

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
COOK CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 18, 2010 – CITY HALL – 6 PM

PRESENT: Acting Mayor Karen Hollanitsch, Councilors Jody Bixby, Dan Manick and Elizabeth Storm

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Palm, RLK Engineer John Jamnick, S.E.H. Project Manager Jim Groebner, Wolf Track Classic's Bruce and Holly Brodt and Kitty Kennedy, Cook News Herald, and The Timberjay

Mayor Hollanitsch called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

PUBLIC FORUM:

Bruce and Holly Brodt, and Kitty Kennedy presented itinerary information for the Wolftrack Classic Sled Dog Race to be held February 26-28, 2011 between Ely, Tower and Cook. This event was previously cancelled in 2009 due to inclement weather.

This event will begin in Ely and travel through Tower to Cook for an evening stay and back to Ely to finish the race. Future planning in 2012 will rotate to give each community a chance to have the race come through during the daytime hours.

The Mushers and sled dog checkpoint will be at the Homestead Mills sight where a bonfire and spectators are welcome. A certificate of insurance for general liability coverage will be issued by the Wolftrack Classic Committee.

The committee has teamed up with the Cook Snowmobile Club for trail coverage and grooming, as well as the Cook Chamber of Commerce for promotion of this event. Future educational programs will be conducted within the community schools as well.

The City of Cook welcomes this event.

RLK Engineer, John Jamnick, recommended approval of the final pay estimate to Utility Systems of America for \$12,120.06 on the Disability Specialist Inc Utility Project. There is brush that needs to be removed from the sewage pond area as part of this project so the final payment is contingent on completion of brush removal.

A final quantity count for the Disability Specialist Inc Utility Project provided compensating Change Order #2 for \$6,408.55.

Motion by Manick, second by Bixby to approve the final pay estimate to Utility Systems of America for \$12,120.06 contingent on final brush clearing, and for compensating Change Order #2 for \$6,408.55.

MOTION CARRIED

The city originally purchased wetland credits for \$6,431.26 on the Disability Specialist Inc. Utilities Project as mandated by the Army Corps of Engineers. Tom Ehrbright of Disability Specialist Inc. voluntarily reimbursed the city for this expense, which is greatly appreciated.

Tom and LeeAnn Ehrbright of Disability Specialist Inc also donated 4.9 acres of land along Highway 53 north of Cook for future development opportunities. Resolution 101118B will accept the land as a gift to the City of Cook.

Motion by Manick, second by Bixby to accept Resolution 101118B for 4.9 acres of gifted land along Hwy 53 North from Tom and LeeAnn Ehrbright of Disability Specialist Inc. **MOTION CARRIED**

The River Street Streetscape Project had a contract completion date of October 15, 2010 and the contractors did not complete the project on time. The contractor will be responsible for liquidated damages for each day past the completion date.

The paving on the project was not completed in time for the cold weather as the contractor had equipment problems. RLK Engineer, John Jamnick had anticipated temporary pavement to reduce the gravel mess during the spring thaw. The pavement would then be removed at the contractor's expense. Instead, class five was put down to temporarily cover the road so that vehicles could resume travel.

Bill Conger was not pleased with the concrete sidewalk poured on his property as part of the River Streetscape Project. Mr. Conger understands that there is city right of way on his property but said that the new concrete is larger than the original sidewalk and that the property is dysfunctional. Bill Conger would settle with the original size of the sidewalk.

RLK Engineer, John Jamnick is acknowledging that \$83,000 will be paid to St. Louis County out of federal enhancement funding for the River Street Streetscape Project. These funds do not pass through the City of Cook so a motion for approval is not needed.

Erickson Engineering Company performed a hydraulic analysis and preliminary design for the North River Street Bridge Replacement Project. A concrete beam bridge will be installed versus concrete box culverts due to poor soil conditions. The bridge will cost approximately \$498,000 plus additional costs. The next step is to accept Erickson Engineering Company's report and get on a project priority list for funding. The existing bridge has been rated the twelfth worst bridge in St Louis County.

Motion by Manick, second by Storm to accept Erickson Engineering Company's analysis and design report for the North River Street Bridge Replacement Project and to proceed with funding. **MOTION CARRIED**

RLK Engineer, John Jamnick recommends partial pay estimate #7 to Maguire Iron for \$61,559.05 for the Water Tower Project.

Motion by Storm, second by Manick to approve partial pay estimate #7 to Maguire Iron for \$61,559.05 for the Water Tower Project. **MOTION CARRIED**

S.E.H. Project Manager, Jim Groebner reported that the Airport Runway Expansion Project is near completion. Grubbing and burn piles will be taken care of during the winter and final cleanup will continue in the spring. The remote fence has been installed. KGM Contractors Inc. received a paving award from the State of Minnesota for this project.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval/correction of Regular Council Minutes of October 28, 2010
- B. Approval/correction of the Special Council Minutes of October 28, 2010-
Proposed 2011 Budget and Levy
- C. Approval/correction of the Special Council Minutes of November 10, 2010 – General Election Canvass Meeting

D. Bill Presentation Paid since last presentation \$ 55,369.91
 Presented for payment \$ 46,964.13

E. Reporting of the October 2010 Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2010	\$108,159.40	\$1,184,477.01
2009	<u>\$101,877.74</u>	<u>\$1,152,801.18</u>
	\$ 6,281.66	\$ 31,675.83

- F. Airport Operator Report
- G. Maintenance Department Report
- H. Recreation Committee Minutes of November 8,2010
- I. Chamber of Commerce Minutes of October 4, 2010

Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to approve the consent agenda. **MOTION CARRIED**

COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

COUNCIL FORUM:

Councilor Storm thanked election judges and staff for all the hard work for the 2010 General Elections. She also commended Councilor Manick for his service on the city council and Councilor Bixby for running for a council seat. Councilor Storm reminded businesses and residents to remove snow and ice from the sidewalks adjacent to their properties. A Happy Thanksgiving was sent to all.

Councilor Manick recommended a utility commission be created to focus on the many items affecting our water and sewer fees, rates and maintenance to our infrastructure.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Palm
Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer