroll

- D. Adopt Resolution No. 2024-51 Approving a Minor Subdivision for a Lot Line Adjustment at the Properties Located at 55 and 65 Harrington Drive

*A motion was made by Dyvik, seconded by Feldmann, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.
Ayes: all.*

OPEN CORRESPONDENCE

Mike Bash, Orono School Board Chair – Mr. Bash congratulated the Orono Swim and Dive Team for becoming state champions and mentioned that Council member Dyvik’s daughter was on the team.

Mr. Bash gave a presentation on the Orono Schools strategic planning process, input they received from the community, and details surrounding the key findings from the community survey. He indicated that people can view the updated strategic plan on their website at www.oronoschools.org/strategic-plan. He highlighted academic statistics information for Orono Schools, particularly at the high school level, in areas such as student preparedness for college and careers, participation/outcomes in Advanced Placement (AP) classes, test scores and the overall proficiencies of the Orono Schools students. He clarified that when students opt out of MCA testing, a ‘non-proficient’ statistic is logged for those students who opt out, which skews MCA test statistics.

Council member Dyvik asked why students were opting out of the MCA testing when historically that was not the case.

Mr. Bash responded that students are focusing more on taking AP classes and the associated workload, and are aware that they can actually opt out of the MCA testing.

Council member Kvale asked if they could make the MCA testing compulsory.

Mr. Bash replied that they cannot make the MCA testing compulsory because that state says that students can opt out of it, and the school district cannot override the state. He explained that they have been trying hard at the high school level to encourage students to participate in taking the MCA testing.

Council member Dyvik questioned whether there had been an effect on test scores due to COVID.

Mr. Bash commented that scores across the state and the country went down during COVID, but added that scores had started decreasing prior to COVID as well.

Mayor Miner thanked Mr. Bash for sharing his presentation and the information related to testing with the Council.

Bryan Miller, 295 Lakeview Avenue – Mr. Miller indicated that because it was the week of Thanksgiving, he wanted to give thanks specifically to Mayor Miner, Council member Feldmann, and Council member-elect Newcomer for running for office during the last election. He also wanted to express his appreciation to Council member Dyvik for his long-standing presence on the Council that began in 2015. He thanked the entire City Council and City staff for their work, particularly related to the issues with the City of Orono and noted that he felt Long Lake had maintained a great demeanor in handling that situation and have all showed professionalism. He thanked Council member Joyce for her service to the Council.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Updates Regarding Fire Department Matters

Mayor Miner shared that as an outcome of the City of Orono's election results, there have been some communications behind the scenes with the two cities' legal teams which have led to the trial date being pushed back from March to July of 2025. He noted that he is looking forward to getting the chance to sit down with the new Orono City Council and working to resolve the situation outside of the courtroom and finding a way to do what is best for both Long Lake and Orono and the surrounding communities.

He reported that the Long Lake Fire Department will be participating in the 'Light Up the Night' parade in Wayzata on December 6 at 5:15 pm; and also reiterated that the Long Lake Fire Department Auxiliary was hosting their Food and Toy Drive event, including an appearance by Santa, at Long Lake Fire Station 1 on December 7.

OTHER BUSINESS

LMCC Liaison Update – Council member Kvale had attended a recent LMCC meeting and she noted that a video the LMCC had produced of a conversation with resident Liz Olson is available on their website. The video discusses Ms. Olson's book and was filmed at the Pioneer Museum. City Clerk Moeller added that she had put a link to the video on the City's Facebook page. Council member Joyce sought an update on the LMCC's progress on moving to an office space at the Public Works building. Council member Kvale explained that they were not in their new office space yet because they were waiting until they sell their current building. Mayor Miner mentioned that Midco has been talking to the LMCC about coming into all the partner cities to extend fiber to the entire area which would give people another option besides Mediacom.

Orono Schools Student Updates – Council member Dyvik welcomed two Orono High School students who were in attendance at the meeting for their AP Government class. He stated that he was very proud of the Orono Swim and Dive Team for their performance at state. He congratulated the Orono Football Team for making it to US Bank for the semi-final game in the state tournament. He extended his condolences to the Knudson family who lost their brother/son, Lucas, in a tragic accident.

Comments From Council Member Joyce – Council member Joyce reminded residents that the Park Board has been working on plans for the annual Holiday Tree Lighting on December 6 in Holbrook Park at 5:30 pm and encouraged people to attend. She wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving and shared that she was thankful for City staff as well as the Council, and for getting the chance to serve alongside them. She also gave thanks to the residents for their support of the Council, especially over the last two years, and noted that her last meeting on the Council would be December 17, 2024.

City Clerk Notes - Moeller indicated that she would be posting quorum notices for the events that were discussed tonight in order for the Council to be free to attend. She also expressed her gratitude for how helpful and supportive her fellow staff members have been while she has been trying to kick an illness that has been keeping her down.

Upcoming Work Session - Council member Joyce asked if staff was planning to schedule a work session prior to the upcoming City Council meetings. Moeller replied that there would be a work session on December 3 starting at 5:30 pm.

ADJOURN

Hearing no objection, Mayor Miner adjourned the meeting by general consent at 7:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Weske
City Administrator