

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
COOK CITY COUNCIL  
AUGUST 26, 2010 – CITY HALL – 6 PM**

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PRESENT: Acting Mayor Karen Hollanitsch, Councilors Jody Bixby, Dan Manick and Elizabeth Storm

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Palm, Cook News Herald, The Timberjay, RLK Engineer John Jamnick, ISD 2142-Tom Beaudry, Chester Hanson, Charles Rick, Zelda Bruns, John Metsa, Johnson Controls Inc.-Jeff Schiltz and Dennis Egan, Orr Mayor Dale Long, Field Township-Keith Aho, Others-Karen Lind, Stephanie Beaudry, Donna Snyder, Jody Feist, and Beth Hartway

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

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

Beth Hartway approached the council regarding the ISD 2142 North School site plan. She is requesting that the council move forward from a neutral stand by participating with neighboring communities and supporting the plan to build a new school outside of city limits. Councilor Manick explained that the ISD 2142 School Board is responsible for the financial numbers on this project and it is not the city council's responsibility to tell them how they should handle their duties and what they should do with their plan. The council personally cares about the future of the schools but as a city council their responsibility is to represent the City of Cook.

ISD 2142 Superintendent Charles Rick and Johnson Controls Jeff Schiltz requested city council consideration to extend water and sewer utilities to the North School Site approximately four miles outside of Cook. There are environmental impact problems with the existing proposed sewage treatment facility. The City Council informed ISD 2142 that if they want to study the feasibility of extending utilities to their site, then they could incur the research time and expense and present a plan to the council for consideration.

Keith Aho of Field Township asked why the City Council did not accept the Community Coalition Joint Powers Board Agreement. Specific language in the contract had not been changed as requested and the general purpose was vague. For two months, the council discussed the agreement and no one came to the meetings to represent the coalition so that the council could ask questions.

RLK Engineer John Jamnick reported that the Water Tower is painted and slowly filling for bacterial testing to take place. The old tank is still being utilized until testing has passed on the new tank. The old tank should be demolished and the new one running on its own towards the end of September.

Rental agreements will need to be signed for Access Computers and KBHW Radio Station to attach equipment to the water tower. Fee structure and liability issues will be researched as part of the rental agreements. Administrator Martinson is requesting council approval to research and work on these contracts with Attorney Mark Weir and RLK Engineer John Jamnick.

RLK Engineer John Jamnick recommends council approval for Change Order #1 in the amount of \$8,000.00 for the Water Tower Project. This change order was for additional artwork for 2 tank logos.

RLK Engineer John Jamnick recommends council approval for Pay Estimate #5 for \$57,000 to Maguire Iron for the Water Tower Project.

Motion by Manick, second by Bixby to authorize Administrator Martinson, Attorney Mark Wier and RLK Engineer John Jamnick to establish rental agreement contracts for the water tower; to approve Change Order #1 for \$8,000.00 and to approve Pay Estimate #5 for \$57,000 to Maguire Iron for the Water Tower Project.

**MOTION CARRIED**

RLK Engineer John Jamnick recommends council approval for Change Order #1 for \$5,087.00 for the Disability Specialists Utility Extension Project. This is for an alignment change increased by four feet, resulting in an increase to installation costs and modifications to sanitary manholes.

RLK Engineers Inc. recommends Partial Pay Estimate #1 to Utility Systems of America for \$95,575.70 on the Disability Specialists Utility Extension Project.

Motion by Manick, second by Storm to approve Change Order #1 for \$5,087.00 and Partial Pay Estimate #1 to Utility Systems of America for \$95,575.70 for the Disability Specialist Utility Extension Project.

**MOTION CARRIED**

The River Street Streetscape Project is anticipated to start after Labor Day with the majority of the project to be completed this fall. St. Louis County is working on finalizing an agreement with Mesabi Bituminous to begin the project.

Administrator Martinson has requested council approval for pre-application completion (Due September 15, 2010) for CDBG grant funding for 2011. Formal applications are due in December. Funding would cover storm sewer drainage and street improvements by Third Avenue SE in the areas of Little Beginnings and Cook's Last Chance Liquors.

Motion by Storm, second by Manick to approve pre-application completion for CDBG grant funding for 2011. Funding would cover storm sewer drainage and street improvements by Third Ave SE in the areas of Little Beginnings and Cook's Last Chance Liquors. **MOTION CARRIED**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Approval/correction of Regular Council Minutes of July 22, 2010
- B. Bill Presentation      Paid since last presentation      \$ 145,225.36  
                                         Presented for payment                      \$ 98,432.09
- C. Reporting of the July 2010 Liquor Store Sales  
                                         MTD                      YTD  
                                         2010    \$198,788.24    \$787,449.14  
                                         2009    \$188,174.48    \$751,641.56  
                                         \$ 10,613.76    \$ 35,807.58
- D. Airport Operator Report
- E. Maintenance Department Report
- F. Recreation Committee Minutes of August 23, 2010
- G. Chamber of Commerce Minutes of May 3, 2010
- H. Patrick & Anne Christensen - July 21, 2010
- I. Ray & Sue Wolfe – July 27, 2010

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

**COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:**

Airport Commission Chair – Karen Hollanitsch reported that the 2010 Runway Expansion project is currently underway and the airport is temporarily closed for construction.

Approval is needed for Mayor and Administrator to sign and accept on behalf of the City of Cook, the construction services contract for \$246,000 with S.E.H. Engineering for construction observation and administration services for the 2010 Airport Improvement Project.

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to approve the construction services contract for \$246,000 with S.E.H. Engineering for construction observation and administration services for the 2010 Airport Improvement Project and authorize the Mayor and Administrator to sign. **MOTION CARRIED**

The Recreation Commission has reported that the concrete for the new community center should be poured by the end of September. Construction of the building will then start. Councilor Manick reported that the wooden bleachers by the Pee Wee field do not meet code. The commission has requested that city funds either hire a contractor or have a city employee repair the bleachers to code or consider new bleachers in the 2011 budget.

The Cemetery Commission has reported that the gazebo will be replaced by the end of October at a cost of \$4,000 (low bid) and is asking for various organizations to donate. Assessments will not be increased for cities or townships until the 2010 census figures are completed.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

EMS and Fire Volunteer Appreciation Day was held on August 21, 2010 in River Street Park. A nice crowd gathered to honor our dedicated personnel. Second Chance Band donated music in the gazebo for the event.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Propane bids were accepted for approximately 14,000 gallons for the 2010-11 heating season for the City of Cook. Lakes Gas was the low bid at \$1.399 with a total of 4 bids submitted. The low bid award is conditional upon no delivery, tank rental or equipment fees.

Motion by Bixby, second by Manick to award the city buildings propane contract to Lakes Gas for the 2010-11 heating season based on the low bid of \$1.399. Bid award is contingent upon no delivery, tank rental or equipment fees. **MOTION CARRIED**

Senator Bakk was recognized for his legislative contributions during the 2010 session.

**COUNCIL FORUM:**

Councilor Manick congratulated Jody Bixby for re-filing for city council in the 2010 elections. Councilor Manick's council seat will end in 2010 and he intends on staying active in community commission groups.

Councilor Storm has reminded residents to clean up after their pets and wishes a safe and happy Labor Day.

Orr Mayor, Dale Long was present to ask city councilors to informally meet with the Orr City Council to discuss the school district restructuring plan and cooperating services. Administrator Martinson and Councilor Manick will meet during the week of September 6-10, 2010.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by Storm, second by Manick to adjourn the meeting at 7:10 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Palm  
Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer