

**COOK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
JULY 27, 2017 – COOK CITY HALL – 6 PM**

TIME AND PLACE: A Regular Meeting of the Cook City Council was held at 6 PM on Thursday, July 27, 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 and Elizabeth Storm. Absent were City Councilors Karen Hollanitsch and Jody Bixby. Also present were Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Stephanie Beaudry, Librarian Crystal Phillips, Norene Butalla, Roger Butalla, Jo Ann Anderson, Jerry Storm, Darold Riihiluoma, The Timberjay, and the Cook News Herald.

AGENDA:

Additions or Deletions: None

PUBLIC FORUM:

Darold Riihiluoma

Mr. Riihiluoma went in front of the council to request a Peddler's License. He would like to sell his antiques and wares on Saturdays during Farmer's Market hours. He stated that he has permission from Mike Koskovich, owner of the old Cook Dollar Barn lot, to set up. Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to approve the Peddler's License. **MOTION CARRIED**

John Jamnick – JPJ Engineering

Need payment approval for Tony's Construction Partial Pay Estimate #3 in the amount of \$24,324.28. This is for curb, gutter, and sidewalk work on the city portion of the infrastructure project. Also need payment approval for JPJ invoice #9 in the amount of \$3,369.25 for engineering fees. Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to approve payment of the two aforementioned invoices. **MOTION CARRIED**

The council was provided with an inspection report completed by St. Louis County on the North River Street Bridge.

Library (moved to top of agenda to recognize library support in attendance)

The library board and Friends of the Library are recommending an increase in the librarian's hours from 22 hrs/wk to 32 hrs/wk as well as increasing the library assistant's hours from 8 hrs/wk to 10 hrs/wk. Councilor Storm stated that there is increased traffic, more programming, and future broadband activities taking place at the library; it is important that the staffing is in step with the increased patron use. Information about cost was included in the council packet. Administration and the librarian will work together to find ways to cover the additional cost in 2018. Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to increase the librarian's and library assistant's hours as stated above beginning September 1, 2018. **MOTION CARRIED**

Propane Bids (2017-2018 Heating Season)

Bids were received from Lakes Gas Co., Como Oil & Propane, and FerrellGas for the 2017-2018 (September 1, 2017 through August 30, 2018) heating season. Lakes Gas is the apparent low bidder. The city purchases approximately 16,000 gallons per heating season.

Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to award the 2017-2018 heating propane contract to Lakes Gas Co. at a price of \$.875/gallon. The maintenance service rate is \$65/hour. **MOTION CARRIED**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: See Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA: Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to approve the Consent Agenda.
MOTION CARRIED

- A. Approval/correction of the Regular Council Minutes of June 22, 2017
- B. Approval/correction of the Special Meeting Minutes of June 22, 2017 – Maintenance Tour
- C. Bill Presentation
- D. Ambulance Service July 2017 Report
- E. Reporting of the June 2017 Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2017	\$ 180,594.85	\$ 655,982.34
2016	<u>\$ 171,154.38</u>	<u>\$ 657,386.70</u>
	\$ 9,440.47	\$ -1,404.36

- F. Resolution – June 2017 Donations Designated

COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:

Airport

Council approval is needed to pay SEH invoice #333239 in the amount of \$13,405.00 for the Master Plan with Airport Layout Plan project. Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to pay SEH invoice #333239. **MOTION CARRIED**

Ambulance

Community Night Out is August 1, 2017, from 4-7 PM at the Cook Community Center. This is being put on by the Cook Ambulance Service. Please try and attend. They have worked hard to gather donations from local businesses as well as encourage other local businesses to be a part of the event.

Blight

The city has been trying to resolve a blight issue with a particular resident in town. The resident has told the city that the yard will be cleaned up by Monday, July 31. The city has been advised by its attorney to have the council approve an “order to repair and clean up property and repair or remove buildings”. This will prevent any delays if further action or legal action needs to be taken. If there is no resolution to the issue by August 10th, the city will inform city attorney and further action will be taken. Motion by Storm, second by Brunner to approve the “Order to Repair...” put together by city attorney. **MOTION CARRIED**

Bow Hunt

The city bow hunt orientation is going to take place on September 6, 2017 at 6:30 PM, at the Cook Community Center. The DNR will be publishing participation details in August.

Broadband Steering Committee

There was a committee meeting at the ORR Center on July 21, 2017. A community survey and training was discussed.

HRA

Brian Gramling's term on the HRA board expires this year. Gramling has stated that he would like to remain on the board. Reed Erickson, HRA Director, requests that the city take the appropriate action to allow Gramling to maintain his board position. Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to approve Brian Gramling for another term on the Cook HRA board. **MOTION CARRIED**

Lake Vermilion Trail

Councilor Storm did not have anything to report as there has not been a recent Lake Vermilion Trail meeting. There will be another meeting in September 2017.

Maintenance

Maintenance interviewing is done; recommendations will be presented at next month's council. Administrator Martinson asked that the council approve changing the wording in the Maintenance Technician job description so it excludes the requirement of a Class B license. Instead, the wording will state that a Class B license will be expected to be obtained. Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to change the Maintenance Technician job description wording as previously stated above. **MOTION CARRIED**

OLD BUSINESS:

Mediacom

The city has purchased the old Mediacom building. There was a lease between the city and Mediacom for Mediacom's use of the land; this lease needs to be officially terminated. Motion by Brunner, second by Storm to authorize the termination of the aforementioned lease. **MOTION CARRIED**

NEW BUSINESS:

Representative Ecklund

Representative Rob Ecklund has been selected as a League of Minnesota Cities Legislator of Distinction for 2017.

Hwy 53 striping

The state will do the striping of the crosswalks. Originally they were not going to do this; however, the state is doing a "micro-surface" project on Hwy 53 through Cook so the striping can take place at or around the same time as the "micro-surface" project.

Lake Vermilion Cultural Center

The Lake Vermilion Cultural Center is asking for a Certificate of Support from the City of Cook. This certificate (as well as those from other nearby communities) is required as a part of LVCC's financial assistance efforts.

COUNCIL FORUM:

Councilor Storm wanted to warn residents about the dangers of Poison Hemlock; please educate yourself on what it looks like and do not handle it. Please let Councilor Storm know if you see any in town.

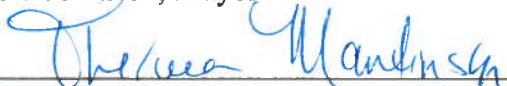
Music in the Park continues to bring in good numbers and the Farmer's Market has been successful as well.

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

CITY OF COOK – Cook, MN 55723



Harold Johnston, Mayor



Attest: Theresa Martinson, Administrator Clerk/Treasurer



Recorder: Stephanie Beaudry, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer