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February 1, 2022

Special meeting of the City Council of the City of Two Harbors, Minnesota, held on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, at 5:00 p.m.

The meeting was called to order by President Redden.

Members present, Councilors: Woodruff, Glaser, Rennwald, Swanson, Passe, Erickson (virtual), Redden. 7.

Others present: Interim Administrator/Finance Director, Pietila  
City Clerk, Nordean  
City Attorney, Costley.

President Redden announced that the purpose of the meeting was to determine whether or not a certain New York Times publication should be referred to the Minnesota Attorney General requesting an opinion on whether or not a violation the City Code, Charter, policies or state statute has occurred; to consider establishing an ad-hoc committee to review potential future publications related potential violations of the City Code, Charter, policies or state statute; and to consider authorizing the Mayor, City Clerk and City Attorney to execute and deliver the Airport Rescue Grant Agreement.

Redden stated that he takes these meetings and the reasons for having them very seriously, noting that he feels that to do a proper and just service to the citizens of our community, staff, public officials, vendors and entire organization, we must continue to be transparent, diligent and thoughtful.

He indicated that he will not allow public comment, changes or additions to the agenda, however, he welcomed comment and discussion on each of the agenda items from the Administrative Team, Attorney, Council and Mayor.

Redden asked if there was any discussion or questions on the publication at issue: New York Times Article dated January 25, 2020 entitled *The Rise of the Crypto Mayors*.

Councilor Rennwald asked if everyone had a chance to read the information that they have been given in its entirety and not just skim over it and look to see if there is anything in violation or if it's all potential. To that end, she stated her belief that the Council should move right to putting together an ad-hoc committee and move this matter out of the media realm that it has become. She explained that she feels that this matter has been something that we don't need to have out as public as it has been. She noted that Capital Days is coming up and it bothers her seeing the reputation and the very ugly shade of limelight that Two Harbors has been thrust into. She would like it to just go to an ad-hoc committee and let it be handled that way.

Motion by Glaser and Passe Instructing the City Attorney to ask the Minnesota Attorney General to render a written opinion on a certain New York Times publication dated January 25, 2022 entitled *The Rise of the Crypto Mayors*, to determine whether or not a violation of the City Code, Charter, policies or State Statute has occurred. Carried by the following vote: Yeas: Woodruff, Glaser, Swanson, Passe, Erickson, Redden. 6. Nays: Rennwald. 1.

Motion by Glaser and Woodruff that **RESOLUTION NO. 2-41-22 ESTABLISHING AN AD-HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW POTENTIAL FUTURE PUBLICATIONS FOR POTENTIAL VIOLATIONS OF THE CITY CODE, CHARTER, POLICIES OR STATE STATUTE FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE CITY COUNCIL WHETHER OR NOT THEY SHOULD BE IMMEDIATELY REFERRED TO THE MINNESOTA ATTORNEY GENERAL** be adopted as read. Carried by a unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.

Motion by Woodruff and Rennwald that **RESOLUTION NO. 2-42-22 AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR, CITY CLERK AND CITY ATTORNEY TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER THE AIRPORT RESCUE GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, ACTING THROUGH THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION AND THE CITY OF TWO HARBORS TO PROVIDE FEDERAL FUNDING FOR THE RICHARD B. HELGESON AIRPORT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT** be adopted as read. Carried by a unanimous yea vote of all members present on roll call.

Motion by Woodruff and Passe that the meeting adjourn. Carried.

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Ben Redden, City Council President

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Patricia D. Nordean, City Clerk