

# COUNCIL COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

## July 31, 2007

### CALL TO

**ORDER:** 4:30 p.m. by Mayor Nordhagen

### COUNCIL

**PRESENT:** Councilmembers Bendickson, Cullen, Erickson, Holten, Kajewski, Lee, and Schmalz

### COUNCIL

**ABSENT:** None

### STAFF

**PRESENT:** City Administrator Torkelson, City Attorney Ihle, Public Works Director Lindberg, Finance Director Johnson, Chief of Police Murphy, Director of Utilities Rude, Liquor Store Manager Olson, MIS Director Froiland, Electric Superintendent Narlock, Parks and Recreation Director Vigen, and Fire Co-Chief Newton.

### PRESS

**PRESENT:** KTRF Radio, The Times

### OTHERS

**PRESENT:** George Eilertson, Northland Securities

The following items were presented and discussed:

1. Presentation by George Eilertson, Northland Securities, on an overview of the city's existing indebtedness.
2. Proposed change in the position description for Water Plant Operator and a request to fill a vacancy.
3. Request to fill a vacant Lineworker position. This request was referred to the Labor Committee for further discussion and to report back to the full Council at their next meeting.
4. **RESOLUTION NO. 7-198-07: APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT WITH THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION ON FUNDING FOR WEST GREENWOOD STREET IMPROVEMENTS**

Ron Lindberg, Public Works Director, brought forward a proposed agreement with the Minnesota Department of Transportation for consideration. Following discussion, Councilmember Erickson introduced Resolution No. 7-198-07, being seconded by Councilmember Cullen, that:

WHEREAS, The City of Thief River Falls has applied to the Commissioner of Transportation for a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation

Fund for construction of Local Road Improvement Project No. SAP 170-115-011; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner of Transportation has given notice that funding for the local road improvement project is available; and

WHEREAS, the amount of the grant has been estimated to be \$270,612.77 by reason of the lowest responsible bid;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Thief River Falls does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the grant consistent with Minnesota Statutes, section 174.52, subdivision 5, and will pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the original grant offer, and will return to the Minnesota State Transportation Fund any amount appropriated for the road project, but not required.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

5. Quotes for replacement of the furnace in the airport terminal building.
6. **RESOLUTION NO. 7-199-07: APPROVAL OF LAWFUL GAMBLING PREMISES PERMIT APPLICATION FOR ELKS LODGE 1308 AT THE BEST WESTERN INN**

The City Council reviewed a Lawful Gambling Premises Permit Application by the Elks Lodge 1308. Following discussion, Councilmember Schmalz introduced Resolution No. 7-199-07, being seconded by Councilmember Kajewski, that:

RESOLVED, by the City Council, to approve the Premises Permit Application to allow the Elks Lodge 1308 to conduct gambling at the Best Western Inn.

On vote being taken, the resolution was passed with 7 yes votes and one abstention (Erickson).

7. **RESOLUTION NO. 7-200-07: APPROVAL OF A TEMPORARY LIQUOR LICENSE PREMISES EXTENSION FOR THE EAGLES AERIE 2368 ON AUGUST 17, 2007.**

The City Council reviewed a request from the Eagles Aerie 2368 to temporarily extend their liquor license premises on August 17, 2007. Following discussion, Councilmember Erickson introduced Resolution No. 7-200-07, being seconded by Councilmember Cullen, that:

RESOLVED, by the City Council, to approve a temporary liquor license premises extension for the Eagles Aerie 2368 on August 17, 2007, to facilitate an outdoor barbeque.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

8. Pennington County's counter-proposal to exchange Oakland Park for the City Auditorium and Old Arena and their request for funding from the City for the radio system at the Pennington County Law Enforcement Center. A meeting will be scheduled with the County to discuss these and other items of mutual interest.
9. **RESOLUTION NO. 7-201-07: APPROVAL TO WAIVE THE FEES CHARGED FOR THE IMPERIAL ROOM FOR USE FOR A CELEBRATION FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD SOLDIERS AND THEIR FAMILIES.**

Following discussion by the City Council, Councilmember Kajewski introduced Resolution No. 7-201-07, being seconded by Councilmember Bendickson, that:

WHEREAS, the City's National Guard soldiers returned from 22 months of active duty, and

WHEREAS, a celebration for them and their families is planned for the Imperial Room at the Ralph Engelstad Arena,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby waives the room rental fee for the Imperial Room and gratefully welcomes the soldiers home.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

10. **RESOLUTION NO 7-202-07: APPROVAL TO WAIVE THE FEES CHARGED FOR THE IMPERIAL ROOM FOR USE BY THE MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ON AUGUST 15, 2007.**

Following discussion by the City Council, Councilmember Cullen introduced Resolution No. 7-202-07, being seconded by Councilmember Bendickson, that:

RESOLVED, that the City Council hereby waives the room rental fee for the Imperial Room for use by the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development.

On vote being taken, the resolution was unanimously passed.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- A. The August 2007 City Council Calendar.
- B. Letter from the Red Lake Watershed giving notice that they will vacate the building on August 31, 2007.
- C. Report on the Coalition of Greater Minnesota Cities conference in Detroit Lakes.
- D. Update on Street Improvement Project for this summer.
- E. MnDot upcoming discussions on signal improvements for the visually impaired.
- F. Site visit by the state of Minnesota officials on the city's bonding request for an Aquatic Center.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Councilmember Cullen, Seconded by Councilmember Kajewski to adjourn at 5:55 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

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Steve Nordhagen, Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jodie R. Torkelson, City Administrator