

**COOK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JULY 24, 2014 – COOK CITY HALL – 6 PM**

TIME AND PLACE: A Regular Meeting of the Cook City Council was held at 6 PM on Thursday, July 24, 2014 at the Cook City Hall.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Harold Johnston called the meeting to order at 6:03 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 and Kim Brunner. Absent was City Councilors Karen Hollanitsch and Elizabeth Storm. Also present were Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Maintenance Superintendent Bud Ranta, John Jamnick – JPJ Engineering, Nicole Peterson – ARDC, Tom Rukavina - St. Louis County Commissioner Candidate, Cook News Herald and The Timberjay.

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

Add: None

Move: None

PUBLIC FORUM:

Tom Rukavina - St. Louis County Commissioner Candidate

Tom Rukavina shared his reason for running for the Commissioner seat, his roots to the Cook community and his plans if elected. He served 26 years at the state capitol, as well as holding local offices such as school board and township board. He has worked for Congressman Nolan's office for the last year serving different communities. He will continue to fight for the constituents. He recognizes the 4th district is very rural and sees the roads and public safety needs.

John Jamnick – JPJ Engineering – Project Updates (KGM Partial Pay Estimate, Ambulance/Fire Hall Paving)

KGM Partial Pay Estimate (2013 Street Improvements)

All of the city streets have received their second layer of pavement except the Lund Road. The county was working in that area at the same time KGM was paving. The driveway approaches and clean up needs to be completed. A punch list has been established and the one year warranty will start after the shouldering has been completed. Much discussion took place about why not all alleys were paved. The city determined project area by maintenance need and budget and funding allocation. In the future, the remaining areas can be considered for paving based on monies.

Motion by Bixby, second by Brunner to approve Partial Pay Estimate No. 4 for the 2013 Street Improvements Project in the amount of \$226,948.63 to KGM. **MOTION CARRIED**

Ambulance/Fire Hall Paving

The Ambulance/Fire Hall portion of the parking area that was gravel was paved during the project.

Nicole Peterson – ARDC – Lake Vermilion Trail Support Letter

Nicole Peterson requested a letter of support from the City of Cook for a National Park Service (NPS) Grant. The grant would provide NPS Staff assistance for one year that includes organizational development, outreach, political support, etc. for the Lake Vermilion Trail. This trail is planned to provide a much needed regional non-motorized transportation connection for residents and visitors to the Lake Vermilion area. This trail provides outdoor recreation and a connection for residents and visitors to access local services, businesses and destinations. This support letter does not obligate the city financially in any way.

Motion by Bixby, second by Brunner to submit a letter of support from the City of Cook for the Lake Vermilion Trail NPS Assistance Program grant application. The Mayor is authorized to sign. **MOTION CARRIED**

Friends of the Park – Wings & Things Gambling Permit

The Friends of the Park are requesting approval of a gambling permit for their Wings and Things event to be held in October this year.

Motion by Bixby, second by Brunner to approve the Friends of the Park Wings & Things Gambling Permit for their event to be held October 25, 2014. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: See Consent Agenda.

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

MOTION CARRIED

- A. Approval/correction of Regular Council Minutes of June 26, 2014
- B. Approval/correction of Special Council Minutes of June 26, 2014 – Cook Comprehensive Planning
- C. Bill Presentation Paid since last presentation \$ 137,609.70
- Presented for payment \$ 44,773.54
- D. Reporting of the June 2014 Liquor Store Sales
- | | <u>MTD</u> | <u>YTD</u> |
|------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2014 | \$ 166,169.00 | \$ 634,009.74 |
| 2013 | <u>\$ 171,640.58</u> | <u>\$ 631,445.49</u> |
| | (\$5,471.58) | \$ 2,554.25 |
- E. Resolution – June 2014 Donations Designated
- F. Airport Operator’s Report
- G. Ambulance Service Report
- H. Recreation Minutes of July 21, 2014

COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:

Library

The Summer Reading Programs at the Cook Public Library were a success. The program picnic was held July 30th and included the EMMY Award winning Zinghoppers band performance.

Maintenance – Superintendent Ranta – Sign Retro reflectivity Policy/Program & Wellhead Protection Program

Sign Retro reflectivity Policy/Program

Maintenance Superintendent Bud Ranta reported that he has taken online training and reviewed paper documentation to comply with the mandated sign retro reflectivity training requirements. The sign policy he is submitting is a model from the League of MN Cities but recommends a 10 year life span for the City of Cook policy.

He has recorded inventory of the following signs: 52 stop, 44 street names, 7 dead end, 5 speed and 1 hospital. He is also recommending purchasing a kit for \$1500 that tests the reflectivity of the signs. He also reported that the sign posts must be crash proof.

Motion by Brunner, second by Bixby to adopt the City of Cook, Minnesota Sign Retro reflectivity Policy with a yearly Sign Replacement Goal and Budget of 10% (10 year projected life span on signs) and approve Maintenance Superintendent Ranta to expend \$1500 for a measuring reflectivity kit. **MOTION CARRIED**

Wellhead Protection Program

The City of Cook has completed the wellhead protection planning process and received notice from the Minnesota Department of Health that the submitted plan has been approved on May 22, 2014. With this approval, the city has begun implementing the plan within 60 days after approval. All pertinent agencies and neighboring government entities have been notified.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Propane Bids (2014-2015 Heating Season)

Bids were received from Lakes Gas Co. and Range LP Gas for the propane contract for the 2014-2015 (September 1, 2014 through August 30, 2015) heating season. Lakes Gas is the apparent low bidder. They have indicated no additional truck charges for any city deliveries and 24 hour emergency service provided by certified service staff. The city purchases approximately 14,000 gallons per heating season.

Motion by Brunner, second by Bixby to award the 2014-2015 heating propane contract to Lakes Gas Co. at a price of \$1.445/gallon. The maintenance service rate is \$65/hour. **MOTION CARRIED**

Music in the Park Calendar Schedule

The Music in the Park calendar schedule was shared. Those present commented on what a wonderful event this is for the community. Many thanks to all involved.

COUNCIL FORUM:

Councilor Kim Brunner commented that the city streets look very nice due to the paving project.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business brought before the Council, motion to adjourn at 6:52 PM was made by Councilor Brunner and second by Councilor Bixby. **MOTION CARRIED**

CITY OF COOK – Cook, MN 55723

Harold Johnston, Mayor

Recorder and Attest: Theresa Martinson, Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer