



FILE PHOTO

Koochiching County Attorney Jeff Naglosky explained the board’s authority at a May meeting about adoption of a Second Amendment resolution.

COUNTY

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what I am here for,” Naglosky said Tuesday. Commissioner Wayne Skoe wondered if a resolution blanketing support for all amendments in the constitution wouldn’t have been cleaner and easier, but Naglosky said commissioners already have done that with their oath. The May hearing, he said, made clear that supporters are asking for affirmation specifically of the Second Amendment; a blanket support for the Constitution may not have been specific enough to appease them. “Nobody’s fired up about the Third Amendment,” he said. The Third Amendment to the United States Constitution

places restrictions on the quartering of soldiers in private homes without the owner’s consent, forbidding the practice in peacetime. **Other business** Meanwhile, during the regular meeting, the board heard an update on the pandemic from county Health and Human Services Director Kathy LaFrance. LaFrance reported that the number of people getting vaccines in the county has fallen off compared to when vaccines were first available. “We were hoping to see a lot of young people, but that is the population most likely not to get a vaccination,” she said. “That will cause some issue with the new Delta variant that now represents 20 percent of infection in the U.S. and is doubling every two weeks.”

The variation is likely to go into the young population, which will keep passing it on and causing it to change, she said. Vaccinations are effective against the variant; people may still get ill, but won’t likely end up in a hospital or die, she said. A June 14 vaccination bus, which ran out of its 100 doses June 14, may return to assist Koochiching County residents with getting vaccinated, she said. LaFrance said Koochiching County’s vaccination rate, at about 56 percent of the population, is comparable to other counties, and around the nationwide rate of about 60 percent. The Tuesday board approved a five-year agreement with St. Louis County, Voyageurs National Park and the

Proposed second amendment resolution

Whereas, the second amendment of the united states constitution reads “a well-regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed.”; And,

Whereas, the united states supreme court in district of columbia v. Heller, 554 u.s. 570 (2008), Affirmed an individual's right to possess firearms, unconnected with service in a militia, for traditionally lawful purposes, such as self-defense within the home; and,

Whereas, the united states supreme court in mcdonald v. Chicago, 561 u.s. 742 (2010), Affirmed that the

right of an individual to “keep and bear arms,” as protected under the second amendment, is incorporated by the due process clause of the fourteenth amendment against the states; and,

Whereas, the united states supreme court in united states v. Miller, 307 u.s. 174 (1939), Opined that firearms that are part of ordinary military equipment, or with use that could contribute to the common defense are protected by the second amendment,

Whereas, the people of koochiching county minnesota, derive economic benefit from all safe forms of firearm recreation, hunting, and shooting conducted within koochiching county using all types of firearms

allowable under the united states constitution; and,

Whereas, the koochiching county board of commissioners wishes to express its deep commitment to the rights of all law abiding citizens of koochiching county to keep and bear arms; and,

Now, therefore be it resolved by the board of commissioners of koochiching county minnesota that:

The koochiching county board of commissioners hereby declares koochiching county, minnesota, as a county dedicated to the second amendment; and,

The koochiching county board of commissioners hereby affirms the second amendment rights of the citizens of Koochiching County, Minnesota.

local Soil and Water Conservation Districts to assist in fighting the spread of aquatic invasive species, by using VNP’s two new decontamination units at sites on Rainy Lake, Ash River and Kabetogama. The board acknowledged donations of baby

blanket, 10 from Joan Pearson and five from Susan Anderson, which will be given to new moms in Koochiching County.

COUNCIL

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Headquarters Building to rent electric bikes — Voyageurs E-Bike Rentals and Tours, Dan Olson Heard from audience member Casey Maruk, who said he grew up here and now lives outside Alexandria. He questioned city staff purchasing gas for city vehicles at corporate owned gas stations. Using profanity, Maruk challenged the council to support local businesses. Droba, later in the meeting, said gas is purchased at all local stations, regardless of their ownership. “No business is off

limits,” he said. “All businesses in International Falls are local.” He noted that all businesses in the community, no matter who or by what they are owned by, pay salaries to local people and pay local property taxes. Councilor Walt Buller said the community ought to be inviting and welcoming to all businesses who want to locate here, as that’s how the community can grow and hire people. The council next meets at 5 p.m. Monday for a public hearing and special meeting to consider a development plan and tax Increment financing district No. 1-4.

BIG FALLS

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community building ■ 9 p.m. — Street dance with Jason Waldron Band July 4 ■ 9 a.m. — Community auction, pavilion ■ 10 a.m. — Olson Memorial Horseshoe Tournament, treasure hunt, clues posted at community building ■ 10 a.m. — Art, craft, novelty and food stands open ■ 11 a.m. — Kamikaze rubber ducky race ■ 11 a.m. — Lunch @ community building ■ 11 a.m. — Lion’s bounce house



Couples race with their feet tied together during a previous Big Falls’ Fourth of July celebration.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

■ 12:30 p.m. — Children’s races, other child and adult games begin and loader contest duck tank opens ■ 2 p.m. — Sawdust pile ■ 2 p.m. — Dave Stadler’s sawing exhibition and sawing contest ■ 3:30 p.m. — Kiddie parade ■ 5 p.m. — Main parade, line up at 4 p.m., Back Seat Driver contest at ballpark following parade, softball game and tug-of-war teams of 10 ■ 9 p.m. — Raffle drawings at ball park ■ Dusk — Fireworks

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From the staff of The Journal & NorthStar Publishing, THANK YOU
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NOTICE

The City of International Falls’ Sanitary Sewer Ordinance prohibits sump pumps and/or foundation drains that are connected to the sanitary sewer service and main lines, referred to as “cross-connections”. Sump pumps and foundation drains must be directed outside of homes/businesses onto lawns, street curbs, road ditches or into storm sewers.

In August 2021, the City of International Falls will begin inspecting homes and business to verify compliance with this ordinance. These inspections will be performed by Widseth and Associates, Inc. (Widseth) for the City of International Falls. Widseth will begin making appointments in July for these in-home inspections to start in early August. Inspectors will be looking in basements to ensure that sump pumps that are present are properly connected and that the connections are made with rigid PVC-type pipe, not flexible hoses. Homes with a correct connection or system will be issued a “passed inspection” document.

Home/business owners who have a non-compliant connected sump pumps and/or foundation drains will be required to correct the deficiencies and have the installation re-inspected, before being issued a “passed inspection” document. **You will have 90 days to correct a cross-connection.** Extensions are available for those who request them for valid reasons.

If you have any questions, or want more information, please contact City Engineer Curt Meyer with Widseth at (218) 308-2603.