

**COOK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 26, 2015 – COOK CITY HALL – 6 PM**

TIME AND PLACE: A Regular Meeting of the Cook City Council was held at 6 PM on Thursday, February 26, 2015 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 Jody Bixby, Karen Hollanitsch and Elizabeth Storm. Absent was City Councilor Kim Brunner. Also present were Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Palm, and Cook News Herald.

ADDs/DELETES: Mayor Harold Johnston read into the record the revisions to the original agenda.

Add: Commission and Staff Reports – Airport Crack Seal Engineering Proposal – S.E.H. Engineering

Move: None

PUBLIC FORUM:

JPJ Engineering Project Updates/Funding Applications - None at this time.

Vermilion Motel – Reconstruction Project

Owner, Tom Musech and city staff met to discuss the reconstruction of the Vermilion Motel. The project will be reduced from 10,100 square feet to 5,866 square feet and the total project cost from \$1.5 to \$1.2 million. IRRRB infrastructure funding will remain the same. The Development Agreement between the City of Cook and T Musech Enterprises will need to be revised and council approval is needed, for the city's grant portion of the project, to authorize the project to bid through JPJ Engineering.

Motion by Bixby, second by Hollanitsch to authorize the city's grant portion of the project, to be put up for bid through JPJ Engineering and approve the revised development agreement. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: See Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Bixby to approve the Consent Agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

A. Approval/correction of the Regular Council Minutes of January 22, 2015

B. Bill Presentation	Paid since last presentation	\$ 96,730.05
	Presented for payment	\$ 42,305.86

C. Reporting of the January 2015 Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2015	\$ 80,748.67	\$ 80,748.67
2014	\$ 80,842.92	\$ 80,842.92
	\$ (94.25)	\$ (94.25)

D. Resolution – January 2015 Donations Designated

E. Ambulance Service Report

F. Cook Chamber of Commerce Minutes of February 2, 2015

COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:

Fire

CN Railroad has awarded a 2015 grant for \$1000. CN Railroad provides grants on behalf of CN Employees who volunteer within a community. Sam Grahn is a CN Employee and volunteer firefighter for the City of Cook.

The annual meeting will be held March 2nd for both Fire and Ambulance.

Airport

The 2015 Runway 13/31 Crack Repair project is in the planning stages and S.E.H. Engineering has submitted a proposal for their services for this project at 90:10 funding for a cost of \$9000 with FAA funding \$8100 MNDOT \$450 and the City of Cook \$450. These fees would be part of the overall project cost and a project cost breakdown was provided for the engineering services.

Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Bixby to accept the proposal for engineering services from S.E.H. Engineering for the 2015 Runway 13/31 Crack Repair project in the amount of \$9000 at 90:10 funding with a cost of \$450 to the City of Cook. **MOTION CARRIED**

The first meeting for the 2015 Master Plan Layout project will be March 10, 2015.

OLD BUSINESS:

Governor's Opener – LV - The 2015 MN Governor's Fishing Opener is held on Lake Vermilion and financial sponsorships are welcome by contacting the Lake Vermilion Sportsman's Association. Events held in the Cook area will be shared once determined.

County Board Meeting Reminder - The St. Louis County Board will hold its quarterly meeting at the Comet Theater in Cook on March 24 at 9:30 AM. Council members and staff are urged to attend to welcome county officials and to discuss any city projects.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mayoral Proclamation – Loyalty Days – May 1-3, 2015 - VFW Bloom-Lahti Post #1757 has requested a Mayoral Proclamation from the City of Cook in support of VFW District Loyalty Days May 1-3, 2015 held in Cook. The Mayor so proclaims. Residents of the community are asked to recognize the contribution of the VFW and its Ladies' and Men's Auxiliaries to our city and nation.

Iron Range Youth In Action – Board Seat - Iron Range Youth and Action has an opening on the board for a representative from the City of Cook, if anyone from the council is interested. Please pass the information along to a community resident whom may be interested to represent Cook.

2014 Audit Allocations – General Fund Commitments

Walker, Giroux and Hahne presented the 2014 general fund committed account balances for council approval as part of the 2014 audit.

Committed Accounts

Fire Truck Fund	\$ 111,247.64
Fire Equipment Fund	\$ 12,357.90

2014 Audit – Project Allocations

Walker, Giroux and Hahne presented the 2014 general fund transfer of \$264,316.33 for council approval as part of the 2014 audit.

Transfer In:

Fund 301 Debt Service Fund (Storm Sewer)	\$48,000.00
Fund 425 2013 Wastewater Improvements (Ponds)	\$19,845.56
Fund 427	\$196,470.77

Transfer Out:

Fund 101	\$264,316.33
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Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Bixby to approve the 2014 committed account balances and general fund transfers provided by Walker, Giroux and Hahne as part of the 2014 audit. **MOTION CARRIED**

COUNCIL FORUM:

Mayor Johnston thanked employers such as Cook Hospital, Homestead Mills and State Farm, whom the council is aware of, allowing Ambulance EMT and First Responders to respond to calls during working hours. These are individuals who volunteer in the community for the Ambulance Service.

Recruitment efforts are underway with community funding opportunities to join the Cook Area Ambulance Service as a First Responder or EMT.

Councilor Storm commented on how fortunate the City of Cook is to be a full service community for a small town and the need to support our local businesses. The Comprehensive Plan in progress is identifying the needs of the community moving forward.

Council members gave tribute to Don Simonson who was the local historian for Cook and served in many positions within the city with continuous dedication throughout the years. Council members reminisced about how they met Don Simonson and what brought each of them to Cook and their decisions to stay and support the community.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business brought before the Council, motion to adjourn at 6:45 PM was made by Councilor Storm and second by Councilor Bixby. **MOTION CARRIED**

CITY OF COOK – Cook, MN 55723

Harold Johnston, Mayor

Recorder: Cindy Palm, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Attest: Theresa Martinson, Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer