

# LOCALNEWS

## INTERNATIONAL FALLS CITY COUNCIL

### Council reallocates money for Peace Party

BY LAUREL BEAGER  
Editor

The International Falls City Council agreed on a 3-1 vote in special session Wednesday to reallocate a budget planned for the now canceled Peace Pull July 2 to a Peace Party planned for the same time and place.

The council approved reallocating the \$3,350 to the Peace Party, with International Falls Mayor Bob Anderson voting no.

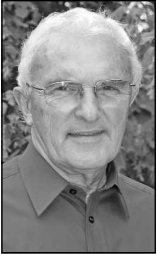
Anderson told The Journal Thursday he voted against the reallocation because the community has more pressing needs at this time, especially given the ongoing flood emergency around area lakes and rivers.

“I think the money would have been much better given to the Red Cross or Salvation Army to continue to help out here in the community, or to the cemetery that is in difficult straits trying to keep things together,” he said. “There are so many needs. I appreciate it would be nice to have a party, I just can’t support that kind of thing now.”

Councilor Paul Eklund was absent for the meeting.

The Peace Pull, an annual tug-of-war across the Rainy River with sister city Fort Frances, has been canceled due to high water on the river.

Instead of the Peace Pull, the Peace Party will take place at the Pat Roche Memorial Access, within the



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James Oberstar Complex along Rainy River off Highway 11 east.

A free community picnic will take place at 4 p.m.; a kiddie pull for all kids who attend, ages 5-13, is scheduled for 4:15 p.m.; special performances by Dancin’ with Darcie Company dancers at 4:30 p.m.; and the color guards of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2948 and the Canadian Legion at 5 p.m.

The city announced Thursday that the Pat Roche landing will be closed to boat and vehicle traffic from 5 p.m. July 3 thought midnight July 5 to allow Riverfest 2014 organizers to prepare for the annual music festival at the Irvin N. Anderson Amphitheater July 5.

City staff urge boaters to use the Voyageurs National Park Rainy Lake Visitors Center boat launch during this time.

In other city business, the council approved the 2013 financial statements and auditor’s report presented to the council June 16 by Don Zierke of Miller McDonald Inc.

The final report included the responses from the city. Anderson said the report recommended a couple procedural changes that will be implemented.

Meanwhile, Anderson reported to The Journal the International Falls-Koochiching County Airport Commission Thursday agreed to set up a meeting Monday to allow potential bidders for an airport terminal renovation and expansion project to meet with engineers and architects.

Anderson said the “design pre-bid” meeting will provide information to contractors about the plans and specifications of the bid.

Bid opening for the project is scheduled at 2 p.m. July 8 in the council chambers at the Falls Municipal Building. A special airport commission meeting is scheduled for 9 a.m. July 10 to accept bids.

“It’s coming down fast,” said Anderson. “Hopefully it will all be in order for doing that, and the bids are not so far out (in price) that we need to make changes in the facility plan. If we do, we will.”

### Planning underway for annual Northern Minnesota District Fair

BY ERIC MATHEWS  
Staff Intern

The 93rd Annual Northern Minnesota District Fair will offer a range of events and activities from previous years and more on July 11, 12, and 13 in Littlefork. The fair will provide a wide range of fun activities, rides, and games for the whole family as well as provide a good time for those looking for a night of singing and dancing, say organizers.

New additions to the fair this year are lawn mower and snowmobile drag races offered Saturday.

“This should be a great spectator event,” said Sue Cole, a member of the fair board, about the two new events. “We hope we can get a lot of people interested in bringing their lawn mowers and/or snowmobiles for the event.”

The fair will include events from past years such as, car races, an antique tractor show and parade, face painting, bingo, rides, booths, and more. have also been added as new events to the fair this year.

Cody Rides will be back for the fair this year, and provide rides in the mid-

way for all age. The Littlefork-Big Falls School cheerleaders will also again offer face painting on Friday and Saturday.

**July 11**  
The fair kicks off July 11 with the general fair entries opening at 9 a.m. The midway will be open from noon-10 p.m.

From 1- 5 p.m. 4-H educational exhibits will be judged. Firemen’s Bingo will start at 1 p.m. and go on until the fair closes that evening. The 4-H Food Stand will serve from 3:30-10 p.m. The bluegrass band Ditch Creek will perform in the gazebo from 4-6 p.m.

The children’s barn will be open for kids from 5- 9 p.m. Afterward, the 4-H and open rabbit and poultry judging will go from 6-8 p.m. High stakes bingo will be played from 8-9 p.m. The country-rock The Steele River Band from Hibbing will perform at 8 p.m. until midnight to close out the day of events.

**July 12**  
On Saturday, July 12, the first event of the day will be the light horse and draft halter classes at 9 a.m., also opening at 9 a.m. is the 4-H and open cattle, swine and goat show. At 10 a.m

the children’s barn will open and continue all day until it closes at 9 p.m. At 10:30 a.m. the horse show will begin. Then at 11 a.m. the Northern Minnesota District Fair will officially start with all other rides and booths opening. The 4-H Food Stand will open at 11 a.m. and serve until 10 p.m. From noon-10 p.m. the midway will be open along with Firemen’s Bingo.

The antique tractor show will take place from 2 p.m.-3 p.m. followed by the new lawn mower and snowmobile drag races at 3 p.m.

Afterward at 5 p.m. the antique tractor parade will begin. That evening at 8 p.m. King of the Road Entertainment will play music and offer karaoke. Also starting at 8 p.m. is high stakes Bingo, which will go on until 9 p.m.

**July 13**  
The 4-H Food Stand will be open from 11 a.m.- 6 p.m. Then at noon the midway will open and the kids pedal pull takes place. To close out the three days of events, the oval races will be from 1 p.m.- 4 p.m. at the track. The 4-H Clover Cruise 5K Run/Walk and 10K Run was canceled due to lack of participation in past years.

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2	\$38,850
3	\$43,700
4	\$48,550
5	\$52,450

Applications can be picked up at the KOOTASCA office at 2232 2nd Avenue East, Int'l Falls. For additional information, call Amy Mortenson at (218) 283-9491 or (800) 559-9491 ext. 100. The application deadline is 4:30 pm on July 7, 2014.

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