

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
COOK CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 17, 2011 – CITY HALL – 6 PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Harold Johnston, Councilors Jody Bixby and Elizabeth Storm
ABSENT: Councilors Kim Brunner and Karen Hollanitsch
OTHERS PRESENT: Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Palm, Maintenance Supervisor Bud Ranta, JPJ Engineering – John Jamnick, The Timberjay and Cook News Herald

Mayor Harold Johnston called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING:

JPJ Engineering John Jamnick was present to provide project information and allow public comment for the Utility and Drainage Improvements Project.

This project is a part of the city's capital improvements plan.

The City of Cook is seeking financial assistance from St. Louis County Community Development Block Grant Program and Iron Range Resources to complete the project.

The project includes FIRST AVE SW: sanitary sewer, water main, manholes, valves, fittings and hydrant replacement; FOURTH STREET SE: drainage improvements and ditching; and THIRD STREET/THIRD AVENUE SE: ditching, culvert installation, sub grade correction and bituminous reconstruction.

The City of Cook is applying to the St. Louis County Community Development Block Grant Program for \$130,000 of the project cost and has dedicated \$50,000 in local funding.

Motion by Johnston, second by Storm to approve Resolution 111117 authorizing the City of Cook apply for \$130,000 in funding to the St. Louis County Community Development Block Grant program for the First Avenue SW/Third Street and Third Avenue SE/Fourth Street SE Utility Drainage Improvements Project and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign all necessary documents in the grant process. **MOTION CARRIED**

PUBLIC FORUM:

JPJ Engineering John Jamnick, recommended Final Pay Estimate #3 to Utility Systems of America for \$18,757.74 for the Lift Station Project. Final restoration issues have been finalized to complete the project.

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to approve Final Pay Estimate #3 to Utility Systems of America for \$18,757.74. **MOTION CARRIED**

The River Street Streetscape will carry over to spring of 2012 as the contractor did not finalize the punch list items to required specification for the City of Cook.

The Wolf Track Classic Sled Dog Race Committee has requested the event to be held in Cook on February 26 – 27th at the Doug Johnson Park. The committee is requesting that the council support the event by approving all necessary permits for interim use, burning, parking, barricades, snow fence, etc.

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to accept and sign the Mutual Aid Agreement for fire protection services between Greenwood Township and the City of Cook. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Library

Librarian Lois Larson has submitted a letter of resignation/retirement from her position at the end of January 2012. The council will accept the resignation/retirement of Librarian Lois Larson and thanked her for her many years of dedication and service for the City of Cook. The Personnel Committee will proceed with the hiring of a replacement Librarian and a Casual Worker at the library.

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to accept the resignation/retirement of Librarian Lois Larson at the end of January 2012. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to authorize the Personnel Committee to proceed with the hiring of a replacement Librarian and a Casual Worker at the Library. **MOTION CARRIED**

The Maintenance Technician/Public Works Assistant job description has been completed. The position will be advertised upon approval to seek applicants.

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to approve the Maintenance Technician/Public Works Assistant job description and authorize the Personnel Committee to proceed with the hiring for the position. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to proceed with advertising for the Maintenance Technician/Public Works Assistant. **MOTION CARRIED**

OLD: None

NEW:

The Cook Chamber of Commerce has requested use of Cook City Hall for Cook's Country Christmas to be held December 2nd at 5 p.m.

Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to allow the Cook Chamber of Commerce to use Cook City Hall for Cook's Country Christmas on December 2nd at 5 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED**

COUNCIL FORUM: None

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to close the regular council meeting at 6:30 p.m. to enter into closed session for attorney/client privilege due to pending litigation. **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Palm
Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer