

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
COOK CITY COUNCIL  
AUGUST 23, 2012 – CITY HALL – 6 PM**

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PRESENT: Mayor Harold Johnston, Councilors Jody Bixby, Kim Brunner, Karen Hollanitsch and Elizabeth Storm

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Palm, John Jannick – JPJ Engineering, Cook News Herald

Mayor Harold Johnston called the meeting to order at 6 PM.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

JPJ Engineer John Jannick updated the council on the 2012 Drainage and Utility Improvements Project. After several communication efforts of non-project completion with the contractor, they have satisfactorily performed the required work. Punch list items will continue to be addressed for finalizing project completion.

At the July Council Meeting, Engineer Jannick and Maintenance Supervisor Ranta recommended installing additional culverts at the Sunrise Addition Lots as they were affected by the drainage improvements. Jannick estimates that the additional work will cost \$12,000 and recommends the additional culverts.

Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to install additional culverts at the Sunrise Addition Lots affected by the 2012 drainage improvements for \$12,000. **MOTION CARRIED**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Approval/correction of the Regular Council Minutes of July 26, 2012
- B. Bill Presentation Presented for payment \$ 49,732.80 Paid since last presentation \$272,714.40
- C. Reporting of the July 2012 Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2012	\$ 205,372.87	\$ 847,437.71
2011	\$ <u>207,161.96</u>	\$ <u>789,608.16</u>
	\$ (1,789.09)	\$ 57,829.55
- D. Resolution – July 2012 Donations Designated
- E. Airport Operator’s Report
- F. Ambulance Service Report
- G. Recreation Commission Minutes of July 16, 2012
- H. Cook Chamber of Commerce Minutes of April 6, 2012

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

**COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:**

**Airport**

The final part of the land acquisition and crack sealing grant SP A6917-36 has been provided from the Minnesota Department of Transportation for \$96,350 at 90:10 funding with the federal share \$85,545 and city share \$10,805.

Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to adopt resolution authorizing the execution of the Minnesota Department of Transportation Grant Agreement for Airport Improvement and Land Acquisition, State Project No. A6917-36, Agreement No. 01974. The Mayor and Clerk are authorized to execute agreement on behalf of the city. City share is \$10,805. **MOTION CARRIED**

### **Fire**

The annual 2012 fire relief pension report was distributed for review.

The Cook Fire Department recommended the council consider approving the transfer of ownership of the St. Louis County Rescue Squad Building to the City of Cook for a nominal fee of \$500. The building was constructed in the 1970's, is 75% insulated and heated with a meeting room, an area to work on equipment and storage capabilities. A formal agreement would be made with the Fire Association Board for budgeting necessary fees and related expenses to the building.

The City of Cook would need to issue a letter of intent to St. Louis County for final approval.

Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Brunner for the City of Cook to issue a letter of intent to St. Louis County to purchase the former St. Louis County Rescue Squad Building known as Lots Seventeen (17) and Eighteen in Browns Division in the amount of \$500 for the Cook Fire Department use. **MOTION CARRIED**

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Administrator Martinson requested 2012 budgeted pay increase for Election Judges from \$7.25 to \$10 per hour beginning 2012. The rate increase is comparable to surrounding communities and townships.

Motion by Brunner, second by Hollanitsch to increase pay for Election Judges from \$7.25 to \$10 per hour beginning 2012. **MOTION CARRIED**

The 2013 Preliminary Budget and Levy Special Meeting will be held September 13, 2012 at 6 PM at Cook City Hall.

A special dedication ceremony for the Iron Range Veterans Memorial will be held Saturday, August 25, 2012 at the Veterans Memorial Park located near Virginia Lake. An invitation was provided with event details.

### **COUNCIL FORUM:**

Mayor Johnston questioned the safety of the intersections at County Road 24 and CSAH 115 and feels the issue should be discussed with St. Louis County.

### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Bixby, second by Hollanitsch to adjourn the regular council meeting at 6:35 PM.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Palm  
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer