



CROSSLAKE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION

Minutes – October 4, 2023 9:00AM

Attendees: Aaron Herzog, Jayme Knapp, Marcia Siebert-Volz, Chief Lohmiller, Chief Maier, Jen LeBlanc

Guest: Mike Lyonais, Rob Almendinger

1. Call to Order – 0855
2. Approve Minutes September 6, 2023 – **Motion by Maier, seconded by Sibert-Volz – MOTION CARRIES**
3. North Memorial Ambulance – new staffing schedule
 - Chief Lohmiller introduced Rob Almendinger, the new District Manager of NMAS. Rob discussed eliminating call shifts for paramedics in the Brainerd Lakes area. NMAS is changing from 24-hour shifts (12 working, 12 on-call) to 12 hours working. Instead of reporting to a base, staff will report to an ambulance. Once they are in a rig, they will “float” from call to call, rather than return to a base. Shift start times will be staggered. Rob further explained this is a data driven decision based on years of EMS calls. Staffing of paramedics and EMTs around the state continues to be an issue. NMAS is short five paramedics and six EMTs. With this change, NMAS will increase recruitment and retention as well as become more efficient and increase response time. Rob further re-iterated that this is essentially how NMAS has been operating over the years but now it is becoming formal. NMAS is committed to continuing to provide the same level of service and care. Discussion ensued. As part of this transition, NMAS is examining all of its current contracts, which includes the City of Crosslake. Rob explained that NMAS’s legal team stated the contract in place is not currently being followed and is not enforceable

as its written. Rob's superior, The Director of Ground Operations for NMAS, would like to propose that this contract be null and void. The contract costs the City \$1,100 a month, was created in 2008 and was last signed in 2018. Rob furthered explained the contract is vague and unnecessary. Under EMSRB, Crosslake is part of NMAS's service area and they are required to provide service regardless of a contract. Discussion ensued.

Motion to approve recommending to the City Council to void the City's contract with NMAS effective immediately – **Motion by Siebert-Volz, seconded by Herzog – MOTION CARRIES**

4. Police Department

- Hiring Update – Chief Maier has received two applications for the open full time officer position. After speaking with references, Maier invited one of the applicants, David Luttmers, for an interview that was conducted on October 3rd. Maier will recommend at the October 9th Council Meeting that the City offers Luttmers a conditional job offer.

Motion to approve recommending to the City Council to offer David Luttmers a conditional job offer – **Motion by Lohmiller, seconded by Herzog – MOTION CARRIES**

- Promotion to Sergeant – Chief Maier expressed his desire to promote Officer Tony Marks to the position of Sergeant. Discuss ensued about probation period, salary and unions.

Motion to approve recommending to the City Council to promote Officer Tony Marks to Sergeant – **Motion by Lohmiller, seconded by Knapp – MOTION CARRIES**

5. Old Business

- Signs on Bonnie Lakes Rd and Swann Dr – speed limit and pedestrian signs for Bonnie Lakes Rd just came in but have not been installed yet. Signs are up on Swann Dr, as well as by Moonlite Bay. Lohmiller asked about signs in front of 14 Lakes Brewery and Crafts and Cones.

Maier states he is working on a Parking Resolution for the City to be able to make decisions (put up signs, paint curb yellow) about county roads that run through town, rather than having to ask permission from the County.

6. New Business

- Island View Rd – Mike Lyonais stated that at the recent Public Works meeting, a homeowner attended and requested that the City take over snow removal on the road he had paved. PW denied this request. Another issue that was raised was parking at a VRBO on the same road. The City offered to help with signage. Maier commented that it is private property so it would not be enforceable. Discussion ensued.
- Remove Chief Maier from probation – Lyonais stated Chief Maier is coming up on the end of his three-month probation. Discussion ensued about contract and pay. Lyonais would like the committee to recommend that Chief Maier be removed from probation.

Motion to approve recommending to the City Council to remove Chief Maier from three-month probation – **Motion by Lohmiller, seconded by Knapp – MOTION CARRIES**

- Snow removal on Rushmoore Blvd – Lohmiller met with a resident on this street who has medical issues. Lohmiller requests that Public Works puts stakes up in the winter to ensure the road is plowed properly to allow for First Responders and fire trucks to get to his house.
- Crosslake Days congestion – Knapp raised concerns about getting emergency personnel through town during this event, with cars parked on both sides of County Rd 66 from the Fire Hall to Moonlite Bay. There was one medical during the day and a deputy could not get through because there was no where for vehicles to pull over to let him through. Maier suggested talking to Cindy Myogeto about planning Crosslake Days next year.

7. Motion to Adjourn at 0959 – **Motion by Lohmiller, seconded by Knapp**