

**COOK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 26, 2017 – COOK CITY HALL – 6 PM**

TIME AND PLACE: A regular meeting of the Cook City Council was held at 6 PM on Thursday, January 26, 2017, 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 Kim Brunner, Karen Hollanitsch, Elizabeth Storm and Jody Bixby. Also present was Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Stephanie Beaudry, The Timberjay and Cook News Herald. Residents and guests, Sharon Ratai, Karen Lind, Dawn Kehoe, and Tim Pearson.

OATHS OF OFFICE: Mayor Johnston, Councilor Hollanitsch, and Councilor Storm were officially sworn in, taking their oaths of office.

ADDs/DELETES: None

PUBLIC FORUM:

Project Invoice Approval

2016 Infrastructure Improvements – JPJ Invoice No. 8 in the amount of \$2,215.00.

River Street Bridge – JPJ invoice No. 7 in the amount of \$3,927.50.

Motion by Brunner, second by Bixby to approve payment of the aforementioned invoices.

MOTION CARRIED

Tim Pearson

Cook resident, Tim Pearson, spoke to the council on various issues:

ATV use. Mr. Pearson is against ATV use in town. He shared statistics with the council to support his viewpoint. He was thanked for his input and was informed that the city hasn't taken any action at this time regarding an ATV route in town; more research has to be done.

Ordinance 510. Mr. Pearson wanted to know why each council member voted the way they did in regards to this ordinance. Councilor Storm shared that the city had the option to opt-out, as many cities did. There were many requirements and we also had to take into consideration the blight issue. Opting out gives cities time to create their own similar ordinance at a local level. Mayor Johnston stated that the council shouldn't have to explain why they voted for something months after the fact. He invited Mr. Pearson to contact the council members individually outside of the council meeting to inquire with them.

Meeting minutes & ordinances. Mr. Pearson shared his dissatisfaction with the amount of detail in the city council minutes which are posted on the city website. He also stated that he wished the city ordinances were accessible online. Having the ordinances online is a goal for the city but is not a top priority at this time.

Maintenance. Mr. Pearson shared his dissatisfaction with the plowing on 4th Street NW, specifically large amounts of ice which were left in front of driveways. He felt that "slab town" needed more attention in general when it comes to plowing. Mayor Johnston stated that we are not perfect and asked that if Mr. Pearson sees something that needs attention, to please contact city hall. Administrator Martinson stated that the street was plowed again after his initial complaint and thanked him for communicating his concerns.

Safety

All city employees attended safety training on January 25, 2017. This training was on bloodborne pathogens and general safety procedures. City employees are also trained on ERTK, AWAIR, GHS safety programs. A 2017 training schedule was shared with the council.

OLD BUSINESS:

City bow hunt

The total is 19. The antlerless count was 18, and the antlers count was 1.

Lake Vermilion Trail

Councilor Storm stated that the minutes for the last Lake Vermilion Trail meeting are in the council packet. The LVT group has come up with more fundraising ideas and they have a couple of other presentation to make.

NEW BUSINESS:

IRYA

The IRYA is looking for donations for the Annual Young Leaders Conference at Fortune Bay on February 13, 2017. As a city, we cannot donate to such an event. But the city would like to recognize the positive impact IRYA has in our community.

Gambling permits

Tammy Palmer is requesting a gambling permit on behalf of St. Mary’s Church. This would be for bingo on April 1, 2017, and a raffle which would run from May 1 – July 15, 2017. Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to issue a gambling permit to St. Mary’s Church for aforementioned dates & events. **MOTION CARRIED**

Palmer also requested a gambling permit on behalf of Friends of the Park. This would be for Wings and Things on April 29, 2017. Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Bixby to approve the Friends of the Park gambling permit for Wings and Things to be held on April 29, 2017. **MOTION CARRIED**

COUNCIL FORUM:

Councilor Storm would like thank all city employees for their hard work. She also encourages everyone to be safe outside, as it is very icy right now.

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 Hollanitsch. **MOTION CARRIED**

CITY OF COOK – Cook, MN 55723

Harold Johnston, Mayor

Recorder: Stephanie Beaudry, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer

Attest: Theresa Martinson, Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer

