City of Cromwell, Carlton County, MN  
Regular Council Meeting Minutes  
December 17, 2014 - 7:00pm

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cromwell was held on December 17, 2014 at 7:00 pm at the Cromwell Park Pavilion.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Mayor Samuel A. Clark.

Present:  
Mayor: Samuel Clark  
Council Members: Lisa Lund, Ray Lally, Warren Peters, Tom Borglund  

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

Others:  
John Mattonen-JPJ Engineering, Phil Lippo, Commissioner Gary Peterson, Marvin Pirila  

1. ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA  
Add Commissioner Gary Peterson to Public Inquiries/Informational.  
Motion by Lally to approve the Agenda with noted addition. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.

2. PUBLIC INQUIRIES/INFORMATIONAL  
Carlton County Commissioner Gary Peterson was present to inform and update us on several items that are happening in Carlton County:  
Kimberly Franek has been hired as Human Resources Manager.  
The Fond du Lac tribe has applied for designation Air Quality 1.  
Fond du Lac is undergoing a study to bring elk back to the county.  
The Cloquet animal shelter is in need of financial funds to stay open.  
Gary explained that Minnesota’s infrastructure (roads and bridges) are a major concern.  
Carlton County has 112 miles of non-state roads that are scheduled for repair.  
Carlton County raised the sales tax by 1/2 percent.  
Carlton County has received a grant from Blandin. They are looking into getting broadband internet service.  
Property Tax will increase 4.9% for 2015 taxes.  
Coates RV Sales has purchased lots in the Esko Industrial Park.

3. OLD BUSINESS  

NEW BUSINESS  
A. Cromwell Area Community Club would like to work on some gardening projects next summer to help beautify the community. Mayor Clark suggested they put a plan together and present it at a council meeting for review.
4. CONSENT AGENDA
   A. Approval of prior meeting minutes.
   B. Pavilion calendar
   C. General Ledger for November (listing receipts and disbursements)
   D. Claims list for approval
   E. Liquor Store monthly sales total report
   F. Pull tab totals: October $774.00
   G. Treasurer’s Monthly Report
   Motion by Lally, seconded by Borglund to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

5. WATER/SEWER/MAINTENANCE
   A. Maintenance Report
      a. The furnace at the pavilion quit running. The motor needs to be replaced. Parts have been ordered. A temporary motor is currently being used.
      b. The water tower circulating pump quit running. It has been repaired.
      c. A new stove has been purchased for the city rental unit. It will be installed by Hanni Plumbing this week.
      d. The ice skating rink was ready for skating but now with the warm weather it has melted. Will wait for colder weather and then flood it again.
      e. Ponds are in good condition.
      f. Tom requested approval to attend the Minnesota Rural Water Association Water & Wastewater Technical Conference to be held March 3-5 in St. Cloud. Cost is $225 for the conference plus lodging for one night.
   Motion by Lally to approve Tom to attend the MN Rural Water Association Conference March 3-5 in St. Cloud for a cost of $225 plus lodging. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.
   B. Project Status Report from John Mattonen.
      a. Discussion on the Lundin building. Mr. Lundin has provided proof of insurance and has secured the building. He has put in pillars for roof support. His intention is to repair the building.

6. LIQUOR STORE
   A. Manager’s Report by Raenese Jokimaki.
      a. Melissa Honan, a recently hired bartender, needs to be certified.
      b. The new coffee/hot water machine has been installed.
      c. Karoke Night on Jan 26 by LuAnn Zaudtke.
      d. Request to be closed on January 1. Will do inventory on that day.
   Motion by Peters to close the liquor store/bar on January 1. Seconded by Lally. Motion carried unanimously.
      e. Winter hours start December 22.
      f. The new computer software has been installed. We have a 30-day trial period.
   B. 10% Charitable Fund
   We are now receiving the 10% Charitable Funds from the pull tabs. This money must comply within specific guidelines. The clerk handed out information on what qualifies for this.
8. GENERAL CITY/HOUSING/HIGHWAY
   A. The final property tax levy was discussed. The levied amount is $103,696.00.
      Motion by Lally to approve the property tax levy of $103,696.00 for the year 2015. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.
   B. The city of Cromwell’s ATV Ordinance needs to be updated per Minnesota Statutes. The clerk was instructed to contact the city attorney.
   C. Clerk Freiermuth requested time off from Dec 24 – Jan 4.
      Motion by Borglund to approve clerk’s time off from Dec 24 – Jan 4. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.

9. FIRE DEPARTMENT/AMBULANCE
   A. An update on the Joint Powers Board Meeting was given.
   B. Request to approve Lucas Goodin as the new Fire Chief.
      Motion by Lally to approve Lucas Goodin as the new Fire Chief for the Cromwell/Wright Fire and Ambulance Department. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Clerk/Treasurer
    A. The Cromwell Area Community Club paid for the piano tuning at the pavilion. Thanks was expressed.
    B. It was discussed to keep Brandi Peterson on the payroll as backup for pavilion cleaning.
    C. Requested approval for Lisa Lund to attend the Newly Elected Officials Conference on Jan 9-10 in Cohasset. Mayor Clark stated that she has been to that same conference before and did not think it was necessary to attend again. No other discussion. It was denied.
    D. The clerk asked for instruction on how to handle certain properties that could possibly be hooked up to city sewer but are not being billed. Mayor Clark suggested getting in contact with the realtors that are selling these properties.
    E. Nominations are being sought for a representative on the Arrowhead Regional Development Commission. If any council member is interested they should fill out the nomination form and submit it to the clerk.
    E. Clerk Freiermuth thanked the out-going Mayor, Samuel Clark, for his dedication to the city of Cromwell and welcomed in the new council member, Phil Lippo, and the new mayor, Lisa Lund. Peters expressed his thanks to Mayor Clark for his IT services, saving the city of Cromwell money and keeping taxes down, and for duties he performed throughout his mayorship.
      Lally presented Mayor Clark with a wall plaque stating the city of Cromwell’s appreciation for his years of dedicated service as Mayor.
      Mayor Clark expressed his thanks to Raenese, Tom, and LuAnn stating his confidence in each one as we go forward. Mayor Clark also said if we had questions in the future he is only a phone call away and he wished us all good luck.

11. TRUSTEE’S NOTES
    Ray Lally -
    Warren Peters -
    Lisa Lund -
    Tom Borglund -
12. Mayor’s Notes
   A. Discussion on the Cash Balance Statement indicating the balances in each fund. Mayor Clark suggested transferring $50,000 from the Liquor Store Fund to the General Fund. 
      Motion by Peters to approve transferring $50,000 from the Liquor Store Fund to the General Fund. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.
   B. Mayor Clark suggested holding off on the cooler repair and the new bar until next year.
   C. Requested approval for the 2015 budget to remain the same as 2014.
      Motion by Lally to keep the budget for 2015 the same as 2014. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN
Motion made by Lally, seconded by Peters to adjourn the meeting at 8:58 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

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Mayor Samuel A. Clark

ATTEST:

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LuAnn Freiermuth, City Clerk-Treasurer