

City of Pillager
City Council Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2024

Mayor Adam Sparrow called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance being said.

Council Members present by roll call: Mayor Adam Sparrow, Council Member Rob Freelove, Council Member Wade Mortenson, Council Member Leroy Smith and Council Member Shawn Thayer.

Staff present: Lori Blumke

Visitors present: Dean and Joan Holmberg, Donna Klimek, Jamie Hauge and Kim Gibbs

Mayor Sparrow opened the regular council meeting and began by asking if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. There were three additions under the consent agenda. Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Thayer to accept the agenda with these additions as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith, second by Council Thayer to accept the consent agenda with the following items:

1. Minutes of the February 13, 2024 Regular Meeting
2. February 2024 Cash Control Statement
3. February 2024 Expenses
4. Financial Monthly Analysis
5. Annual Contribution to Cass County Historical Society of \$150.00
6. Accept Pass Through from Pillager Lions Club in the amount of \$11,930.00 to be paid to Pillager Fair Board – Cass County Ag Society
7. Approve Liquor License application for the Pillager Fair from Cass County Ag Society
8. Approve Gambling License application for the Pillager Fair from Cass County Ag Society

The motion carried unanimously.

Visitor Forum

Donna Klimek was in attendance to verify with council their commitment for music at the Pillager Fair and to receive approval for a liquor license and bingo application for the Pillager Fair this summer.

Dean and Joan Holmberg were in attendance to address concerns about dog issues and problems they have been having since they moved to Pillager.

Pillager Point Winter Hibernation Structure

Wiley Buck with Great River Greening reviewed his proposal to construct a garter snake hibernation den located at Pillager Point. Motion by Council Thayer, seconded by Council Mortenson to decline this proposal. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Works Report

The council reviewed parking space striping on Cedar Avenue and getting an estimate, pursue bids for paving Maple Avenue, and seal coating other streets to be look at next year.

Old Business

The Personnel Committee, Mayor Sparrow and Council Freelove updated the council regarding information they have received from the residents of the city and the Cass County Sherriff's Department.

Proposed Union contracts for Chief Tom Youngblom were reviewed. After further discussion, there was a motion by Mayor Sparrow, seconded by Council Freelove to accept both contracts as presented from the Union for Police Chief Tom Youngblom. Voting in favor of: Mayor Adam Sparrow, Council Freelove and Council Mortenson. Voting against this motion: Council Smith. The motion carried.

Council Member Shawn Thayer resigned his position on the council. Motion by Mayor Sparrow, seconded by Council Freelove to accept his resignation. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Smith, seconded by Council Mortenson to hire Guy Efraimson to the position of Public Works Supervisor effective June 1st, 2024, starting at Grade 8 for a 6-month probationary period, then upon successful completion of that period, his salary will be moved to Grade 9. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Sparrow gave an update on conversations he has had with MNDOT regarding the intersection of State Highway 210 and County Road 1 and finding some temporary solutions to improve public safety.

New Business

Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Freelove to increase the Election Judge compensation to \$17.00 per hour. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Freelove, seconded by Council Mortenson to approve monthly bills as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Council Mortenson, seconded by Council Smith to adjourn this meeting. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.



Adam Sparrow - Mayor



Lori Blumke - City Clerk