

**ADJOURNED CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Pennington County Commissioners**

April 23, 2009

The City Council of Thief River Falls, Minnesota, met in adjourned session on April 16, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The following Councilmembers were present: Cullen, Holten, Erickson, Kajewski, and Mayor Nordhagen. Councilmembers Bendickson, Schmalz, and Lee were absent. Mayor Nordhagen chaired the meeting.

Pennington County Commissioners present were: Naplin, Swanson, Carlson, and Tveitbakk

City staff/consultants present: Torkelson, Lindberg, and Ihle

Pennington County staff present: Olson and Rogalla

Others Present: Ron Ray with Arctic Cat and Mark Larson with Digi-Key

DISCUSSION

Lindberg presented a history of the airport and discussed the origins of the legislation for airport authority.

Ihle and Rogalla stated that drafting an agreement would not be difficult and they could use the recently drafted Bemidji Regional Airport Authority as the model.

Mark Larson of Digi-Key and Ron Ray of Arctic Cat spoke on the regional impact of the airport and how vital it is to their businesses.

Torkelson handed out the airport budget for 2009 and pointed out the need for an airport authority to spread the costs of operation beyond just the City's tax base. This is particularly important as the much needed airport improvements are undertaken.

Nordhagen requested that this item be placed on the next County Board agenda and asked that the County approve moving forward with the authority.

Commissioner Carlson spoke in favor of establishing an airport authority effective January 1, 2010.

Commissioner Swanson said he had questions about the taxing formula that would be used.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion, Councilmember Erickson moved, being seconded by Councilmember Cullen, to adjourn the meeting at 4:00 p.m. On vote being taken, the Chair declared the motion unanimously carried and the meeting adjourned.

Steve Nordhagen, Mayor

Attest: _____
Jodie Torkelson, City Administrator