

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
COOK CITY COUNCIL**

August 28, 2008 – CITY HALL – 6 PM

PRESENT: Acting Mayor Dan Manick, Councilors Karen Hollanitsch, Elizabeth Storm and Dave Danz

ABSENT: Mayor Richard Edblom

OTHERS PRESENT: Residents Candi Nylund and Donna Snyder, Fireman Reuben Rosnau, Officer Dan Nylund, John Jannick – RLK Engineering, Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Cook News Herald and The Timberjay

Acting Mayor Dan Manick called the regular meeting of the Cook City Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM: John Jannick reported on the Well Project. Kolstad Olson has completed the test drilling. There was an issue with a screen so monitoring the pumping capacity has taken longer. After pumping capacity is resolved the water quality testing will be conducted. The test well is 8", permanent well will be 12". There should be no additional charge to the city for additional time with screen concern. The first step is to measure the quantity of water, than test the quality of the water. If pumping is sufficient, the Minnesota Department of Health will visit the site and it will be determined if the, railway will have any effect on the stability of a future tower, etc.

The County is working on the Ball Park road and wetlands were filled to the south of the fields.

The city has taken the water meter project to the next step with the attorney and bonding company.

Motion by Danz, second by Storm to approve the consent agenda after clarification of expenses as follows:

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval/correction of the Public Hearing Minutes of July 24, 2008 (Well Replacement Project)
- B. Approval/correction of Regular Council Minutes of July 24, 2008
- C. Acceptance of the July Police Department Report
- D. Reporting of the July Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2008	\$185,944.51	\$749,225.92
2007	\$172,444.21	\$721,650.31
	\$ 13,500.30	\$ 27,575.61

- E. Bill Presentation Paid since last presentation \$108,045.94
 Presented for payment \$145,096.53
- F. August Airport Operator's Report
- G. Parks and Recreation Minutes of August 18, 2008

MOTION CARRIED

COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:

Councilor Hollanitsch reported that city staff and airport representatives met with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and S.E.H. Engineers and to review future projects and prioritized the CIP. Land acquisition will be the next big item. The culvert project was done in house and cost was assessed to the hangar owners.

Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to approve and submit the Cook Municipal's Airport CIP to the Minnesota Department of Transportation, Office of Aeronautics. **MOTION CARRIED**

Councilor Hollanitsch reported that a gathering will be held this fall to recognize those individuals who have helped with the airport including Adopt an Airport sponsors, Friends of Aviation, Hangar Owners, etc. There will be no Aviator of the Year this year. Discussion was held regarding the possibility of rotation of fly-ins with other airports to assist each other. A note of thanks to Dale Gustafson, Jack Jordan, Ernie Seppala and Tom Woock for all their hard work on the culvert project.

Administrator Martinson reported that there will be an opportunity for five of the Northern Region Airports to meet with the Minnesota Department of Transportation and Federal Aviation regarding their development plans (CIP), etc. at the Cook Municipal Airport on October 1, 2008. We welcome the opportunity to have Northern Region Airports in Cook as well as the state and federal agencies.

Councilor Hollanitsch reported that there has been interest to fund a fire/rescue boat for the Cook end of Lake Vermilion. Currently Greenwood Township has the only other boat to cover the entire lake. A fact finding process is in progress to review liability, etc. Reuben Rosnau, Fireman, was present to review this opportunity with the Council. He shared pictures of a boat and explained it in detail. A group of lakeshore owners will be establishing a 501c3 that will financially operate to acquire the boat, maintain and store it. Uses of the boat will be structure fires, forest fires, filling tankers, and medical purposes. Staff training for boat operators, etc. will be provided by the company from where the boat is purchased. The boat will include a lightning interrupter, radar, GPS and an infra-red camera for night rescues. It was noted that there would be no financial obligation by the City of Cook or the townships that do not receive a benefit from the fire/rescue boat. Should the 501c3 become non-existent, the City will not assume ownership.

Motion by Danz, seconded by Hollanitsch to support the efforts of the 501c3 to acquire, maintain and store a fire/rescue boat. The City of Cook and members of the Cook Fire Association are not obligated to any financial participation. Personnel will be members of the Cook Fire Department. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to support the Fire Association Board's recommendation to increase the unorganized areas of 62-17 and 63-17 amount for fire protection covered by the Cook Fire Department by \$1,500. 62-17 will increase by \$500 and 63-17 by \$1,000. **MOTION CARRIED**

An unveiling of the Friends of the Library Charter Members plaque will be held on Friday, September 5, 2008 at 4 PM at the Library. Everyone is invited.

The community is reminded of the golf outing fundraiser to be held September 13, 2008 at Vermilion Fairway for the community center. Trevor Nicholas sponsored a piano concert to also benefit the community center. Dirt work has been completed by the playground equipment. The grills will be installed in the future. Councilor Manick commended the Maintenance Department for the good job of mowing the fields at the Recreation Center.

OLD BUSINESS:

The State of Minnesota was contacted regarding the possibility of placing Jake breaking signs on Hwy 53, as the City of Cook does not own the highway the state does. The state decides what type of signs can be placed on their highway. Approval is needed from them for any form of signage and the city must purchase the signage. It was found that "No Jake Breaking" signs are not allowed because of former legal action. There is the possibility of using a Vehicle Noise Ordinance Enforced signs in which an ordinance would need to be adopted. The signs would be \$809 per sign if ordered after September 15, 2008. Councilor Hollanitsch questioned how much of an issue this is with residents. Officer Nylund explained that there is a Minnesota Statute covering mufflers. Councilor Storm noted that she feels for the concerned resident and asked Officer Nylund how it could be enforced. He indicated that it would be extremely difficult to enforce a jake breaking complaint. Councilor Danz felt the city has done due diligence in researching the issue. There was no support of the purchasing of the signs.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by Danz, second by Storm to approve the Heiam Foundation's request for a temporary liquor license and gambling permit for October 4, 2008. **MOTION CARRIED**

There is an opportunity through St. Louis County for a waste reduction grant. One idea was for a city cleanup with free dumping. Councilors were asked to share ideas with Administrator Martinson.

The preliminary budget and levy for 2009 needs to be adopted before September 15th and mailed to St. Louis County. A notice will be mailed and posted with date of meeting.

COUNCIL FORUM:

Councilor Storm noted how nice the Doug Johnson Recreation area is looking. She also stated that Eric Stoller mentioned to her the possibility of funding available to build a pedestrian overpass by the railroad tracks near the school. This would eliminate some bussing of kids in town and it could create a park and trail for the city.

Councilor Danz shared information regarding the Iron Range Resources Demolition Program and there is a housing assistance available to us through St. Louis County Planning Department.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Danz, second by Hollanitsch to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM. **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Martinson
Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer