

**COOK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 23, 2013 – COOK CITY HALL – 6 PM**

TIME AND PLACE: A regular meeting of the Cook City Council was held at 6 PM on Wednesday, May 23, 2013 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 with all present reciting.

ATTENDANCE: Present at roll call were Mayor Harold Johnston and City Councilors Jody Bixby, Kim Brunner, Karen Hollanitsch and Elizabeth Storm. Absent were none. Also present were Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Palm, Cook News Herald, The Timberjays and Recreation Commission Secretary Tammy Palmer.

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

Add: Commission & Staff Reports will include a report from the Recreation Commission given by Secretary Tammy Palmer

Move: None

PUBLIC FORUM:

2013 Wastewater Improvements

Administrator Martinson reported on behalf of JPJ Engineer John Jamnick, that he recommends rejecting the project bids from the May 9th bid opening and re-bidding the project. The low bid of \$443,100 far exceeded the project cost of \$265,000 and price negotiation with the contractor was unsuccessful.

Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to reject the May 9th Wastewater Treatment Improvements bids and re-bid the project due to the bid amount of \$443,100 exceeding the project cost of \$265,000. **MOTION CARRIED**

Friends of the Park Tammy Palmer has requested the city council waive the peddlers' fee of \$10 for fundraising during Music in the Park since they are a non-profit 501 3C and all funds raised go back to the city. Councilors feel that this can be done as long as a non-profit 501 3C shows proof of their status and have council permission prior to the event.

Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Bixby to waive the peddlers' fee of \$10 for Friends of the Park non-profit 501 3C for fundraising during Music in the Park. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: See Consent Agenda.

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

- A. Approval/correction of the Regular Council Minutes of April 25, 2013
- B. Approval/correction of the Special Council Minutes of May 9, 2013-WWT Improvements Project (Ponds)
- C. Approval/correction of the Special Council Minutes of May 9, 2013-Cops Grant

D. Bill Presentation	Paid since last presentation	\$ 116,543.68
	Presented for payment	\$ 86,498.67
E. Reporting of the April 2013 Liquor Store Sales		
	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2013	\$78,609.94	\$320,549.07
2012	\$81,979.46	\$318,625.16
	\$ 3,369.52	\$ 1,923.91
F. Resolution – April 2013 Donations Designated		
G. Airport Monthly Report		
H. Airport Commission Minutes of May 16, 2013		
I. Ambulance Service Report		
J. Recreation Commission Minutes of May 13, 2013		
K. Littlefork/Rat Root River Board & Advisory Committee		

COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:

Airport Commission

The Airport Commission reviewed a proposed lease for a potential hangar owner who questioned language regarding the primary purpose of storing aircraft. Current hangar owners expressed concern that the amount of money involved in constructing a hangar should not limit the use of the hangar to the primary purpose of storing aircraft. The Commission has requested that Article 7 of the lease agreement be deleted. Administration has contacted S.E.H. Engineering and will further research potential funding issues with the MN Department of Transportation if Article 7 is removed from the lease.

Federal funding guidelines will be changing and the airport layout plan will need to be reviewed. Contact has been made to S.E.H. Engineering to schedule a time to meet when as many commission members can be available to be involved in the process. The deadline for application is July 26, 2013.

Recreation Commission

Negative behavior and damaged property was reported to 911 which prompted the commission to purchase a temporary security system until the new security system is completed.

The Commission requested the hiring of Reichel Electric to install two receptacles in the pavilion for public use.

Motion by Bixby, second by Johnston to hire Reichel Electric to install two receptacles in the pavilion for public use. **MOTION CARRIED**

The Commission also requested a pavilion charge of \$20 per 3 hour block and \$50 damage deposit be imposed to cover the cost of electricity with the key to the electrical receptacles and reservations at City Hall for pickup and scheduling on a temporary basis.

Motion by Johnston, second by Storm to charge \$20 per 3 hour block and to cover the cost of electricity

Aye: Mayor Johnston, Councilor Jody Bixby and Elizabeth Storm

Nay: Councilors Kim Brunner and Karen Hollanitsch

Abstain: None

MOTION CARRIED

Friends of the Park have offered to fund and re-open the sandbox near but no connection to the playground equipment.

Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to allow Friends of the Park to fund and re-open the sandbox near but with no connection to the playground equipment. **MOTION CARRIED.**

The Recreation Commission approved hiring individuals to tear down and rebuild a new backstop at Memorial Field with a determined amount of hourly pay.

The Council reminded the Recreation Commission that they are an advisory only commission and that hiring individuals to work and determining rate of pay is not acceptable as this could be a city liability issue and employees follow an adopted pay structure.

Volunteers are covered under city volunteer coverage and are subject to background reviews. Any contractor hired for the city is required to provide proof of insurance to cover general and worker's compensation liability prior to starting a project.

Mayor Johnston suggested a \$500 spending limit be set allowing the authority to hire without council approval with proper proof of insurance required.

Motion by Bixby failed by a lack of a second, to approve a \$500 spending limit allowing the authority to hire without council approval, and with proper proof of insurance required. **MOTION FAILED**

Trash cans need to be placed and Tammy Palmer asked if the city maintenance department would be available to complete this project by June 1st. Timing is an issue as she was informed that the maintenance department is occupied with preparation for Timber Days along with street grading and sweeping and if they could schedule it in they would, but cannot guarantee completion by June 1st. Prior notification in the future should be considered as necessary for timing of projects. Tammy asked if the city could hire an individual to complete this project by June 1st. She was informed that City Insurance Agent Dane Francis would be contacted to see if our umbrella coverage would cover an individual not employed by the city. Dane Francis was contacted after the council meeting and said the city insurance would not cover an individual not employed by the city unless they were a licensed contractor who carries their own insurance.

A State of MN Grant may be available for a walking track around the Doug Johnson Recreation Area and information will be presented to the council at a later date.

OLD BUSINESS:

North Woods Pest Management removed pigeons at the Doug Johnson Recreation Area Pavilion earlier in the spring with a cost effective and safe product in lieu of roosting spikes only to have the pigeons return. Other areas of the city have minimized the pigeon population but pigeons arrive in trains that come through the community on a daily basis.

North Woods Pest Management has proposed rafter spikes be installed with a quote for \$1,580. The Recreation Commission also looked into other options and costs and recommended the council accept the quote for \$1,580 from Northwood's Pest Management.

Motion by Bixby, second by Brunner to accept a quote for \$1,580 from North Woods Pest Management to install rafter spikes for pigeon control at the Doug Johnson Recreation Area Pavilion. **MOTION CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS:

Northwood's Friends of the Art will display the watercolor painting artwork of Chris Lange at Cook City Hall during the Spring Art Expo from May 31 through June 16.

COUNCIL FORUM:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business brought before the Council, motion to adjourn at 7:10 PM was made by Councilor Brunner and second by Councilor Storm. **MOTION CARRIED**

CITY OF COOK – Cook, MN 55723

Harold Johnston, Mayor

Recorder: Cindy Palm, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Attest: Theresa Martinson, Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer