

**COOK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 28, 2019 – COOK CITY HALL – 6 PM**

TIME AND PLACE: A Regular Meeting of the Cook City Council was held at 6 PM on Thursday, February 28, 2019 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.

ATTENDANCE: Present at roll call was Mayor Harold Johnston and City Councilors Jody Bixby and Elizabeth Storm. Absent were City Councilors Karen Hollanitsch and Kim Brunner. Also present were Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Stephanie Beaudry, Timber Days Committee members Diane Brunner, Carrolle Wood, and Ryan Manick, and the Cook News Herald.

AGENDA:

Additions and Deletions –

Add Airport to Commission Reports

Add RAMS to New Business

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

PUBLIC FORUM:

Timber Days Committee

Timber Days committee members Diane Brunner, Ryan Manick, and Carrolle Wood were present to make requests from the City Council and share information. Wood shared the Cook Chamber of Commerce doesn't want the Timber Days Committee under their non-profit umbrella anymore. The Timber Days Committee has asked the Friends of the Parks group (which is also a non-profit) to take on the Timber Days Committee. At this time, Friends of the Parks has agreed to do so, but they must vote every year to approve the change.

Woods requested official permission to hold Timber Days from June 7 - 9, 2019, use River Street Park, close a portion of River Street, hold the parade on Sunday which is to be sponsored by the Cook Lions Club, fireworks at the Doug Johnson Park, use of the baseball/fields as well as request the field rental fee waived, and lastly, requesting a gambling permit for the Timber Days raffle. Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to approve the aforementioned items. **MOTION CARRIED**

Woods also asked the Council if the City would be willing to pay for the event porta facilities. They cost around \$1800-\$2000. She reminded everyone that Timber Days is a very expensive event and believes that residents don't realize all of the costs. Woods asked that the Council put the request on a future agenda for consideration. She also asked about special event insurance; this is something that the Chamber had and she wondered if it was really necessary. She asked if that was something which the City would cover as well. Deputy Clerk Beaudry is going to look into the insurance topic and get back to Woods. The Timber Days Committee is also interested in holding a beach volleyball event; they are looking for a location at this time. City maintenance would need to be included in discussion on this activity, as location and the amount of sand needed for such an event, could affect the storm sewers if there was a heavy rain.

John Jamnick – JPJ Engineering – project updates

River Street Bridge - JPJ Engineering invoice #16 in the amount of \$2,889.15 needs approval.

Administrator Martinson asked for approval from the Council for herself and the Mayor to have authority to work through a development agreement on behalf of Zup’s and the City. Also, the project will need to be bid through the city. Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to approve Administrator Martinson and Mayor Johnston the authority to work through a development agreement between Zup’s and the City, allow this said project to be let for bid and approve JPJ Engineering invoice #16 in the amount of \$2,889.15. **MOTION CARRIED**

River Street Bridge Naming Ceremony

Veterans Bridge is going to be the name of the bridge; planning is underway for a ceremony. A plaque will need to be ordered and the location of the plaque will need to be determined. Wednesday, May 1, 2019, was shared as a possible date for the event. Major Johnston suggested that the VFW be asked if that would be an appropriate date for such an event. The VFW will be contacted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: See Consent Agenda.

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

MOTION CARRIED

- A. Approval/correction of the Regular Council Minutes of January 24, 2019
- B. Bill Presentation

Paid since last presentation	\$ 69,350.60
Presented for payment	\$ 53,183.99

- C. Reporting of the January 2019 Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2019	\$ 66,262.16	\$ 66,262.16
2018	<u>\$ 83,246.63</u>	<u>\$ 83,246.63</u>
	\$ -16,984.47	\$ -16,984.47

- D. Resolution – January 2019 Donations Designated

COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:

Ambulance Dept.

Ambulance Director Nancy Reing would like to step down from her director position and has recommended the city consider a full-time position. The City is going to try to get a full-time director in place. An ad is currently in area papers as well as ambulance-related websites. Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to hire a full-time ambulance director, approve the job description for this position, and allow the personnel committee to proceed with this process. **MOTION CARRIED**

Fire Dept.

Alango Township wants the Cook Fire Department to cover 100% of their coverage area. Previously, Cook Fire Department was contracted to cover 83% of Alango Township. Alango Township petitioned the City of Cook and St. Louis County for this change and it was approved. Alango Township will be charged the appropriate per capita fee.

The annual fire & ambulance meetings are Monday, March 4, 2019. An ordinance will be put forth which will allow for more fire fees to be charged as well as allowing the city to send people to collections who do not pay their fire bills.

Lake Vermilion Trail

Councilor Storm stated that the LVT is continually working hard to raise funds. There is more information in the council packet as to what they are working on.

Maintenance

A meeting with KLM has been set up for Thursday, April 25, 2019 at 4:30 pm. This is in regard to the water tower inspection.

Recreation

It was decided that this topic of discussion should be tabled until next month due to two City Councilors being absent.

Safety

An updated 2019 training schedule is in the council packet.

Airport

Approval is needed for an engineering agreement between SEH and the City of Cook for the 2019 Beacon Replacement and Relocation project. The estimated total project cost would be \$100,000 with the FAA funding 90%, the state funding 5%, and the local share at 5%. The estimated engineering budget with S.E.H. is \$21,300. Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to approve entering into agreement with SEH contingent upon receiving the grant. **MOTION CARRIED**

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Cook Hospital mental health meeting

The Cook Hospital is having a mental health meeting on March 4, 2019.

Board of Review

The City of Cook’s 2019 Board of Review is scheduled for April 10, 2019 from 10 AM – 11 AM at the St. Louis County Assessor’s Office in Virginia.

Mayoral Proclamation

Councilor Storm stated that sexual assault is an issue that shouldn’t be ignored, as well as the issue of sex trafficking. Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to support the mayor signing the proclamation to recognize April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. **MOTION CARRIED**

RAMS

The City of Virginia is building a new public safety building. The City of Cook recently joined RAMS (Range Association of Municipalities and Schools). The organization, on behalf of the City of Virginia, is looking for the City of Cook’s support of the passage of HF777 and SF 957. Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to authorize the Mayor to sign a letter supporting this project. **MOTION CARRIED**

COUNCIL FORUM: None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business brought before the Council, motion to adjourn at 6:48 PM was made by Councilor Storm and second by Councilor Bixby. **MOTION CARRIED**

CITY OF COOK – Cook, MN 55723

Harold Johnston
Harold Johnston, Mayor

Stephanie Beaudry
Recorder: Stephanie Beaudry, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

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