

NOLAN

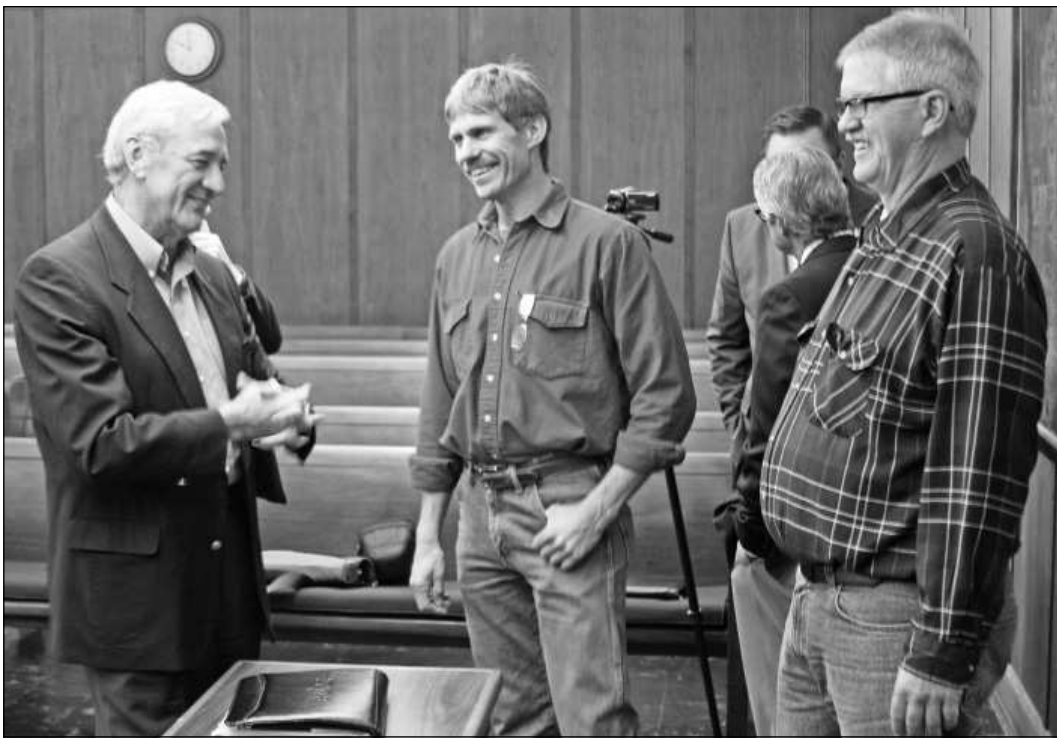
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economics, and with increased automotive fuel efficiency, the revenues have gone down, and with an aging infrastructure, the bridges are falling down.”

The U.S. is falling behind the rest of the world economically, Nolan said, and it due in part to a failing infrastructure. He specifically cited high-speed Chinese bullet trains, and how advantageous it would be to have the major U.S. cities connected by rapid rail transit. The goal wouldn’t be to replace the highway system, he said, but to supplement it.

“Have any of you been down to the Twin Cities lately?” Nolan asked. “You try to figure out when you can avoid the rush hour, you got to get out there about three o’clock in the morning.”

In addition to infrastructure, it’s important to take advantage of resources to have a successful economy, Nolan said. Koochiching County has the resources to create good jobs and business opportunities and officials just have to find a way



STAFF PHOTO BY SPENSER BICKETT

Congressman Rick Nolan jokes with Soren Olesen and Rob Ecklund before the Koochiching Economic Development Authority meeting Wednesday.

to harness them, he said.

“I’m getting a little tired of the whole notion that we can’t do both,” Nolan said. “We have to, we just have to.”

Nolan used the Sappi paper mill in Cloquet as an example of taking an existing resource and finding a new use for it. The mill was con-

verted to use a type of pulp now used in making cloth. He also mentioned sawdust, once considered worthless, and is now a good source of clean fuel.

“God knows how many millions of metric tons of sawdust we have piled all over Minnesota,” Nolan said. “Heck, I own several

of them.”

Over the years, Nolan said he’s observed the communities that have prospered in the face of adversity. He said they have one thing in common: a group of people leading the charge who are willing to change to prosper.

“There’s a good group of

people here in I Falls that believe in this community, and believe in its future and its value,” Nolan said. “Everybody’s really committed to this town and that’s what makes a difference in the end.”

In other business, Small Business Development Center business consultant Jenny Herman gave a quarterly report highlighting what she’s been working on in the first quarter of the year. She said the first and fourth quarters are usually her busiest times, as she’s helping businesses with year-end accounting and comparing the current year to the previous years.

In the past year, she said she’s met with 40 clients, of which 25 were from International Falls and the rest from other areas in the county.

“I think that’s a pretty good ratio, based on population and number of businesses and things like that,” Herman said.

Based on her work with local businesses, Herman said there’s a demand for retail and it’s a strong component of the local economy. She’s working with a group on opening a new retail

business in International Falls, she said, as well as one in Littlefork.

A class in January on how to use the accounting software QuickBooks was full with 10 participants, Herman said, and she plans to hold another class in May. The computer lab at Rainy River Community College works well for the class, and she said she enjoys working with the college for the class.

The Junior Achievement program is winding down, she said. This year it featured 40 classrooms and 907 students. She got great feedback from teachers and volunteers and so organizers will continue to grow the program in the future, she said.

KEDA Director Paul Nevanen was a JA volunteer for the eighth grade, and he said he had to “adjust to the energy level, or lack thereof, of the eighth grade,” but was impressed with the curriculum in the program.

“The curriculum is really tied to practical, real-world application, so it’s really good,” Nevanen said. “I love the way the curriculum has a practical approach to looking at careers.”

AGENDA

City of International Falls - City Council Regular Meeting
4:30 P.M., Monday, April 21, 2014
Council Chamber, 600 Fourth Street

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Monday, April 7, 2014 regular City Council meeting (Council action- motion)

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS AND APPROVAL FOR PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

1. CLAIMS

a. Transfer Claims
to: City of Intl Falls Fund #101 from: City of Intl Falls Fund #601 \$16,492.00 General Water/Sewer (Council action- motion)

to: City of Intl Falls Fund #403 from: City of Intl Falls Fund #601 \$15,958.50 Reserve for Capital Outlay Water/Sewer (Council action- motion)

b. Regular Claims (Council action-motion)

AUDIENCE – OPEN FORUM (The Open Forum is an opportunity for the audience to address the City Council on any matter not listed on the agenda. Please limit your comments to five minutes.)

PUBLIC HEARINGS

OPENING BIDS (AND/OR QUOTES)

1. None.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Second and Final Reading of Contract Ordinance #956 and approval of associated easements (Council action- motion)

2. Review funding options for local share of proposed Airport Improvement Project – Terminal Building and consider adoption of Resolution No. __-14, Resolution Supporting the Falls International Airport Terminal Project Expansion and Requesting an Airport Commission Study of Financing Options (Council action- motion).

CONSENT AGENDA The Consent Agenda allows the City Council to take action on routine matters by one motion that shall not be debated and shall be adopted by unanimous vote of those present. Any individual council member may remove an item from the Consent Agenda for discussion on the regular agenda. (Council action – motion)

1. Approve attendance by Mayor, Councilors, and City Administrator to the 2014 League of Minnesota Cities Annual Conference.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Approve letter of support for Citizens for Backus/AB to provide the Summer Food Service Program for children ages 1-18 (Council action-motion).

2. Approve street closure and events for Play Streets Initiative in Minnesota – 2014 (Council action-motion).

3. Approval of Resolution No. __-14 Approving and Authorizing Execution of Grant Agreement No. 05007 for Airport Improvement (Truck and Equipment) Excluding Land Acquisition between the State of Minnesota and the City of International Falls and Koochiching County. (Council action-motion).

4. Resolution No. __-14 Amending Resolution #35-12 Designating Bremer Trust, National Association as Depository (Council action-motion).

5. Approve advertising and calling for bids for “2014 Street Improvements” Project (Council action-motion).

6. Approve advertising and calling for bids for Municipal State Aid Street Project #134-126-02/19th Street (Council action-motion).

7. Accept letter of resignation – Jerry Jensen, Fire Chief (Council action-motion).

8. City Council approval of Mayor Anderson’s appointment of Fire Chief (Council action-motion).

9. Approval of 2014 summer employee appointments (Council action-motion).

10. Discuss Donahue property annexation-review proceedings (Council information).

11. Any other business

REPORTS OF ALL BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND DEPARTMENT HEADS

1. **Reports of the Administrator, Attorney, and Department Heads**

2. **Reports of the Mayor, Council Committees, Boards and Commissions**

a. April 9, 2014 – Intl Falls Public Library Board of Trustees meeting minutes (Council information)

REPORTS OF MAYOR, COUNCIL COMMITTEES, BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

AUDIENCE – OPEN FORUM

CORRESPONDENCE

REMINDERS

1. Next regular City Council meeting is Monday, May 5, 2014 at 4:30 PM

ADJOURNMENT

Note: Matters inappropriate for consideration at the meeting or not in the order specified shall not be considered except 1) with the unanimous consent of the members of the City Council, or 2) scheduled public hearings or bid lettings, but not before the time stated in the notice.

The City of International Falls complies with the Americans with Disability Act. Individuals with disabilities requiring special aids should contact the City Administrator, 600 Fourth Street, International Falls, MN, 56649, 218-283-9484, at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting.

Thank you to all the 2014 L-BF Prom/Post Prom Donator’s

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Falls Chiropractic Clinic	Subway
Family Chiropractic Center	Super One
Giovanni’s	Thunderbird Lodge
Hometown Café and Motel	Top Ten Video
Tony and Zelah Imhof	TruStar Federal Credit Union
Iverne’s	Wimmers Body Shop
JC’s Restaurant	Zeimba Logging
Jackpine Savage Grill	Bonnie Siltman
J&D Family foods	MD&W Railroad
Junkers Lumber	
KGHS/KSDM	
Littlefork Times	
Littlefork VFW	

This is Northwoods Eating

Breakfast Specials

Mon.-Sat. \$6.29 • Sunday \$7.29

Mon.	Big Moose Skillet with hashbrowns
Tues.	Breakfast Sandwich with hashbrowns
Wed.	French Toast w/eggs & sausage or bacon
Thurs.	Blueberry Pancakes w/eggs & sausage or bacon
Fri.	Biscuits & Gravy w/eggs & hashbrowns
Sat.	Cinnamon Swirl French Toast with ham & eggs
Sun.	Blueberry Cream Cheese Crepes with eggs & ham

Dinner Specials

Mon.	Half Chicken Dinner	\$10.99
Tues.	Full Rack of BBQ Ribs	\$17.99
Wed.	Pan Fried Walleye	\$14.99
Thurs.	Mozzarella Girasole w/Marinara Sauce	\$10.99
Fri.	Fishermen’s Catch	\$16.99
Sat.	Rib Eye Steak	\$17.99
Sun.	Chicken Kiev	\$11.99

Dinners include choice of potato & salad. Choice of soup for \$1.00

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The Littlefork-Big Falls March 2014 Students of the Month

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