

**ORR CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
September 9, 2024**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Orr City Council was held Monday, September 9, 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	John Jirik
Absent:	Councilperson	Hannah Manick

Also present: Clerk/Treasurer, Angela Fabish; Maintenance Supervisor, Paul Koch; Airport Manager, Ethan Olson; Ambulance Director, Donna Hoffer, Ambulance member Bill Hoffer; Fire Department Secretary, Karent Barto; Amy Shuster, *Cook News Herald*; Dave Colburn, *Timberjay*;

Deletions to the Agenda: none

Additions to the Agenda: Agenda Item O Insurance

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Melissa Wright, to approve Consent Agenda consisting of Minutes of Regular Meeting of August 12, 2024, and expenditures in the amount of \$315,479.90. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Melissa Wright, to certify 2025 Levy and Approval of Resolution 2024-20 Adopting Proposed Levy of 8%. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Melissa Wright, to reschedule October Regular Council Meeting to Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at 6:00 p.m., in Observance of Columbus Day. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Melissa Wright, deny to submit a sealed bid for adjoining tax-forfeited property near the airport as it is landlocked. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Melissa Wright, to approve deposit of the Cook-Orr Hospital special assessment levy funds into Ambulance checking account. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion made by Bruce Black, second by John Jirik, to approve Ambulance Director Donna Hoffer Request for reflective Jackets for staff with a total cost of \$1285.00. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion made by Bruce Black, second by Melissa Wright, to approve Resolution 2024-21 Authorizing the Orr Ambulance to Make Application to and Accept Funds from Compeer Financial All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Melissa Wright, to approve Fire Department Request for Building Sign from Mesabi Sign in the amount of \$2,337 as amount is in budget. Sign will be 4ft by 24 ft. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by John Jirik, Schedule Board of Canvass to meet on November 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m., to Certify Election Results. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by John Jirik, Approval of Notices of Intent to Certify Delinquent Utility Accounts to St. Louis County Auditor. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Melissa Wright, approval of compensation to City Clerk, Angela Fabish, for additional Liquor Store duties. Clerk Fabish will be paid an additional 1 hour per day at hourly rate of \$31.25 since resignation of Liquor Store manager on 8/6/24. The total amount for 35 days is \$1,093.75. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by Melissa Wright, to accept the Resignation of Paul Koch, Maintenance Supervisor. Mayor Antikainen advised a big "Thank You" to Paul for his service to the City 28+ years leaving "big shoes to fill".

Motion by Melissa Wright, second by Bruce Black, to approve Liquor Store donation of "swag" to the Annual Ash River Fishing Tournament. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion by Bruce Black, second by John Jirik, to Approval of Option #2 with New Hire of Liquor Store Manager Nicole VanOs and Add Authorization to ATM Account. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Motion by Melissa Wright, second by John Jirik, to deny the request from The Dam Supper Club to release the restriction for Off-Sale License. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED. One (1) Absent.

Discussion regarding pursuing change of health insurance plans for employees. Different options will be researched by Clerk Fabish.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENT HEADS

Liquor Store: Manager Nicole VanOs reported Shannon Plumbing will be giving quotes on ice machine placement upstairs and repair of the sink. Arranged for Total Register to come show how to do the inventory. Arrangements made with Coke and Pepsi to deliver product to avoid running to the grocery store. Would like to change hours due to slow hours. Proposed schedule changes to fryer open 9-9, staff hours 8-4, help 3-fryer close, 4-close. Needs laptop and printer to

work. Set up E-tabs and meat raffle with VTSL. Council advised has heard good things with her work.

Ambulance: Ambulance Director Donna Hoffer advised that they applied for the Compeer grant, MSRB special emergency, submitted to receive \$160,000 in December to spend in 1 year. The Virginia ALS is doing a pilot program to station a medic in Cook and Tower to that would respond to 911 calls for the ambulance. Ambulance garage plan was to be redrawn but there has been no communication so invoice not approved to be paid. Donna and Assistant Ambulance Director, Patrick Hoffer, are getting quotes from Stryker for equipment to be replaced. Proposing new rates for transfers and EMS on call. \$2.00 per loaded mile which will increase to approximately \$184. Proposing increase to Ambulance Director, Assistant Ambulance Director and Training Officer by \$400 due to elimination of 1 position and \$0.50 to EMR/EMTs.

Fire Dept: Fire Department Secretary Karen Barto reported that mutual aid to Cook is busier. Looking for the sign for the Fire Hall and gave a thank you to the Lion's Club for the donation for equipment.

Water and Sewer: Maintenance Supervisor Paul Koch reported that Ethan pumped hydrants out a bit earlier than usual to get it done. Paul and Ethan took apart tank control on King Hill as it was having issues and it's on a 2 year cycle. Has old mercury switch bolt that has worked great for 50 years and electric replacement will only last 10 years. Painted at City Hall and DNR parking lot. Called to Liquor Store for leaking sink drain and found that the sink axle collapsed out of the frame and there are pieces of wood propping the sink up but drain has been fixed. Pumped biosolids and completed the annual report.

Parks and Rec: Paul Koch reported that buoys had been removed from the park.

Airport: Assistant Maintenance/Airport Supervisor Ethan Olson reported inventory report of 1109 gallons of 100LL and 1501 gallons of Jet A. Crack filling and painting has been completed. 100LL fuel will need to be ordered soon. Councilperson Jirik advised that we are working with Bollig to get grants for a new hangar.

Tourist Information Center: Clerk/Treasurer Angela Fabish advised that the Tourist Center has slowed down although there are still a few people coming through asking questions. Michelle Whitcomb's last day was September 2nd. July – September was a great help, especially with cleaning up TIC. She did say she hopes to return next year if the position is available. She updated kiosk list and received monies for that. Received membership dues after being missed last year. Fishing pier docks may be replaced in 2028 with the ADA path descending from the wayside rest. Concrete stairs will be placed down from the wayside rest as well and will extend to the pier area where the cribbing may be able to attach. Can work with IRRRB to match those funds to renovate park.

Comments from Public: None

Comments from Mayor/Council: Councilperson Black advised that Paul Koch should be thanked for his years of service.

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 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mayor Robert Antikainen

Attest: 

Angela Fabish, Clerk/Treasurer