



JOINT LGU MEETING AGENDA

Location: Bemidji City Hall Council Chambers – 317 4th St NW
Date: Tuesday, January 17, 2023
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

Meeting called by Chair

3:00 PM -3:10 PM Start of Meeting

Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call | Ainslee
Approval of the Agenda
Approval of October 5, 2022 LGU Minutes

3:10 PM – 4:20 PM Update on Dissolution (TWP)
Update on Grant (TWP)
Discussion on Utility Services

4:25 PM – 4:30 PM Other Business/Upcoming Meetings
Schedule Next LGU Meeting

4:30 PM Adjourn

**MINUTES
GREATER BEMIDJI AREA
SPECIAL JOINT LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT MEETING**

January 17, 2023

City Hall Council Chambers, 317 4th St NW

CALL TO ORDER: Joint Planning Board Chair Jorge Prince called the special meeting of the Joint Local Government Unit to order at 3:02 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was performed and roll call was taken.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Johnson, Lynn Eaton, Josh Peterson, Jorge Prince, Gary Barnard, Jess Frenzel, Mike Kelly, Chris Lahn, Curt Blumhagen, Emelie Rivera (3:40 pm, via WebEx) Audrey Thayer (3:50 pm, via WebEx).

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Planning Director Jamin Carlson, Planning Administrative Assistant Ainslee Krause, Assistant Planner Nick Phillips, Compliance Inspector and Site Analyst Melissa Fahrenbruch (via WebEx), City Manager Nate Mathews, Public Works Director/City Engineer Sam Anderson, Assistant City Engineer Jenna Roberts, City Attorney Katie Nolting, City Clerk Michelle Miller, Finance Director Ron Eischens.

OTHERS PRESENT: Troy Gilchrist (via WebEx), Mark Fuller, Karrie Nelson, David Hengel, Michael Granlund.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion by **Frenzel**, second by **Eaton** to approve the agenda as presented.

Staff noted that the minutes from October 5, 2022, would need to be removed from the agenda to be approved at a later meeting.

An amended motion was made by **Frenzel**, with a second by **Eaton**, to approve the agenda with the minutes from October 5, 2022 removed. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

Update on Dissolution:

Board members had the following comments:

- Frenzel gave an update on Northern Township's status regarding the dissolution of the GBAJPB.
- Prince addressed the status of the City of Bemidji regarding the dissolution.
- Prince noted that the JPB recently approved the budget without LGU increases, with the reserves to be used to cover any additional expenses.

Update on Grant:

Board members had the following comments:

- Frenzel addressed that Northern Township was awarded a \$5 million grant for extending utility services.
- Kelly clarified that the grant would cover Phase I of the project, from the Northwoods boat landing up through Ruttger's property.
- Members discussed.

Discussion on Utility Services:

Board members had the following comments:

- Frenzel discussed a memorandum of understanding.
- Mathews clarified option #5 presented by the City of Bemidji to Northern Township.
- Mathews noted that there was no set customer rate at this time.
- Prince requested an update on the status of Northern Township’s incorporation. Frenzel identified that the township will not be acting on incorporation at this time.
- Mathews noted questions in regards to the memorandum of understanding, including timelines and flexibility of the grant funds. Mathews addressed that answers to these questions would likely be needed prior to a memorandum of understanding.
- Prince expressed a desire to hold a public hearing to hear from City of Bemidji residents on extending city services to Non-City residents.
- Prince addressed adding a discussion on a memorandum of understanding to the agenda of an upcoming City Council meeting.
- Rivera and Prince discussed scheduling a listening session and addressed adding that to a future City Council meeting agenda. City councilmembers discussed and concurred.

OTHER BUSINESS:

FUTURE JOINT LGU MEETING DATE:

It was agreed that the next Joint LGU meeting will be scheduled after the next City Council meeting on February 6, 2023. Staff will send out a Doodle Poll with proposed dates.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, motion by **Eaton**, second by **Johnson**, to adjourn the regular Joint Local Government Unit meeting at **4:30** p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ainslee Krause
Planning Administrative Assistant

Approved and attested by: _____
Joint Planning Board Representative