

**COOK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 22, 2013 – COOK CITY HALL – 6 PM**

TIME AND PLACE: A regular meeting of the Cook City Council was held at 6 PM on Thursday, August 22, 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 those in attendance reciting.

ATTENDANCE: Present at roll call were Mayor Harold Johnston and City Councilors Kim Brunner and Elizabeth Storm. Absent were Councilors Jody Bixby and Karen Hollanitsch. Also present were Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer Cindy Palm and Maintenance Supervisor Bud Ranta.

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

Add: Old Business-William Whiteside utility account; New Business-Baptist Church use of River Street Park

Move: Old Business-Synthetic Marijuana/Smoke Shops to the September Regular Council Meeting

PUBLIC FORUM:

2013 Wastewater Improvements – Ponds

JPJ Engineer John Jamnick recommends approving Change Order 3 increasing the contract amount by \$49,830 which adds control valves to the project. Also recommended is approval of Partial Pay Estimate 1 to Utility Systems of America for \$90,250 and IRRRB Reimbursement Request 1 for \$101,585.

Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to approve Change Order 3 for \$49,830 adding control valves, Partial Pay Estimate 1 to Utility Systems of America for \$90,250 and IRRRB Reimbursement Request 1 for \$101,585 for the Wastewater Improvements Project (Ponds). **MOTION CARRIED**

2012 Drainage Improvements

JPJ Engineer John Jamnick presented a Substantial Completion Certificate for council approval.

Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to approve a Substantial Completion Certificate for the 2012 Drainage Improvements Project. **MOTION CARRIED**

2013 Street Improvements

Paving bids were received by KGM Contractors for \$908,850 and Ulland Bros for \$986,510. Council approval is needed to accept low bid by KGM Contractors of \$908,850 and for Notice to Proceed with the project.

Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to accept the low bid by KGM Contractors of \$908,850 and for notice to proceed with the project. Legislative monies will be utilized with the City of Cook funds making up the remaining amount. **MOTION CARRIED**

2013 IRRRB Commercial Demolition Program-Cook Dollar Barn

JPJ Engineer John Jamnick accepted bid amounts from Hibbing Excavating for \$88,460, Josh Antus Construction for \$81,720 and GMEN for \$64,450 and recommends accepting the low bid for GMEN for \$64,450. Total project cost is \$66,450 (\$2000 engineering fees) with \$46,450 funding anticipated from the IRRRB and \$20,000 from the property owner.

OLD BUSINESS:

As of this meeting, the City of Cook Archery Deer Hunt has approximately 12 hunters signed up with a maximum of 25 spots to fill. An orientation meeting will be held September 4, 2013 from 6:30-7:30 PM with the MN DNR present for hunters and landowners wishing to have their property hunted. Information has been provided to the press for publication.

Discussion on Synthetic Marijuana and Smoke Shops has been moved to the September Regular Council Meeting.

The council re-instated that the city policy for collecting outstanding utility accounts is to work directly with city staff.

NEW BUSINESS:

The preliminary levy increase for 2014 is 7% with a proposed levy amount of \$371,040.

2012 LEVY \$327,138 Final
2013 LEVY \$340,080 Final
2014 LEVY \$371,040 Preliminary

Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to approve a preliminary levy increase of 7%. The proposed levy for 2014 is \$371,040. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to approve the 2014 General Fund budget as follows:

PROPOSED REVENUES	\$492,039
PROPOSED EXPENSES	<u>\$513,972</u>
Deficit	\$(21,933)
GENERAL FUND	\$(21,933)
LEVY 7%	<u>\$ 24,274</u>
	\$ 2,341

MOTION CARRIED

The Truth in Taxation Public Hearing is held to discuss and approve the final budget and tax levy for 2014. The Council will discuss the amount of property taxes it is proposing to collect to pay for the costs of services the city will provide in 2014. The meeting will be held at 6 PM on December 19, 2013 (regular council meeting date) at the Cook City Hall. The public is encouraged to attend to express their opinions.

Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to set the Truth in Taxation Public Hearing Date as December 19, 2013 at 6 PM at the Cook City Hall whereby the final adoption of the 2014 budget and levy will occur. **MOTION CARRIED**

Northwoods Friends of the Arts will host Flowers in the Park on August 28 in River Street Park. A flyer has been distributed with detailed information.

St. Louis County is seeking a resolution from the City of Cook in support of an All-Hazard Mitigation Plan for FEMA grant requirements. The approval of this plan ensures continued availability of the full complement of Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) Grants.

Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to adopt Resolution 130822B for the City of Cook in support of an All-Hazard Mitigation Plan for FEMA grant requirements. **MOTION CARRIED**

The First Baptist Church has requested use of River Street Park and the gazebo for a youth gathering on September 18 from 6-8 PM. They anticipate between 60-80 people with sufficient adult supervision for the youth. The Farmer's Market will be finished by then. They assume responsibility for all set-up and clean-up.

COUNCIL FORUM:

Councilor Storm thanked Shawna Kishel for receiving a grant for Music in the Park. The Farmer's Market has been positive with good products and promotion and is appreciative of the positive news for the Cook Dollar Barn cleanup from the June fire.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business brought before the Council, motion to adjourn at 6:45 PM was made by Councilor Storm and second by Councilor Brunner. **MOTION CARRIED**

CITY OF COOK – Cook, MN 55723

Harold Johnston, Mayor

Recorder: Cindy Palm, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Attest: Theresa Martinson, Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer