

**COOK CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 16, 2017 – COOK CITY HALL – 6 PM**

TIME AND PLACE: A Regular Meeting of the Cook City Council was held at 6 PM on Thursday, November 16, 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 were Mayor Harold Johnston, City Councilors Elizabeth Storm and Jody Bixby. Absent were City Councilors Kim Brunner and Karen Hollanitsch. Also present was Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Stephanie Beaudry, Cook News Herald, and the Timberjay.

ADDs/DELETES: None

PUBLIC FORUM:

John Jamnick - JPJ Engineering

North River Street Bridge - The bids for the North River Street Bridge were opened by St. Louis County. They recommend Redstone Construction, LLC of Mora, MN. The City will be managing the project once it gets underway. A motion is needed to acknowledge the bids and accept the recommendation of using Redstone Construction. Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to acknowledge the bids and accept the County's recommendation of Redstone Construction for the North River Street Bridge project. **MOTION CARRIED**
2016 Infrastructure Improvements Project - Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to approve JPJ invoice #10 in the amount of \$6,969.57. **MOTION CARRIED**

IRRRB Resolution

Administrator Martinson, Councilor Storm, and librarian Crystal Phillips are working on the Downtown Business Corridor Grant opportunity through the IRRRB. They met with the IRRRB on November 16, 2017 at the library. This grant would help to provide an outdoor reading space and better access to the River Street Park area. Other great information was gathered at the meeting. This project would beautify the current outdoor space and encourage other businesses in town to beautify. Councilor Bixby asked if there would be any sun coverage. Councilor Storm shared that they did talk about a pergola. Administrator Martinson added that they also talked about the beautification being low maintenance. Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to approve the resolution to apply for the Downtown Business Corridor Grant through the IRRRB. **MOTION CARRIED**

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 Regular Council Minutes of October 26, 2017
- B. Approval/correction of Special Council Minutes of October 26, 2017 – 2018 Proposed Budget & Levy - Airport & Recreation

C. Bill Presentation

Paid since last presentation	\$ 598.00
Presented for payment	\$ 84,408.68

- D. Ambulance Service November 2017 Report
- E. Reporting of the October 2017 Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2017	\$ 113,650.09	\$ 1,342,631.07
2016	\$ 118,847.95	\$ 1,335,991.90
	\$ (5,197.86)	\$ 6,639.17

- F. Resolution – October 2017 Donations Designated

COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:

Airport

Motion by Bixby, second by Storm to approve the CIP submitted to MN DOT – Aeronautics. **MOTION CARRIED**

Lake Vermilion Trail

Councilor Storm reported that they are still looking for someone to volunteer to be on the board to represent the City of Cook; there are a couple of people who may be interested. At this time, Councilor Storm will continue to serve on the steering committee.

Recreation

The recreation commission has disbanded; thank you to the past and present commission members for all of their hard work. There is a recommendation to hire Allen Hoover to be the Rink Maintenance person at the rate of \$15.00/hour. He might also be interested in working during the summer months to do some maintenance, such as weed control or mowing. Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to hire Allen Hoover as rink maintenance at the rate of \$15/hour. **MOTION CARRIED**

OLD BUSINESS:

City Bow Hunt

The current total reported from the DNR is 7.

NEW BUSINESS:

MIF state-funded RLF

The 2017 Legislature passed legislation that allows cities that have revolving loan funds (RLFs) seeded by state-funded MIL (Minnesota Investment Fund) loan repayments to use 80% of the uncommitted balance for any lawful purpose but must pay the 20% back to the state. This is a one-time exception and must be completed by June 1, 2018. Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to pay back the 20% and keep the 80% to be used however the council and administration determine. **MOTION CARRIED**

COUNCIL FORUM: Mayor Johnston expressed his concerns about the Montana Café closing. Can the city do anything to aid in its sale? Administrator Martinson stated that the IRRRB mentioned the energy retrofit program which may be an enticement for a new buyer. Mayor Johnston also shared concerns about the Comet Theater. Administrator Martinson suggested that perhaps she, the mayor, and Councilor Storm meet with these businesses to see if the City could help them in any way. Councilor Storm reminded everyone that St. Mary's Bazaar is November 17th, Cook's Country Christmas is December 1st, and Trinity's Lutefisk dinner is December 9th. Please remember to support our local businesses and shop locally.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business brought before the Council, motion to adjourn at 6:35 PM was made by Councilor Storm and second by Councilor Bixby. **MOTION CARRIED.**

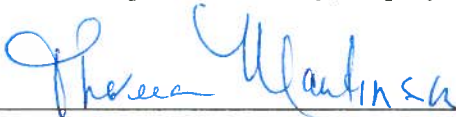
CITY OF COOK – Cook, MN 55723



Harold Johnston, Mayor



Recorder: Stephanie Beaudry, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer



Attest: Theresa Martinson, Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer