

**COOK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MAY 26, 2016 – COOK CITY HALL – 6 PM**

TIME AND PLACE: A Regular Meeting of the Cook City Council was held at 6 PM on Thursday, May 26, 2016 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, Karen Hollanitsch, Elizabeth Storm and Kim Brunner. Also present were Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Stephanie Beaudry, Recreation Committee member Tammy Palmer, John Jamnick of JPJ Engineering, The Timberjay and Cook News Herald.

ADDs/DELETEs:

Add: Tammy Palmer to be added in the Commission & Staff Reports.

PUBLIC FORUM:

JPJ Engineering Project Updates/Funding

John Jamnick talked about the Cook Care Center project & street work. On May 19, 2016, the bids for the project were opened; there were 4 bids on the project. Tony's Construction of Hibbing was the low bidder. Jamnick recommends offering the contract to them. Jamnick stated that the bid breakdown has three parts:

Part 1) Cook Care Center - Work on Vermilion Blvd between 5th & 6th Streets (city ROW). \$86,624.25,

Part 2) City Infrastructure on Vermilion Blvd between 4th & 5th Streets. \$212,607.50.

(Project budget plan is for the city to be responsible for \$161,290 of this cost).

Add Alternate No. 1 – 5th Street SE. \$36,830.

Part 3) Cook Care Center site work. (The hospital is 100% responsible for this cost). \$168,400.

Jamnick stated that there is a development agreement between the city and the hospital (not finalized as of meeting date). Councilor Storm stated that she would like to see the whole 5th Street done down to 3rd Street; she requested numbers for the cost of adding sidewalk down one side of the street. Jamnick stated he will bring firm numbers to the next council meeting.

Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to approve the city share of what John Jamnick presented, as well as a finalized development agreement. **MOTION CARRIED**

Presented was Erickson Engineering invoice #11735 for \$2932.50 (project #2010-121/Bridge Project); Cook Care Center Commercial Redevelopment Grant PO ID#3000004835 in the amount of \$50,000 and IRRRB City Redevelopment Grant (bridge project/home demolition) extension to 12-31-16. Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Storm to approve all three presented. **MOTION CARRIED**

Administrator Martinson would like the council to consider the additional cost of paving the community center parking lot, keeping in mind the impact of the investment; John Jamnick will bring quotes to the next council meeting. The raised street light pole issue on Vermilion Blvd will be resolved/repared, as it is a part of the upcoming bridge project.

Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Bixby to approve City Resolution No. 160526 and State Aid for Local Transportation Resolution - S.A.P. 069-597-008 - showing proposed alignment, profiles, grades and cross-sections for the construction, reconstruction or improvement of River Street within the limits of the City of Cook as a State Aid Project. **MOTION CARRIED**

Timber Days

There is a request from a company in Duluth wanting to provide helicopter rides. They wanted to set up near Lakes Gas. It was noted that this area would not suit as a good location because of safety concerns for helicopter and passengers due to the river, fuel tanks and electrical lines. The company was provided with suggestions for alternate sites such as the former school parking lot and the former Ashawa Inn site.

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 April 28, 2016
- B. Bill Presentation
- C. Reporting of the April 2016 Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2016	\$ 91,693.97	\$ 332,085.44
2015	\$ 89,730.65	\$ 326,346.32
	\$ 10,034.16	\$ 11,580.84

- D. Resolution – April 2016 Donations Designated
- E. Ambulance Service May 2016 Report
- F. Recreation Commission Minutes of May 4, 2016

COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:

Ambulance

There is a recommendation from the personnel committee to approve the hiring of Christina Rothleutner and Karen Schultz as “shift EMT’s” at \$10.30/hour starting June 1, 2016. It would be a 4-month trial and would be re-visited on October 1, 2016. Councilor Brunner asked about how the situation works. Councilor Hollanitsch stated that their job is making sure people are available for calls and to help with recruitment and public awareness. Councilor Storm stated that if we don’t have the people, we don’t have the service. Motion by Brunner, second by Bixby to approve the hiring with the 4-month trial. **MOTION CARRIED**

Personnel

The personnel committee recommends hiring Dawn Kehoe as the new office assistant at city hall. She will start on June 1, 2016 at a rate of \$14.08/hr. Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to approve the hiring of Dawn Kehoe. **MOTION CARRIED**

Lois Pajari has been serving as a lead over Garrett Snidarich and Ashley Vito at the community center. The personnel committee recommends moving her to \$11.94/hour with the same recommendation from HR consultant, Paul Ness. Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to approve the rate change for Lois Pajari as of June 1, 2016. **MOTION CARRIED**

Recreation

Recreation committee member Tammy Palmer shared that there were 150+ people at the community center for the North Star Credit Union 2016 Annual Meeting on May 20, 2016. People in attendance were very impressed with the facility. The recreation committee notes that the center is lacking a sound system, and that is one of their final projects. They are also working on landscaping, and soft water. They made the necessary changes for the MN Health Department. Palmer asked the council to table naming the center. The North Star Credit Union has shown interest in being a sponsor for the community center/investing in the building. Palmer would like to see the word “community” in the name. Palmer stated that the border around the playground needs to be done; she and Don will be working together on this. Councilor Storm thanked Palmer for all of her hard work and continued dedication to the community center.

Safety

The Safety Committee performed the annual review of the AWAIR Manual. Motion by Bixby, second by Brunner to approve the program for the City of Cook. **MOTION CARRIED**

OLD BUSINESS:

Lake Vermilion Trail – Councilor Storm shared that June 15, 2016 is when the application for Regional Significance Designation is due; the Lake Vermilion Trail paperwork is all ready to go. Judging for the logo contest will be on June 16, 2016. It will be helpful to have something visual to connect with the trail.

NEW BUSINESS:

Dump Truck Bids

The City is selling the old dump truck. Bids will be taken through June 9, 2016. Motion by Brunner, second by Iollanitsch to receive dump truck bids and award accordingly. **MOTION CARRIED**

IRRRB Recharge the Range/Strong Towns

June 6, 2016, 3:30 – 8:00 PM, is Recharge the Range at the Minnesota Discovery Center. It is a great place to network and learn what you can do for your community. It is part of a series of forums aimed at improving and increasing ideas and projects to improve the Range. There have been Cook representatives at prior sessions.

Comet Theater

The premier of “After the Reality” is going to be at the Comet Theater on June 5, 2016. It is a free event and there will be showings at 7 & 9 PM.

Election 2016 Items

Administrator Martinson reminded everyone that voting will take place at the Community Center this year. As far as elections for the city, there will be two open council seats and the mayoral seat will also be open. Filing begins August 2nd and goes through August 16th, 2016.

COUNCIL FORUM:

Councilor Storm stated that the Farmer’s Market will start June 18th. Storm also stated that things have been moved around in the library to make room for programs. There have been donations of folding chairs and they now have new computer chairs. \$800 has already been donated for the new carpet. Councilor Storm also reminded everyone to thank Ruth Boudreau for her work with the city.

Mayor Johnston thanked Tammy Palmer for all of her hard work.

Councilor Storm reminded everyone that the Memorial Day parade is on Monday, May 30th at 9:15 AM, starting at the VFW.

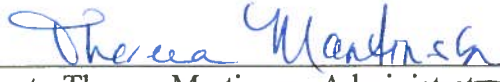
ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business brought before the Council, motion to adjourn at 6:55 PM was made by Councilor Storm and second by Councilor Hollanitsch. **MOTION CARRIED**

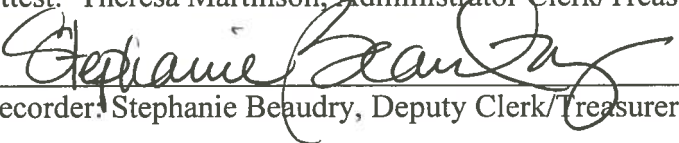
CITY OF COOK – Cook, MN 55723



Harold Johnston, Mayor



Attest: Theresa Martinson, Administrator Clerk/Treasurer



Recorder: Stephanie Beaudry, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer