

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY OF LITTLEFORK
IN THE COUNTY OF KOOCHICHING AND STATE OF MINNESOTA
INCLUDING ALL ACCOUNTS AUDITED BY SAID COUNCIL**

Thursday, March 20th, 2025

Call to Order

Mayor Mike Fort called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 901 Main Street.

Roll Call

Members Present: Loren Lehman, Sara Wendt, Mike Fort, Todd Thydean, and Whitney Sims

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Holly Hoy, Kory Williams, Preston Hoy, Linnea Imhof and Fride Blunch

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Agenda/Additions

A motion was made by Councilor Lehman, seconded by Councilor Thydean, to approve the agenda with the following additions: Under Public Hearings: Preston Hoy, Under New Business: CredibleMind Resources, CD Renewals – Resolution 2025-5, and Little Fork / Rat Root River Board. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Councilor Wendt, seconded by Councilor Sims, to approve February 20th, 2025, Regular meeting minutes. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Councilor Lehman, seconded by Councilor Thydean to approve the March 13th special meeting minutes for the RV Park grant and motion carried.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Councilor Wendt, seconded by Councilor Lehman, and carried out unanimously, to approve the consent agenda.

1. Monthly Bills Allowed – January
2. Water sewer service terminations
3. Approve Fire Department Bingo License
4. Approve Erickson’s Eatery LLC peddler’s license
5. Opioid Settlement Prioritization Survey Results
6. KTI March 5th, regular meeting minutes

Public Hearings

1. Preston Hoy – He asked if he could set up the night before April 19th, for his scheduled community event, due to the time it takes with the props and backdrops. He also asked if picnic tables could be brought up to the gazebo area for more seating during the event. Hoy expressed he would also like to hold a classic car show on Main Street and put up signs for designated parking. The council agreed to early set up for the event, as long as no one else rented the community building. Maintenance Supervisor Kory Williams confirmed that it would be fine to bring picnic tables up to the gazebo area by the community building for extra seating at the event. Hoy received the okay to put signs and cones up on Main Street for “reserved for classic cars” during his event.

2. Linnea Imhof spoke on the upcoming CredibleMind initiative that Koochiching County Public Health Department will kick off in April. The program will act as a “One-Stop Shop for Mental Wellbeing Resources”, ranging from help with stress to aging support for families and several other services. Imhof also gave a brief report about working on establishing a school zone for Littlefork, through the Safe Routes To School program.

Petitions, Requests, and Communications

1. First Call For Help 2-1-1 information was provided. The council is looking into further clarification on which funds can be used for a donation, so the request was tabled.

Reports of Officers, Boards and Committees:

1. Ambulance Report – No one was in attendance to report.
2. Fire Department Report –No one was in attendance to report.
3. Maintenance Department –Kory Williams gave the report. A quote for MN Pump was provided for the new sewage pump. Councilor Thydean made a motion to approve the quote, seconded by Councilor Wendt and motion carried. Two summer maintenance positions will be advertised around town and in the Littlefork Times. Williams asked the council what the best way to repair the bricks by the community building would be. More discussion followed regarding sidewalk repairs and patching.
4. The Financial Report was given by Holly Hoy. Cash balances, balance sheets and income statements were provided for the month of January 2025 and are on file at City Hall. A motion was made by Councilor Thydean, seconded by Councilor Sims, to approve the financial report and motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

1. The Community Design Group (CDG) has been assisting the City of Littlefork, with the Comprehensive Plan for the Blandin Foundation grant of \$20,000. No further updates were provided at this time.
2. Councilor Thydean made the motion to appoint Councilor Lehman to serve on the Little Fork Watershed Management Plan Policy Committee, with Councilor Thydean being the alternate and Holly Hoy being the lead on the steering committee. Motion was seconded by Councilor Sims and motion carried.
3. The 2025 Littlefork Municipal Airport Taxilane Extension Grant options were discussed. The City of Littlefork will receive a \$5,000 quote for tree obstruction removal and some land clearing to be done, and they are looking into the timeline for this work to be completed.
4. The Main Street Pub requested a change to their liquor license. Currently they hold an “OSS” license, and it was determined that the pub would need to fulfill their liquor license as stated, per the city ordinance.
5. Contract employee option – Kristi Splett provided a letter stating that she would remain on payroll over the next three months on an as needed basis and if her assistance was needed beyond that timeline, she would then be considered a contracted employee. The Council was in full support of this request and offered the same option to Sonja Pelland if she would be interested, as the current City Administrator and Administrative Assistant continue to navigate the previous Deputy Clerk position.

New Business

1. Councilor Lehman made a motion to accept the request for Int'l Voyageur's Snowmobile Club to be the gambling organization for Main Street Pub, seconded by Councilor Sims and motion carried, passing Resolution 2025-6.
2. Councilor Wendt made a motion to approve city wide spring cleanup days to be Tuesdays and Thursdays April 15th – May 15th, seconded by Councilor Thydean and motion carried. The maintenance department will be picking up bagged leaves, bundled branches, brush and limbs, but no electronics this year.
3. Crediblemind campaign – moved up to public hearing section of the agenda for Linnea Imhof to report.
4. A motion was made by Councilor Lehman, seconded by Councilor Thydean, to renew all city certificates of deposit which mature in the month of April for a period of one year, motion carried, resulting in passing Resolution 2025-5.
5. Councilor Sims spoke about the Little Fork / Rat Root River Board. Holly Hoy will be the city representative, and one citizen representative is still needed. The board plans to hold one or two meetings per year and was created to develop a management plan that protects the resources and guides the use of the two rivers.
6. Sara Wendt shared that she is looking into a non-profit organization for events such as SnoFun Days, All School Reunion, etc, as this would allow the opportunity to solicit for donations.

Miscellaneous

1. None

Adjournment

Councilor Lehman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 p.m., seconded by Councilor Thydean, and motion carried unanimously.

Attest: Holly Hoy, City Clerk

Mayor Mike Fort