

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
COOK CITY COUNCIL  
JULY 28, 2011 – CITY HALL – 6 PM**

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PRESENT: Mayor Harold Johnston, Councilors Jody Bixby, Karen Hollanitsch and Elizabeth Storm  
ABSENT: Councilor Kim Brunner  
OTHERS PRESENT: Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Airport Coordinator Tom Woock, Reuben Rosnau, Cook News Herald and The Timberjay.

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

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Reuben Rosnau, representing the Cook Fire Relief Pension, presented to the council a discrepancy between their annual treasurer's report and the state auditor's report, therefore leaving a short fall of \$651.00. The discrepancy arose because of lowering and raising the pension amounts. In addition, a retirement of a firefighter occurred.

Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to raise the annual fire relief pension amount from \$1,500 to \$2,000 retroactive to August 2, 2010. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to lower the annual fire relief pension amount from \$2,000 to \$1,500 effective November 29, 2010. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to expend the \$651 shortfall out of fire equipment fund.  
**MOTION CARRIED**

Reuben explained that the pension payments from the state come from 2% of the fire insurances that are distributed to all fire departments. Firefighters can retire at age 50 with 20 years of service. The City is responsible for the pension fund. A report will be given to the City Council each year and approval of any changes to the annual contribution amount will be brought forward for approval.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Approval/correction of Regular Council Minutes of June 23, 2011
- B. Approval/correction of the Special Council Minutes of June 23, 2011 - 2010 Audit Presentation
- C. Bill Presentation      Paid since last presentation      \$170,483.36  
   Presented for payment                      \$ 65,623.57
- D. Reporting of the June 2011 Liquor Store Sales  
   MTD                      YTD  
   2011    \$156,833.78    \$ 581,908.81  
   2010    \$147,002.67    \$ 588,660.90  
   \$ 9,831.11    \$ ( 6,752.09)
- E. Airport Operator's Report
- F. Ambulance Service Report/Thank you letter
- G. Maintenance Department Report

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

**COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:**

Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to adopt the FAA's Interim Policy on Residential Through-the-Fence (RTTF) for the Cook Municipal Airport and certify the current status of RTTF at the airport.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Storm to transfer Airport Hangar Lot Number 3 Lease from Dale Klapmeier to Aero-Environmental Consulting LLC-David A. Witt and Stephanie R. Christianson. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Bixby, second by Hollanitsch to approve ten year renewal of Airport Hangar Lot Number 4 Lease with Dr. Frazier Eales. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to authorize the Mayor and Administrator to apply for FY 2011 FAA Grant and sign all applicable documents for a Connector Taxiway to Hangar Development (\$50,000); Land Acquisition – Runway 7/25, Schelde Property – Parcel 23 – (\$3,000) and Preliminary Engineering for 2010 Airport Improvement Project (\$69,100). **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to transfer Airport Hangar Lease Lot Number 30 (West ½) and 31 from Aero-Environmental Consulting LLC-David A. Witt and Stephanie R. Christianson to John Schmelz. **MOTION CARRIED**

Councilor Storm presented joining the Vermilion Range Regional Safety Group. Employees of the City would be trained on required and regulatory topics. The annual cost would be \$305.27. The League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust has created the Regional Safety Group Initiative to offer training to cities/entities that form regional safety groups.

Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to approve Resolution No. 110728 authorizing the City of Cook as a new member in the Vermilion Range Regional Safety Group. The Mayor and Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer are authorized to sign said Resolution evidencing the city's intent to become a member of the regional safety group and agrees to be bound by all the terms of the establishing agreement. **MOTION CARRIED**

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to approve a request by the Cook Hospital for permission to use the Doug Johnson Recreation Area on September 17, 2011 for their Shake A Leg 5K Walk/Run and to hold the event in the City. **MOTION CARRIED**

The 2010 census figures for the City of Cook reports the population is 574. The council questioned the number of vacant housing units at 38.

The Cook Chamber of Commerce and Timber Days Planning Committee recognized the City Hall Staff for all the help and encouragement before, during and after the Timber Days event.

**COUNCIL FORUM:**

Councilor Hollanitsch noted a comment from a visitor about how nice the downtown area looks.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Bixby to adjourn the regular council meeting at 6:45 PM.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Theresa Martinson  
Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer