

Minutes and Proceedings of the City
Council of the City of Emily in the
County of Crow Wing, State of Minnesota
Including accounts audited by said Council

May 9, 2023

The Emily City Council met for a regular meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2023 in the Council Chambers and was called to order by Mayor Tracy Jones at 6:02 p.m. Councilmembers Gerhart Hanson, Andrew Hemphill, and Gregory Koch were present. Jeff Ledin, City Engineer, S.E.H., and Cari Johnson, City Clerk/Treasurer, were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Jones presented a certificate to Nancy Moritz in appreciation of over 10 years of service to the City as a Park Commission Member. The Council thanked Nancy Moritz for her service.

COUNCILMEMBER KOCH MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Jones requested a motion of approval of the Consent Agenda including meeting minutes of the April 11, 2023 Council Meeting and April 18, 2023 Emergency Council Meeting and the Treasurer's Report from April 2023; Checking Beginning Balance \$775,425.73 and Ending Balance \$732,605.88; Receipts to General fund \$11,165.04, Sewer fund \$14,783.45, Total \$25,948.49; and Claims for Approval: \$75,112.48 including Pine River State Bank checks #60371 to #60473 and automatic withdrawals #330691 to #330697; Investments \$376,212.75; Total Checking/Investments \$1,108,818.63. **COUNCILMEMBER HANSON MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

PUBLIC FORUM: Anna Battistini attended on behalf of the Emily Mine Information Group. Battistini reported on the following information reportedly published in an article in the Star Tribune: the Minnesota Attorney General's Office is making inquiries into the deals Crow Wing Power and its subsidiaries have made regarding the mining project; no compensation or profit has ever been guaranteed to cooperative members; the cooperative's subsidiaries are for profit companies; North Star Manganese (NSM) plans an underground mine and a plant to process manganese in a form that battery makers can use, the founders of NSM had a previous company that filed for bankruptcy; and NSM does not mine ore, but would partner with larger nonlocal companies to do the mining.

Kirk Soldner, 42702 State Highway 6, attended the meeting regarding Crow Wing County Board proposed development of a County Park. Soldner reported a good turnout at the Crow Wing County Board meeting on site at Little Emily Lake. Soldner reported the lake water level was almost up to the tree line. Soldner reported opposition to a trailered boat landing at this location and no opposition to a carry in access. Soldner reported public concerns regarding the site being impractical for development, environmental impact, trash, enforcement, and keeping the unspoiled nature of the area. Soldner had developed a Little Emily Papoose Natural Area Proposal in consultation with neighbors.

Jan Mosman, 44483 State Highway 6, reported the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) reports outdoor recreation contributes \$17 billion a year to Minnesota's economy. Mosman reported Crow Wing County has historically received 10% of the total, so outdoor recreation is a large part of the local economy. Mosman, Chair, Emily Waters Committee, thanked the City for continuing to have the Emily Lakes and River Protection Fund and reported the funds are doing good for the City's lakes.

SPEAKERS: Jeff Ledin, City Engineer, and Alex Voit, Project Engineer, S.E.H., attended the meeting regarding the planned 2024 Road Improvements Project, maintenance of bridges/Emily Dam, and the meeting with the Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) for a presentation by a local resident on proposed public safety

improvements for the State Highway 6/County Road 1 intersection. Ledin reported a road review meeting is needed to begin development of a Feasibility Study for the planned 2024 Road Improvement Project. Voit will coordinate a road review meeting with the Road Committee. Voit attended the MnDOT meeting.

Ledin reported Crow Wing County submitted bridge inspection reports for the City's three bridges. The County's bridge inspector had recommended the City start planning for replacement of the Roosevelt Drive Bridge over Crooked Creek. A design needs to be developed for Crow Wing County to use to assist the City with searching for funding to replace the Roosevelt Drive Bridge. Ledin reported construction costs are continually increasing, so the project will cost more the longer the City waits. Ledin roughly estimated the preliminary cost for S.E.H. to design a replacement bridge would be between \$100,000 to \$200,000. The cost to replace the bridge is currently estimated at around \$750,000. S.E.H. will submit a design proposal this fall. Ledin recommended the City add the cost to design replacement of the Roosevelt Drive Bridge to the 2024 Budget.

Nicholas Davis attended the meeting to express interest and desire in keeping a City Police Department and local officer. Davis reported that response times would increase if contracting with the County, which is a large geographic area, or with another entity. Davis reported response times would decrease with a local and dedicated officer with a take home squad. Davis reported other police agencies are short staffed and have had difficulty assisting the City during the deactivation of the Police Department. Davis reported a local Police Department could provide specialization and customization for the City's needs and would provide better local interaction and presence. David reported a local Police Department would allow for preventative patrol and action instead of reactive.

Jason Herfel, 22512 South Shore Drive and Emily Lakes and River Association (ELRA) board member, attended the meeting regarding the water levels of Emily Lake, Little Pine River, and Mary Lake and concerns with Emily Dam. Herfel thanked the City for continued annual support through the Emily Lakes and River Protection Fund. Herfel reported collective concerns with water quality in the immediate water shed. Herfel reported over the past couple of years low water levels have created issues with docks and lifts, increased aquatic vegetation growth, increased algae growth, decreased water quality, and hindered boat navigation. Herfel reported these issues have been further exacerbated by the small hole in the Emily Dam. Herfel reported that per the County's bridge inspector an estimated 10 gallons of water per minute pass through the hole, which would be 14,000 gallons of water per day. Herfel reported the water loss is significant and such a loss during times of low precipitation must contribute to water quality issues in the water shed. Herfel reported on the history of the water shed, Emily Dam, and the Lake Emily Outlet Modification and Lake Plan Analysis report. Herfel reported lake property owners are requesting the Council find a solution to address the water shed management issues and requested involvement in future discussions.

Jeff Ledin reported the need to wait for the Emily Lake water level to be lower to inspect the Emily Dam. Herfel reported there is a vertical crack on the west end abutment of the Emily Dam. Ledin reported S.E.H. will submit a proposal to the Council to prepare a design and solicit a contractor to repair the Emily Dam. Ledin reported the result of the Lake Emily study with the DNR was a requirement for a fixed crest weir with no human intervention.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Chad Genz reported the April Fire Department meeting was held with 16 members present and reported 2 fire calls. Equipment and SCBAs were checked. Fire Hall meeting room renovation continued. The design stage has begun for the new Engine #2.

COUNCILMEMBER KOCH MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC SAFETY CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND TOWNSHIP OF LITTLE PINE WITH FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT RATE OF 3.14174% AND FIRST RESPONSE COVERAGE CONTRACT RATE OF .67776%. COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

COUNCILMEMBER KOCH MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC SAFETY CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP WITH FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT RATE OF 3.14174% AND FIRST RESPONSE COVERAGE CONTRACT RATE OF .67776%. COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

COUNCILMEMBER KOCH MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE PUBLIC SAFETY CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CITY AND ROSS LAKE TOWNSHIP WITH FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT RATE OF 3.14174%.

COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE EMILY FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION APPLICATION FOR 1 DAY TEMPORARY ON-SALE INTOXICATING LIQUOR LICENSE FOR SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2023 IN THE EMILY BASEBALL FIELD PARK FOR A SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT, SUBJECT TO PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSIONER APPROVAL. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

COUNCILMEMBER KOCH MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE EMILY FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION APPLICATION FOR 1 DAY TEMPORARY ON-SALE INTOXICATING LIQUOR LICENSE FOR SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2023 IN THE EMILY DOWNTOWN CITY PARK FOR EMILY DAY, SUBJECT TO PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSIONER APPROVAL. COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL MADE THE MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-19 ACCEPTING DONATION TO THE CITY OF \$2,000 FROM THE EMILY FIREMEN'S RELIEF ASSOCIATION FOR THE FIREMEN'S EQUIPMENT FUND. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF CAT'S MINNESOTA T'S INVOICES FOR PURCHASE OF SAFETY JACKETS FOR ALL FIREFIGHTERS FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,937.95. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. Discussion included the purchase is from the turnout gear budget of \$4,000. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL MADE THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION/RETIREMENT OF WILLIAM PHILSTROM FROM THE EMILY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, EFFECTIVE MARCH 7, 2023, WITH NO REQUIRED TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT, UPON THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

FIRST RESPONSE UNIT: Chief Cary LeBlanc reported the First Response Unit April meeting was held with 10 members present and reported 7 medical calls and 1 fire standby in April. First Response Unit election results were Cary LeBlanc as Chief and Krista Kommer as Assistant Chief. The unit reviewed the need to attend calls, documentation, reviewed calls, and trained on immobilization. The unit approved Kale Jones as a First Responder. On April 17, 2023 Mary Eppen submitted a letter of resignation, effective immediately, and turned in all equipment, uniforms, and keys. The unit received one new AED and two new fully stocked first responder bags from the Good Neighbors EMS fund. The unit will hold another Hands Only CPR class on August 17. The unit will sell hot dogs and hamburgers for the softball tournament and the Fire Relief Association will donate all the proceeds to the First Responders. Training was held on ATV traumas, drownings, and airways.

MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO CONFIRM FIRST RESPONSE UNIT ELECTION RESULTS OF CARY LEBLANC AS CHIEF AND KRISTA KOMMER AS ASSISTANT CHIEF. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF MARY EPPEN FROM THE EMILY FIRST RESPONSE UNIT, EFFECTIVE APRIL 17, 2023, WITH NO REQUIRED TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT. COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

The Council tabled hiring Kale Jones as a First Responder until October per Jones' request.

COUNCILMEMBER KOCH MADE THE MOTION TO CONTINUE THE FIRST RESPONDER PERSONNEL MATTER AGENDA ITEM TO TUESDAY, MAY 23 AT 4 P.M. IN THE EMILY CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS. COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

POLICE: Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office and Cuyuna Police Department submitted preliminary soft quotes for 60 hours of police service coverage per week for one year in the City. The preliminary soft quote from the Sheriff's Office was for a total of \$263,130 and from Cuyuna Police Department was \$181,704.12. The City would need to work with Cuyuna Police Department to lease Emily's current police vehicles for their use. The City's current Police Department budget is \$195,000. Sheriff Chief Deputy Andy Bradley reported the Sheriff's Department is obligated to cover calls or emergency response to the City per Minnesota Statute. Bradley reported typically the Sheriff's Department responds to any serious calls or requests for assistance from the Emily Police Department, which the Sheriff's Department will continue to do. Bradley reported all 911 calls are directed to the Sheriff's Dispatch Department. Dispatch personnel would dispatch one of the City's officers, if available, or contact a Sheriff's Department officer to respond. Bradley reported non emergency calls are also currently forwarded to Dispatch. Bradley reported the Sheriff's Department will continue to service the City of Emily as best they can while the City's Police Department is deactivated or until a solution is reached. **COUNCILMEMBER HANSON MADE THE MOTION TO CONTINUE THE EMILY POLICE DEPARTMENT AGENDA ITEM TO TUESDAY, MAY 23 AT 4 P.M. IN THE EMILY CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS. COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.** The Council thanked Chief Deputy Bradley for attending the meeting.

WASTEWATER: No report.

PLANNING & ZONING: Planning Commission Chair Dave Johnson reported Planning Commission and Land Use Ordinance Review Committee meetings were held. The Land Use Ordinance Review Committee members reviewed the highway mixed use zone and short term rentals. The proposed campground sketch plan was withdrawn before the Planning Commission meeting.

ATTORNEY: No report.

ROADS: MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION FOR S.E.H. TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL TO PREPARE A DESIGN AND SOLICIT A CONTRACTOR TO INSPECT AND REPAIR THE EMILY DAM. COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. Discussion included S.E.H. would prepare a proposal to develop a design and collaborate with the County to provide a cost estimate. If the proposal is approved S.E.H. would solicit specialty contractors to complete the work. **ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

Quotes for dust control for unpaved City streets were received from Crow Wing County approved contractor Corbin Excavating for 9,523 gallons of magnesium chloride at \$1.20 per gallon for a total of \$11,427.60 and from Envirotech for 9,523 gallons of 38% calcium chloride at \$1.50 per gallon for a total of \$14,284.50 or for 9,523 gallons of DuraBlend CEP at \$1.63 per gallon for a total of \$16,667.27. **MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO HIRE CORBIN EXCAVATING TO APPLY 9,523 GALLONS OF MAGNESIUM CHLORIDE AT \$1.20 PER GALLON FOR A TOTAL OF \$11,427.60 FOR 7.44 MILES OF UNPAVED CITY STREETS. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

Quotes for striping of public parking lots and basketball court, painting of an estimated 3,110' of State Highway 6 curbs, and painting of 27 crosswalk blocks on State Highway 6 were received from Pavestripe for striping City Hall parking lot and basketball court for \$470 and painting of curbs for \$1,215 for a combined total of \$1,685 and from Linescape Linestriping for painting of crosswalks for \$33 each for a total of \$891, striping of Public Parking Lot for \$630, striping of City Hall parking lot for \$500, striping of basketball court for \$400, and painting of curbs for \$.62 per foot for a total of \$1,928, for a combined total of \$4,349. Linescape Linestriping does quality work on curb painting. **MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO HIRE PAVESTRIPE FOR STRIPING THE CITY HALL PARKING LOT AND BASKETBALL COURT FOR \$470. MAYOR JONES RESCINDED THE MOTION. MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO HIRE PAVESTRIPE FOR STRIPING THE CITY HALL PARKING LOT AND, IF NEEDED, THE BASKETBALL COURT FOR \$470. COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH MADE THE MOTION TO HIRE LINESCAPE LINESTRIPING TO PAINT THE 27 CROSSWALK BLOCKS FOR \$891, PAINT AN ESTIMATED 3,110' OF STATE HIGHWAY 6 CURBS FOR \$.62 PER FOOT FOR A TOTAL OF \$1,928, AND STRIPE THE PUBLIC PARKING LOT FOR \$630. COUNCILMEMBER HANSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO REQUEST QUOTES TO MAKE 3,000 YARDS OF CLASS 5, INCLUDING OPTIONAL COSTS FOR LOADING. COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO APPROVE PURCHASE OF MINE TAILINGS FOR UP TO \$500. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

A meeting was held with MnDOT for a local resident to present proposed public safety improvements for the State Highway 6/County Road 1 intersection. Councilmember Hanson reported MnDOT's plan is to remediate the storm water drainage area issue at the outlet to Emily Lake this spring.

MAINTENANCE: Maintenance Supervisor Brian Foster reported washing and removing snow equipment, clean up of City parks, working on tree cleanup of roads, sweeping roads, cemetery cleanup, and brush dump work. Seasonal Maintenance Workers have started.

CITY HALL: Crow Wing Power has a dual fuel program with the City for reduced electricity costs for the City Hall boiler. Crow Wing Power found the wiring from the City Hall boiler to the dual fuel panel is broken. Crow Wing Power requires the wiring to be repaired or, if the wiring break is under the City Hall parking lot pavement, for installation of a remote control panel in order for the City to continue with the load management/dual fuel program. The cost for electricity for the boiler could be up to ten times more than the current costs unless the wiring is repaired. **COUNCILMEMBER KOCH MADE THE MOTION TO REPAIR THE WIRING FROM THE DUAL FUEL PANEL TO THE CITY HALL BOILER OR INSTALL A REMOTE CONTROL PANEL. COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

CEMETERY: Mayor Jones reported 3 lots sold and 1 burial.

PARKS: **MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO APPOINT PAM RODEN TO THE PARK COMMISSION FOR A 3 YEAR TERM OF MAY 10, 2023 TO DECEMBER 31, 2025 AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PARK COMMISSION. COUNCILMEMBER HANSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

LIBRARY: No report.

PERSONNEL: **COUNCILMEMBER HANSON MADE THE MOTION TO APPOINT DAVE JOHNSON TO THE VACANT SEAT FOR PRIOR COUNCILMEMBER MARY EPPEN'S REMAINING TERM THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024, EFFECTIVE MAY 10, 2023. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – HANSON AND KOCH VOTED AYE. JONES AND HEMPHILL VOTED NAY. THE MOTION FAILED. COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL MADE THE MOTION TO APPOINT BRYCE BUTCHER TO THE VACANT SEAT FOR PRIOR COUNCILMEMBER MARY EPPEN'S REMAINING TERM THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024, EFFECTIVE MAY 10, 2023. MAYOR JONES SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES AND HEMPHILL VOTED AYE. HANSON AND KOCH VOTED NAY. THE MOTION FAILED.** To fill a Councilmember vacancy, the Mayor can participate in the voting on a candidate for appointment and, in the event of a tie, may make the appointment. With two votes to appoint Dave Johnson and two votes to appoint Bryce Butcher the Council's votes were tied. **MAYOR JONES APPOINTED BRYCE BUTCHER TO THE VACANT SEAT FOR PRIOR COUNCILMEMBER MARY EPPEN'S REMAINING TERM THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2024, EFFECTIVE MAY 10, 2023.**

EMILY WATERS: No report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: No report.

CODIFICATION: No report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Rick Sandri, North Star Manganese (NSM), provided a report. Sandri reported NSM continued exploration drilling of historic areas within the leased lands with the intent to expand knowledge of the Emily Manganese Deposit generated from prior exploration programs. Sandri reported as of the end of April fifteen diamond drill holes had been drilled and completed to date. A number of the targets for drilling are located near to,

in between, or as step-outs from previously drilled areas. Sandri reported target zones of geology and mineralization continue to be intercepted at anticipated depths. By the end of April four batches of samples from eleven of the holes had been shipped for assaying. Results from assaying typically take 10 to 12 weeks. NSM's environmental consultants visit the site weekly to ensure all activities meet the State's environmental requirements and that the operations are in compliance. The DNR and Minnesota Health Department have also visited the site and will be doing so periodically during the drilling program. Work is being undertaken to contain snow melt and runoff in the designed containment areas. NSM continued its discussions with the DNR on its mineral lease applications on State mineral lands in the Emily area. The activity will be ongoing through 2023. Additional information on the Emily project is reported periodically by NSM's parent company, Nevada Silver Corporation. Nevada Silver Corporation is planning to change their name to Electric Metals (USA) Limited in May 2023.

The City of Fifty Lakes confirmed they are willing to partner with the City on Clean Up Day. **COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL MADE THE MOTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH CLEAN UP DAY. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.** Clean Up Day is planned for Saturday, September 16, 2023.

Commissioner Doug Houge attended the meeting and discussed the proposed County Park. Houge reported a large group, both supportive and unsupportive, attended the on site Crow Wing County Board meeting. The County was approved for one of the three grants they have applied for and are waiting for decisions on the other two grants applications. Houge reported the possible timeline for the proposed project is 2024. Houge reported the County Board is planning to use the feedback from the on site meeting for development of the proposed site plan, such as changing the plan to include a carry in access, making the least amount of impact to the surrounding forest, making upgrades to the access road, and providing gated access. The DNR had planned to put in a boat landing. Houge assured the Council the County would be responsible for maintenance of the County Park, including garbage removal, and would be on site two to three times per week to maintain the park to County standards. Houge reported there would be a designated park and outside of the designated park area would be recreational walking trails. Hunting would be allowed outside the designated area. Houge reported the County Board has no intentions of closing ATV or snowmobile trails and the trails would be outside of the park. The Council decided County staff may move forward with development of a proposed site plan. The County Board plans to hold a public meeting at an accessible location for public input after development of the proposed site plan. The Council thanked Commissioner Houge for attending the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-17 APPROVING PINE RIVER STATE BANK AND PERSHING WEALTH SOLUTIONS BNY MELLON ACCOUNT(S) SIGNERS WITH REMOVAL OF MARY EPPEN AND ADDITION OF GREGORY KOCH AS SIGNER FOR THE PINE RIVER STATE BANK ACCOUNT. COUNCILMEMBER HANSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 23-18 APPROVING A LAWFUL GAMBLING PERMIT FOR THE LAKERS LIONS OF EMILY, OUTING & FIFTY LAKES TO HOLD A RAFFLE DRAWING AT THE PICKLED LOON SALOON OF EMILY ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2023 WITH NO WAITING PERIOD. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.

The Council discussed Crow Wing County's request for classification to non-conservation and future sale of tax forfeited land, Parcel ID 21230574. The property is on Van Sickle Road, which is classified as a cart path and not a City maintained road. **MAYOR JONES MADE THE MOTION TO SEND CROW WING COUNTY'S REQUEST FOR CLASSIFICATION TO NON-CONSERVATION AND FUTURE SALE OF TAX FORFEITED LAND, PARCEL ID 21230574, TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR REVIEW. COUNCILMEMBER KOCH SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON, HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

CORRESPONDENCE: Discussion included Ruth Lake Improvement District thanked the City for awarding Emily Waters funds, Initiative Foundation provided options for support of economic and community growth, Emily Emergency Food Shelf thanked the City for the donation, the State Auditor approved an audit extension to June 30, 2023, and IRRRB regarding an electric vehicle charging infrastructure informational meeting.

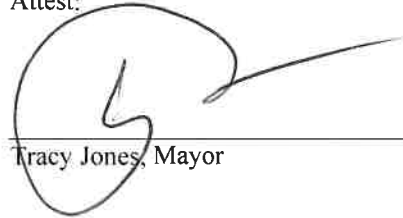
SCHEDULED UPCOMING MEETINGS: Council Meeting continuation will be held on Tuesday, May 23 at 4 p.m. at Emily City Hall.

**COUNCILMEMBER KOCH MADE THE MOTION TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:46 P.M.
COUNCILMEMBER HEMPHILL SECONDED THE MOTION. ROLL CALL VOTE – JONES, HANSON,
HEMPHILL, AND KOCH VOTED AYE. THE MOTION CARRIED.**

Respectfully submitted,

Attest:


Cari Johnson, MCMC, City Clerk/Treasurer


Tracy Jones, Mayor