

**ORR CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 8, 2024**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Orr City Council was held Monday, April 8, 2024, at the Orr City Hall.

Mayor Robert Antikainen called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Present at roll call:

Present:	Mayor	Robert Antikainen
	Councilperson	Bruce Black
	Councilperson	Melissa Wright
	Councilperson	Hannah Manick
	Councilperson	John Jirik

Absent: None

Also present: Clerk/Treasurer, Angela Lindgren; Maintenance Supervisor, Paul Koch; Airport Manager/Assistant Maintenance, Ethan Olson; Ambulance Director, Donna Hoffer; Assistant Ambulance Director, Patrick Hoffer; Fire Chief, Jeremy Wright; Dave Colburn, *Timberjay*; Amy Shuster, Cook News Herald; Michael Muhvic, North Country Inn; Justin & Heather Ebel, Ebels Houseboats; Tim & Char Watson, Jim Raridon, Chris Raridon, Jacob Holman; members of the public.

Deletions to the Agenda: Agenda Item G. Approve Resolution 2024-08 for Urgent Petition for the State of Minnesota to Uphold Statute 84B.061 and Assert Jurisdiction Over the Waters of Voyageurs National Park

Additions to the Agenda: Agenda Item G presentation from Justin & Heather Ebel and Tim & Char Watson regarding Statute 84B.061 to assert jurisdiction over the waters of Voyageur's National Park.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Hannah Manick, to approve Consent Agenda consisting of Minutes of Regular Meeting of March 11, 2024, and Special Meeting March 18, 2024; expenditures in the amount of \$147,829.60. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Mike Muhvic resides at North Country Inn and read a statement from the owners. They advised that the current business module is no longer sustainable and the long-term housing business module will have far greater economic impact. They plan to invest \$100,000 for renovations into 12 rooms and expect 20 residents. Resident Jim Raridon opposed the change and referenced security issues with no police force and loss of income to the resort community. Chris Raridon advised that Frank's Marine would have increased expenses for security measures. John Jirik advised that he had concerns with changing the model of the business district. Hannah Manick advised that short term residents do spend money in the city. Patrick Hoffer questioned fire code for the units. Jim Raridon shared his thought that the size of the units would not be for families.

Motion by John Jirik, second by Hannah Manick, to keep ordinance as is. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Jacob Holman asked the council to approve a subdivision from the Lumber-Orr-Hardware to the North to be able to keep property if business is sold and then possibly create a rental unit on the lake. John Jirik advised that subdivision has not happened and would not be feasible with the ordinance. Bruce Black advised that it's an unbuildable lot due to setbacks. Request to subdivide for docks and campers to have access to the lake. Motion by Bruce Black, second by John Jirik, to table to review feasibility of request as it is part of the business district moving to residential. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Hannah Manick, approving Resolution 2024-06 Accepting Donations to Orr Fire and Volunteer Ambulance. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Thank you expressed to donators from Melissa Wright and Hannah Manick.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Melissa Wright, to approve Resolution 2024-07 request to Increase St. Louis County 2025 Fire Contracts Rates. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Hannah Manick to approve newspaper ad for lease of ambulance garage. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Hannah Manick to approve bid from DSGW for Phase One Fee in the amount of \$12,660.00. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Justin Ebel provided information regarding Federal policy changes on how to recreate and commerce on water, including cutoff of winter season ATV use. Tim Watson advised the Frozen Water Plan severely restricts use of the 26,000-acre lake for ice fishing by only allowing any wheeled vehicle access to 300 ft on the side of the plowed ice road. He advised that the water in the Park is held in a trust for the citizens of Minnesota. They asked for City of Orr to sign the petition to ask the for support from the State level to uphold Statute 84B.061. Motion by Hannah Manick, second by Bruce Black, to Approve Resolution 2024-08 to sign for Urgent Petition for the State of Minnesota to Uphold Statute 84B.061 and Assert Jurisdiction Over the Waters of Voyageurs National Park. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Motion by Melissa Wright, second by John Jirik, to Authorize Name Change on Financial Accounts for Clerk/Treasurer Angela Lindgren to Angela Fabish. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

Liquor Store: Liquor Store Manager Laura Manai was not present. Liquor Store report was submitted and read by Mayor Antikainen.

Ambulance: Assistant Ambulance Director Patrick Hoffer advised that he has started the process of purchasing a new rig to replace 2016 truck. Will need to post in local paper to solicit bids. Asked for approval for order from Ferno for con straps and headblocks in the amount of \$933.

Motion by Hannah Manick, second by Melissa Wright, to approve request for \$933 order from Ferno. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. Ambulance Director Donna Hoffer advised that she responded to a call in the snowstorm with the 2022 Dodge 4-wheel drive and that the individual was fine and expressed gratitude with a Thank You in the Cook News Herald. She finished her data collection for the CMS website and turned it into clerk Angela for review and submission by May 31st. Patrick ordered parts to repair slight damage to the Ford ambulance. The EMR class is finishing tonight and should have 4 new if they all pass. There were 9 runs in March, 2 medical transports and 2 mutual aid. Oneka started her new role as training officer.

Fire Dept: Fire Chief Jeremy Wright advised that they had 4 calls in March. All doors have new door handles at the Fire Hall and keys have been given. Fire Department members put new lights on the boat. Thanked everyone who donated to Easter Drive-thru and stated it was a good turnout, lots of bikes were given out.

Water and Sewer: Maintenance Supervisor Paul Koch advised that they have done 70 inspections for the Lead & Copper inventory, with 56 left to check. He replaced the tank heater at the water plant. Annual cleaning was done at the wastewater plant. Chlorine injector replaced. 3 year permit for MPDES was renewed. Yearly inspections done on fire extinguishers.

Airport: Inventory of 1059.5 gallons of LL and 1740 gallons of Jet A.

Parks & Rec: Clerk/Treasurer Angela Lindgren advised that State of Minnesota had contacted her to discuss the rock wall and fishing pier. They want to help build the ADA compliant path from the wayside to the parking lot. Phase 1 for repairing the rock wall will begin in June 2025. They are trying to incorporate the fishing pier at the same time but if unable will be in 2028.

Comments from Public:


Comments from Mayor/Council:

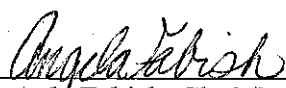
Hannah Manick thanked everyone for Easter donations. Melissa Wright thanked the Orr Fire Department for putting together the Easter Drive-Thru and stated it was nice to see the Fire Department getting events together for our community. Kudos to Jeremy Wright for raising over \$3000 for the event.

There being no further business before the Council, motion by Bruce Black, second by Melissa Wright to adjourn. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Mayor Robert Antikainen

Attest: 
Angela Fabish, Clerk/Treasurer