

**COOK CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 23, 2017 – COOK CITY HALL – 6 PM**

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**TIME AND PLACE:** A Regular Meeting of the Cook City Council was held at 6 PM on Thursday, February 23, 2017 at the Cook City Hall.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Harold Johnston called the meeting to order at 6 PM.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Harold Johnston.

**ATTENDANCE:** Present at roll call was Mayor Harold Johnston and City Councilors Karen Hollanitsch, Kim Brunner, and Elizabeth Storm. Absent was City Councilor Jody Bixby. Also present were Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Stephanie Beaudry, Timber Days committee members Diane Brunner and Lynn Polich, the Cook News Herald, and the Timberjay.

**AGENDA:**

**Additions and Deletions - None**

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

**Timber Days**

The Timber Days committee is requesting permission to hold Timber Days June 9-11, 2017. The event will require the use of River Street Park and closing a portion of River Street.

They would also like to request a temporary liquor license for selling alcohol at their bean bag tournament (Friday only). The area would be roped off for controlled access. Cook City Ordinance 601.01 subd. 4 (Referencing MN State Statute 340A) references that a temporary Liquor license can be issued to only clubs, or charitable, religious, or other non-profit organizations, in existence for three years. A temporary license authorizes the on sale of intoxicating liquor in connection with a social event within the city sponsored by the licensee and subject to restrictions imposed by the state liquor act.

The Timber Days committee has requested a gambling permit so they are able to sell raffle tickets.

The Timber Days committee would also like permission to have fireworks this year, as well as the possible return of the helicopter rides.

Cook Lion's Club will close off a portion of the street in front of their storage building, to hold a garage sale on Saturday.

Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to approve use of River Street Park, closing a portion of River Street, allowing the committee to apply for a gambling license & a temporary liquor license, fireworks, and the return of the helicopter rides, contingent upon following all laws, licensing, and insurance requirements. Cook Lion's Club authorized to close street as noted above. **MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** See Consent Agenda.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to approve the Consent Agenda.  
**MOTION CARRIED**

- A. Approval/correction of the Regular Council Minutes of January 26, 2017
- B. Bill Presentation      Paid since last presentation      \$ 45,916.87  
   Presented for payment                      \$ 35,026.06

- C. Ambulance Service February 2017 Report
- D. Recreation Commission Minutes of January 16, 2017
- E. Reporting of the January 2017 Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2017	\$ 76,456.24	\$ 76,456.24
2016	<u>\$ 80,706.95</u>	<u>\$ 80,706.95</u>
	\$ (4,250.71)	\$ (4,250.71)

- F. Resolution – January 2017 Donations Designated

**COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:**

**Airport**

Proposal received from SEH regarding the access road – vehicle parking lot rehabilitation consultation services. Motion by Brunner, second by Hollanitsch to accept the SEH proposal contingent upon receiving grant funding.

**MOTION CARRIED**

The City has received the resignation of Airport Operator, Mike Christensen, as of April 30, 2017. Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to accept Christensen’s resignation with regret and begin the hiring process.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Ambulance**

Councilor Hollanitsch stated that run rate proposals will be presented at the annual ambulance meeting on March 6<sup>th</sup>. A training pay wage of \$9.50/hr. is suggested for approval. Attendance rosters at any training events would be documented. Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to approve the training pay wage of \$9.50/hr.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Broadband Steering Committee**

Councilor Storm shared that many people were in attendance at the February 8, 2017 meeting. The next steering committee meeting is on March 8, 2017. The “community name” for our steering committee group is “Grizzlies”. The group’s grant request needs to be submitted by April, 1, 2017. The grant from the Blandin Foundation is for \$75,000.

**Lake Vermilion Trail**

Councilor Storm stated that the next Lake Vermilion Trail meeting will be held on March 8, 2017. Presentations have now been held at all of the townships. Greenwood Township has agreed to join the joint powers board.

**Last Chance Liquors**

The Personnel Committee recommends the approval of a lead cashier position for liquor store employee, Ron Malone, effective March 1, 2017, at a rate of \$12.53/hour. Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to approve the aforementioned position and job description. **MOTION CARRIED**

**Library**

Councilor Storm shared that the library will be hosting a “Cozy Mystery Sampler Event” on Thursday, March 2, 2017 from 4-6 PM. There will be treats available made from recipes within the books and Cozy Mysteries will be available for checkout.

**Planning & Zoning**

The Planning & Zoning Committee made the recommendation at their February 23, 2017, meeting for the approval of two conditional use permits. One is for the Watering Can for operation of a greenhouse; the other is for Andy Brunner for the construction of a 10 x 30 cold frame greenhouse. Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to approve the two aforementioned conditional use permits to the properties noted in land use applications. **MOTION CARRIED**

**Recreation**

Administrator Martinson shared that the Cook Hockey Tournament has been moved to Lake Vermilion in front of White Eagle Resort due to the ice conditions at the Doug Johnson Recreation Area ice rink.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Local Board of Review** - The Local Board of Review is scheduled for May 10, 2017 from 10-11 AM at the County Assessor’s office in Virginia. This will be an open book session with St. Louis County.

**COUNCIL FORUM:**

Councilor Storm stated that she recently attended a Cemetery Board meeting. She reminded everyone that the Cook Cemetery is not a perpetual care cemetery; it is up to the families to take care of any grave markers.

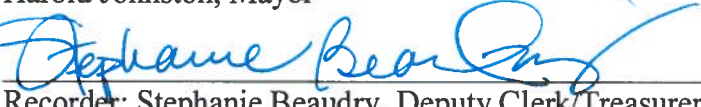
Administrator Martinson stated that the City has had an initial meeting with Art Unlimited to learn more about upgrading the city’s webpage. Also, Marty Yourzcek is now housing his plumbing business in the old NAPA building; people were reminded to shop local.

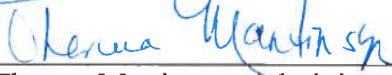
**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business brought before the Council, motion to adjourn at 6:41 PM was made by Councilor Storm and second by Councilor Hollanitsch. **MOTION CARRIED**

CITY OF COOK – Cook, MN 55723

  
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Harold Johnston, Mayor

  
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Recorder: Stephanie Beaudry, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

  
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Attest: Theresa Martinson, Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer