

City of Cromwell, Carlton County, MN
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
October 21, 2015 - 7:00pm

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cromwell was held on October 21, 2015 at 7:00 pm at the Cromwell Park Pavilion.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Lisa Lund.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor: Lisa Lund
Council Members: Tom Borglund, Ray Lally, Warren Peters, Phil Lippo

Employees: LuAnn Freiermuth (City Clerk-Treasurer), Raenese Jokimaki (Liquor Store Manager), Tom Johnson (Maintenance)

Other: Samuel Clark

1. ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA

Add Samuel Clark to Public Inquiries

Add Joint Powers Board to Fire Department/Ambulance

Motion by Lally to approve the Agenda with noted additions. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.

2. PUBLIC INQUIRIES/INFORMATIONAL

Sam Clark brought to the council's attention that by deleting certain lines and creating the new Water Ordinance 5.3.04 we took out the \$24.00 base charge for all water users. By doing so, the city has no legal authority to bill customers for water usage. He recommended that we go back to the Ordinance dated from 5/25/2008 immediately. The Minnesota Rural Water Association could be contacted for technical assistance, look at our rates, and then make suggestions to us. The water fund just recently went into the black and it is very important to keep it that way. The League of Minnesota Cities recommends that instead of having the rates in the Ordinance that we could "Refer to the rate schedule". That way if we need to change the rates we could do so without having to create a new Ordinance each time. Sam also commented that he did not think it was a good idea to delete charges from buildable lots. The infrastructure is in place for these buildable lots, and in the past one curb stop failed resulting in the loss of millions of gallons of water and costing the city over \$10,000.00 to repair. The charges from the buildable lots goes to maintaining the infrastructure.

3. OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of prior meeting minutes.
- B. Pavilion calendar
- C. General Ledger for September (listing receipts and disbursements)
- D. Claims list for approval

- E. Liquor Store monthly sales total report
- F. Pull tab totals: \$0
- G. Treasurer's Monthly Report

Motion by Lally to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.

5. WATER/SEWER/MAINTENANCE

A. Maintenance Report

a. We have been awarded a \$9,925.00 grant from the Minnesota Department of Health for a wireless radio control system between the wellhouse and the water tower to be installed by Quality Flow. The city is responsible for the Quality Flow electrician at an additional cost of \$2,000. Work may begin after November 1.

Motion by Lally to approve the additional cost of the Quality Flow electrician at a cost of \$2,000. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.

b. The Pre-pond samples came back requiring us to purchase \$350 of aluminum sulfate for pond treatment before discharging the water into the river. This is a normal amount.

c. Ponds have been drained and are ready for winter.

d. Aardvark will begin pumping the septic tanks at the lake cabins/homes within the city limits.

e. The ice rink is bermed and ready to be flooded.

f. Hydrants need to be winterized.

g. One of the heaters in the pavilion is not working. Will need to call Federated for service.

h. New computer software is required to submit the monthly DMR data sheets. It was suggested to purchase Microsoft Office 365.

i. The street corner at the clinic, the north alley, and the road through the pavilion park are in dire need of repair.

j. The ditches along the south alley need to be cleaned out. Waiting to hear from Keith Clark.

k. Still waiting for an estimate from Keith Clark for gravel.

Motion by Lippo to approve the Water/Sewer/Maintenance Manager's Report. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Project Status Report from JPJ Engineering

John Mattonen assisted city personnel with zoning application reviews and minor staff questions.

C. Water/Sewer Rates:

Discussion on how to proceed. Will go back to the previous billing charges and get advice from Minnesota Rural Water and Attorney Frank Yetka.

Motion by Lippo to approve going back to the previous billing rates. Seconded by Lally. Motion carried unanimously.

6. LIQUOR STORE

A. Manager's Report

a. Melissa Honan and Megan Johnson are due for their next step increase. Raenese completed their evaluations and recommended the next step increase for each of them.

Motion by Lally to approve Melissa Honan's step increase. Seconded by Lippo. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Lippo to approve Megan Johnson's step increase. Seconded by Lally. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. Katie Juntunen has been hired as a bartender. She seems to be a good asset.
- c. Recommended that the Liquor Store Committee meet to discuss issues and wage increases. The committee will meet on Monday, November 2, at 6 pm.
- d. Will be putting up signs for in-house pool and dart leagues to see if there is an interest.
- e. In November we will offer a promo on tap beer. Glasses may be purchased at an additional cost and re-fills will be discounted.
- f. Sundays – Viking Promo – ½ price drinks at every Viking touchdown.
- g. The Viking Kick-Off Party with the Bridgewater Viking jersey giveaway was a huge success.
- h. Ready for the hunting season and business is already picking up.
- i. November 14 – Bar Stool Revelers – Shack Hop weekend.
- j. Summer Plans
 - June – 70th birthday party for the liquor store.
 - July 30th – Donnie Maki Golf Tournament.
 - August 20 – Wounded Warrior Bike Ride. Will also have a band and food.
- k. Off Sale prices will be going up.

Motion by Borglund to approve the Liquor Store Manager's Report. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.

7. PARKS AND RECREATION/PAVILION

A. Discussion on the results of the Lake Restoration weed removal from this past summer at the boat landing. For the summer of 2016 the city would not have to pay any of the cost but has been asked for their approval to treat the water again in 2016.

Motion by Lally to approve Lake Restoration to treat the weeds at the boat landing. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Requested donation for Chill-o-ween.

Motion by Borglund to give a \$100 donation to the Chill-o-ween event for our youth. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.

8. GENERAL CITY/HOUSING/HIGHWAY

A. The 2016 levy is due in December.

B. Need to budget for a new city hall roof in the future. Proposals from Beaver Roofing and Perrault Construction were received.

9. FIRE DEPARTMENT/AMBULANCE

A. The Resolution Supporting the Creation of the Cromwell/Wright Area Fire District and the Joint Powers Agreement to Provide Fire/EMS Services were handed out for review. Any decision was tabled until the November City Council meeting. At that time a representative and an alternate from the council for the Fire District Board need to be appointed.

10. Clerk/Treasurer

a. Lots4Bid sold the two unused gates for a total of \$156.00

b. Received \$1352.00 for the semi-trailer. It will be picked up soon.

c. Enbridge dropped off flyers at the City Hall advertising employment opportunities. Interested applicants may stop in at the City Office for info or go to the website:

Enbridge.com/SandpiperProject/Working-with-Enbridge.aspx.

d. The CACC has inquired about using the pavilion for free. Mayor Lund will check on the requirements/specifications for free rental.

11. TRUSTEE'S NOTES

Phil Lippo - Flower pots need to be moved to allow for snowplowing.

Ray Lally – Gravel needed on Lally Road.

Warren Peters –

Warren asked Mayor Lund about the Information Request from Pirila again.

Information regarding Warren Peter's insurance claim for alleged chlorine spike.

Mayor Lund stated, "Don't ask me, I haven't really talked to him." Warren said, "But it's alleged? You need to talk to him, this is ridiculous. The insurance adjusters were there.

And how about lying about the IP addresses." Mayor Lund replied, "Why are you talking to me about it? Talk to him yourself. I'm not dealing with him on it."

Warren: You didn't know anything about this?

Mayor: Don't even start with me.

Warren: You don't know anything about this?

Mayor: Did I know about that? No. How would I know?

Warren: You as Mayor should send him something to say to stop with the harassment because that's what this is.

Mayor: It's a data request.

Warren: It's harassment. This is ridiculous. It's all been proven.

Mayor: If you have a problem with him, you talk to him.

Warren: You as Mayor, shouldn't you talk to him?

Mayor: You have a problem with him, you talk to him,

Warren: So what you are saying is you won't talk to him as Mayor?

Mayor: What I'm saying is, you have the problem, you talk to him.

Warren: So you won't talk to him as Mayor?

Mayor: It's a data request, what am I supposed to do? By law we have to fill a data request.

Warren: I'll talk to Frank and the city can pay for it.

Tom Borglund - When the city hall roof needs to be replaced, Tom suggested considering steel roofing.

12. Mayor's Notes

Mayor Lund asked the clerk if she had heard from A.M. Mechanical about the metal brake. The clerk said she had talked to them, they were still interested, and working out a time to pick it up.

Motion by Borglund to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm. Seconded by Lippo. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Lisa Lund

ATTEST: _____
LuAnn Freiermuth, City Clerk-Treasurer