

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
COOK CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 22, 2012 – CITY HALL – 6 PM**

PRESENT: Acting Mayor Karen Hollanitsch, Councilors Jody Bixby, Kim Brunner, and Elizabeth Storm
ABSENT: Mayor Harold Johnston
OTHERS PRESENT: Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Palm, Maintenance Supervisor Bud Ranta, Beth Kluthe-MN Department of Health, John Jamnick-JPJ Engineering, Timberjays and Cook News Herald

Acting Mayor Hollanitsch called the meeting to order at 6 PM.

PUBLIC FORUM:

The City has been working with The Minnesota Department of Health on the Wellhead Protection Program. The purpose of this program is to identify sources of contamination and recommendations for protecting the water supply for the city. This program is prompted by the new well and problems with the old well. The program was implemented in April 2011 with Phase 1 completed February 2012. This phase identifies the areas within the city that supply water to the wells. This program will last ten years as an ongoing protection program and there is eligible grant funding for the city upon completion of Phase 2.

Results show that the city is moderately vulnerable to contaminants but considered in good condition. Possible contaminants include unused wells which should be abandoned to seal the aquifers, chemical and petroleum storage tanks and railroad cars carrying contaminants.

JPJ Engineer John Jamnick presented the 2012 Culvert, Drainage and Paving Project for First Ave SW/Third Ave and Third St SE/Fourth Street SE at a total project cost of \$245,000. IRRRB funding approved is \$65,000, CDBG funding is \$60,523 and the council approved \$50,000 in funding for the city in 2011. The CDBG contract will be available May 1, 2012 so John Jamnick is requesting the project be submitted for advertising bids so that bids can be opened and accepted at the April 26 Council Meeting.

Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to authorize the First Ave SW/Third Ave and Third St SE/Fourth Street SE Culvert, Drainage and Paving Project to be advertised for bid. **MOTION CARRIED**

JPJ Engineer John Jamnick identified a list of issues for pond improvements with Maintenance Supervisor Bud Ranta. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency will be mandating changes that will need to be addressed in the near future. There are funding opportunities available for pond improvements.

JPJ Engineer John Jamnick will provide cost estimates for replacement of the maintenance garage.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval/correction of Regular Council Minutes of February 23, 2012
- B. Bill Presentation Paid since last presentation \$ 48,779.19
 Presented for payment \$ 23,904.36
- C. Reporting of the February 2012 Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2012	\$ 77,348.82	\$ 149,960.56
2011	\$ <u>70,312.47</u>	\$ <u>141,226.90</u>
	\$ 7,036.35	\$ 8,733.66

- D. Airport Operator's Report
- E. Ambulance Service Report
- F. Recreation Minutes of March 19, 2012

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

COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:

Library

The first legacy event sponsored through the Cook Public Library will be held at the Comet Theater on Wednesday, April 11 at 7 PM. The event is free admission and open to the public.

Recreation

The Recreation Commission has requested that remaining funds of \$929.00 from the 2011 budget be transferred to the 2012 budget to purchase bleachers.

Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to approve the transfer of \$929.00 remaining from the 2011 budget to the 2012 budget for the purchase of bleachers. Funds may not be transferred from year to year after this transfer.

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS:

Councilor Hollanitsch reported that the Lake Vermilion Trail Planning Group will meet monthly to develop a non-motorized bike trail from Tower to Cook. Initially, the group will research the cost of development, safety issues and the terrain and there is no current funding in place. The group consists of representatives from Lake Country Power, The Lake Vermilion Resort Association, St. Louis County, USFS, Bois Forte and interested bikers.

NEW BUSINESS:

For the 2012 elections, Minnesota State Statute Section 204B.14, Subd. 3 requires a resolution to reestablish the boundaries of the voting precinct for the City of Cook, including annexed property not previously included, and Cook City Hall as the polling place.

Motion by Brunner, second by Bixby to approve Resolution 120322 to reestablish the boundaries of the voting precinct including annexed areas for the City of Cook with Cook City Hall as the polling place, by Minnesota State Statute Section 204B.14, Subd. 3, for the 2012 elections. **MOTION CARRIED**

The Cook Chamber of Commerce has requested permission for the annual Timber Days event to be held June 8-10, 2012. The event will require closing a portion of River Street after businesses close on Friday, June 8th-Sunday, June 10th after the parade. Law enforcement coverage does not need approval unless there is a change in coverage.

Motion by Bixby, second by Brunner to approve June 8-10, 2012 for Timber Days and close a portion of River Street after businesses close on Friday June 8-Sunday June 10, 2012 after the parade. **MOTION CARRIED**

Cook-Orr Healthcare District Board Representative Harold Johnston provided the 2011 Annual Report for the Cook-Orr Healthcare District.

John Malm has requested permission to host a Farmer's Market in River Street Park for the summer months on Tuesdays and Wednesdays. He has currently paid the required fee to host market. The council has requested firm time and dates of this event for additional weekdays and is conditional upon other weekday events within the park. The council has also requested the name of all vendors hosted by John Malm.

The Sturgeon River Chapter-MN Deer Hunters Association has requested a gambling permit for the MN Deer Hunters Banquet to be held June 1, 2012 at The Old Muni.

Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to approve a gambling permit for the Sturgeon River Chapter-MN Deer Hunter Association for the MN Deer Hunters Banquet to be held June 1, 2012 at The Old Muni.

MOTION CARRIED

COUNCIL FORUM:

Councilor Bixby commented on how great River Street looks with the community pride put into downtown with new sidewalks, streetlights, benches and trash receptacles. She is concerned about the remainder of the community with blighted properties that need to be addressed. Council members stated that law enforcement handles legal issues within the city ordinance on blight; however, council cannot decide which properties are blighted or not. The council recommends that if a councilor receives a complaint on blight to submit a written list to administration.

Acting Mayor Karen Hollanitsch distributed a "Senior Moments" informational brochure for the Cook Hospital Physical Therapy Department. Beginning this spring, a free, weekly wellness class, for senior men and women will be held in the basement of the Pioneer Apartment Building.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to adjourn the regular council meeting at 6:51 p.m.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Palm
Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer