

**City of Red Lake Falls
City Council Meeting
May 9, 2022
Minutes**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Red Lake Falls, Red Lake County, Minnesota was duly held in the Council Chambers of said City on the 9th day of May, 2022.

Members Present: Allen Bertilrud, Kevin Brevik, Briana Ingraham, Sara Kenfield, Neil Knaack, Cheryl Matzke,

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Kathy Schmitz, Matt Swendra, Jane Thibert, Delray Sparby, Mitch Bernstein, Dylan Brown, Cavin Berube, Mary Walsh, Shelly Nelson

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

Sheriff Mitch Bernstein informed the council that the county has declared a disaster, and a preliminary assessment has been completed. The city will be able to file claims under the county without having to file separately. He suggested that the city reaches out to the County Engineer and keep track of any reports of damage and costs to the city. Sheriff Bernstein will give an updated report in a couple of weeks.

Item 6.09 Daycare was tabled. Brevik moved, seconded by Matzke, to approve the amended Agenda as presented.

On vote being taken, the motion was unanimously passed.

Ingraham moved, seconded by Matzke, to approve the Consent Agenda.

Approval of the April 12, 2022 City Council Meeting Minutes

Approval of the Bills and Disbursements

On vote being taken, the motion was unanimously passed.

NEW BUSINESS

6.01 Dylan Brown & Cavin Berube from Stantec addressed the council with an update on the water tower & infrastructure projects. Currently, we are looking at next year for the water tower project. Administrator Schmitz asked the engineers to provide a copy of the financials that they submitted with the application.

Kenfield moved, seconded by Matzke to move forward with the purchase of GIS with an initial cost of \$5,000 plus the \$100 annual fee.

On vote being taken, the motion was unanimously passed.

6.02 Ingraham moved, seconded by Matzke to approve Resolution #05-01-2022.
RESOLUTION ON LGA FORMULA UPDATE AND \$90M APPROPRIATION INCREASE

**For: Matzke, Ingraham, Brevik, Kenfield, Knaack and Bertilrud. Absent: None.
Against: None. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**CITY OF RED LAKE FALLS
RESOLUTION #05-01-2022
RESOLUTION ON LGA FORMULA UPDATE AND
\$90M APPROPRIATION INCREASE**

WHEREAS, Local Government Aid (LGA) is an essential aid program to Minnesota cities, helping to restrain local property taxes; and,

WHEREAS, LGA helps cities pay for critical needs and services such as public safety, street maintenance & repairs, libraries, parks and trails, economic development, and housing; and,

WHEREAS, the LGA formula is reviewed and updated approximately every ten years after the completion of the decennial census; and,

WHEREAS, organizations representing cities have worked together to produce a formula update that they agree on; and,

WHEREAS, the LGA formula proposal included in SF 3971/HF 4064 provides a much needed update to the formula to better reflect city needs and changes in our communities since the last major revision to the formula in 2013; and

WHEREAS, the cost of providing city services continues to rise due to a significant increase in inflation; from 2009 to 2022, inflation has grown 41%, while LGA has only grown by 18%; and,

WHEREAS, the share of the state general fund spent on LGA has decreased to just 2.12%; and,

WHEREAS a \$90 million increase to the LGA appropriation is essential to fund the formula and is modest compared to the \$9.3 billion state budget surplus; and,

WHEREAS, the LGA is crucial to our small community in helping to maintain needed services and to keep up with repairs of our aging infrastructure. The increase in materials and services have a significant impact on how much we can do for our small community!

BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Red Lake Falls, Minnesota urges through this Resolution to its lawmakers that the state pass the LGA formula proposal and to increase the LGA appropriation by \$90 million; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be transmitted to Local State Representative Deb Kiel and State Senator Mark Johnson, Speaker of the House Melissa Hortman, Senate Majority Leader Jeremy Miller, House Minority Leader Kurt Daudt, Senate Minority Leader Melissa López Franzen, and Governor Tim Walz.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Red Lake Falls, MN, this 9th day of May, 2022.

CITY OF RED LAKE FALLS, MN

Attest:

By _____
Allen Bertilrud, Its Mayor

By _____
Kathy Schmitz, City Administrator

6.03 Matzke moved, seconded by Kenfield to approve the purchase of a condenser for the arena from SCR that is scratched and dented at the reduced price of \$42,200.00. *On vote being taken, the motion was unanimously passed.*

6.04 Ingraham moved, seconded by Matzke to hire Granite City Environmental to go ahead with the proposed delineation at \$3,650.00 in the Kankel Addition. *On vote being taken, Brevik opposed, Ingraham, Matzke, Kenfield, Knaack, Bertilrud approved, the motion was passed.*

6.05 The non-residential water rates have not been adjusted according to the councils' approved rates in the past. To correct this, the council will re-adjust the non-residential rates. Brevik moved, seconded by Knaack to adjust the Non-Residential water rates to 110% of water rate #4. *On vote being taken, the motion was unanimously passed.*

6.06 Ingraham moved, seconded by Brevik to hire Maisy Hoefer as the 2022 Pool Manager along with Marissa Schiebe and Jalizah Kelley as co-assistant managers. *On vote being taken, the motion was unanimously passed.*

6.07 A resident submitted a letter of concern regarding the color of paint used when repairing the swimming pool. The city crew has been trying to purchase the same paint that was originally used in 2016 but they have not been able to match the exact color. Factors that may be affecting the color match include lot numbers, fading, and mixing. Administrator Schmitz will contact the company to see if they can help match the color.

6.08 Since the Red Lake Falls Flying Club has dissolved, we have received questions regarding the fuel tank, chemical tanks, and storage buildings at the airport. This item was tabled until more information could be obtained.

6.10 Kenfield moved, seconded by Matzke to acquire specs for mall repairs including gutters, doors, slab repair and the four bathrooms in the mall. *On vote being taken, the motion was unanimously passed*

Knaack moved, seconded by Brevik to require Sparky's 218 Grill & Tina Marie's to turn in a design plan for the council to review before approving mall renovations for their businesses. *On vote being taken, the motion was unanimously passed*

6.11 Kenfield moved, seconded by Matzke that the winning water tower design was number 7a. This design was chosen from all the submitted entries by using the scoring process previously decided upon. *On vote being taken, the motion was unanimously passed*

6.12 Mayor Bertilrud suggested we purchase two dehumidifiers, and the topic was tabled.

COUNCIL BOARDS AND SHERIFF/ADMINISTRATOR/ENGINEER

Administrator Schmitz informed the council that we have received several calls from residents with concerns of wet basements, hills sliding etc. The City Administrator from Thief River Falls called for advice as they have homeowners looking for buyouts.

Council member Ingraham asked Public Works Supervisor Swendra if our infrastructure is working as it should with all the water complaints we have received. Swendra assured the council that the ground is saturated, and everything is working. The pumps are working hard, they are wet weather designed to handle 160,000 gallons, and on April 22nd our pumps handled one million gallons.

The meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Allen Bertilrud, Mayor

Kathleen Schmitz, City Administrator