

**Approved Meeting Minutes
City of Cromwell
Carlton County, MN
Regular Council Meeting
August 24 2011
7:00pm**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cromwell was held on Wednesday, July 27, 2011 at 7:00pm at the Cromwell Park Pavilion

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

Absent: none

Others Present: John Mattonen, Michelle Marshall, Marshall & Maryann Johnson, John Jablonski & Louanne Johnson, Norbert Wallock, Jen Bednarik, Austine Rubey.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Mayor Cark

Minutes: Motion to accept July meeting minutes by Ray Lally and seconded by Lisa Lund.
Motion carried unanimously

Additions to Agenda:

- none

Liquor Store:

- Music and entertainment: Dean Nyberg will play on Sept. 10th, and Denno will play on Sept. 24th.
- Sales information was presented to the council. July sales were \$61,740.91, 24.74% over July 2010.
- Beer garden information from State of MN and Wells Fargo was reviewed by the council.
- There was discussion on the beer garden and dance, serving alcohol during dance and carrying beer around the park from the beer garden. Motion by Tom Borglund and seconded by Warren Peters to allow beer outside the beer garden, and to serve liquor during the dance with security supplied by Harvest Fest and bartenders supplied by the liquor store and Harvest Fest committee members helping with the serving if business dictates. Beer sale from noon to midnight and liquor sale from 8pm to midnight on the 10th of September. Motion carried unanimously.
- A non-renewal notification from our dram shop carrier was reviewed by the council. The purpose of the notification is to inform us that when our dram shop is renewed we will need a new insurance company as our current one is no longer providing dram shop.

Water/Sewer/maintenance:

- School zone map was reviewed. John Mattonen is working with MNDOT and the School on completing the project.
- There was discussion on placing a cross-walk in mid city to provide a safe crossing area near the bar, hardware store, post office and clinic. MNDOT was hesitant stating that it may provide a greater risk due to people feeling secure and walking out into traffic.
- Well sealing is set for August 1st. The sealing is of two wells on the Riverview Meadows addition paid for by a grant through the MN Dept. of Health.

- A grant through MN Dept. of Health for wellhead protection was reviewed. This grant may help us with the updates that are to be done to our wellhead protection plan due to be completed in 2012.
- Information on the Carlton County Waters Summit was reviewed by the council.

Parks and Rec / Pavilion

- The pavilion calendar for July through September was reviewed.
- The Zumba use of the pavilion was discussed. The council agreed to allow the use free of charge for another couple more months to see if the numbers stay up or not before discussing cost of rental.
- Scott mentioned that the fire dept. said they would help with the skating rink.
- Cardinal Quilters asked if they could use the pavilion for some quilting training sessions/classes for the community. Sam said if they give free classes for the community members that would be a good use of the pavilion.
- Motion by Ray Lally and seconded by Warren Peters to allow the free use of the pavilion by the cardinal quilters for quilting classes throughout the year. Motion carried unanimously.

General City/Housing/Highway

- There was discussion on the use of Road R.O.W. within the city limits. Discussion entailed building of permanent structures within the right of way. Mr. Jablonski was given permission to put a garden within the R.O.W. and the neighbors were confused about what was okay and what was not. The issue was clarified as: The city has the right to allow or disallow use of the right of way on a case by case basis. The city allows the cabin owners on north Mingus road to park in the R.O.W. to the east of the road. The council cautioned them to not intrude on the private property east of the R.O.W.
- There was discussion on the boat access area on Mingus road and vehicles blocking the road. The council stated that it is illegal for people to block the road and if a vehicle is blocking the use of the road obstructing traffic, the Sheriff's Department should be called. The council will seek further information on the access area and discuss at next months meeting.
- ARDC levy information was presented to the council
- The estimate on the concrete work at the pavilion, bar and city hall was review. Not having a seconded estimate, the item was tabled until Sept. meeting.
- Discussion on membership to the Carlton County, Cromwell, and Moose Lake Historical Societies. Council will be a member of Cromwell's and not the other two this year.

Fire Dept./Ambulance:

- Discussion on the creation of a fire district taxing authority to combine Cromwell and Wright fire departments and eliminate the City authority over the fire departments. Discussion included whether to keep the fire hall as a city-owned building and leasing it to the district or deeding it to the district. The biggest advantage of a fire district is that every authority within the district will have representation on the district board.

Trustee's Notes:

- Lisa: none
- Ray: Lally Road easement agreement. This will give the City of Cromwell authority over Lally Road. Discussion included the fact that the City of Cromwell collects property tax from many properties serviced by Lally Road and should take ownership of the road and maintain the road to serve those properties.
- Motion by Lisa Lund and seconded by Warren Peters to approve resolution accepting a partially platted road for maintenance by the City of Cromwell. Motion carried unanimously.

- Warren: none
- Tom: none

Clerk/Treasurer:

- The preliminary budget and levy information was reviewed by the council and will be further discussed at the September meeting.
- An inter-fund transfer to the general fund from the liquor store fund and the sewer fund to balance out the general fund as of January 1st 2011. Scott explained that we are carrying a negative balance in the general fund due to payment of general obligation bonds for the water and sewer funds. Scott suggests we lower the balance in the liquor fund to \$10,000 and transfer the balance to the general fund and to take the remainder from the sewer fund (as payment of previous bond payments) to bring the general fund balance to \$0.00 as of January 1st 2011.
- Motion by Ray Lally and seconded by Tom Borglund to do the transfers as discussed and bring the general fund balance to \$0.00 as of January first 2011. Motion carried unanimously.
- There was discussion on the Fire Department portion of the levy. Scott explained the amount for the City is our share of a \$48,000 fire fund levy. The remainder of the \$48,000 would not be collected in full from the townships, and the city may want to consider only levying the proportionate amount to what will be collected from the townships in the fire protection area and either lower the levy by the difference or raise the general fund portion of the levy.
- Scott also mentioned that the LGA number in the proposed budget is lower than the State of MN amount because he does not believe we will get the full amount promised by the state.
- Motion by Ray Lally and seconded by Lisa Lund to approve the claims list for approval and Treasurer's report. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor's Notes:

- Motion by Tom Borglund and seconded by Warren Peters to send Sam to LMC Regional meeting on 22nd September in Gilbert.
- Discussion on the scrap metal along the pavilion fence. Tom Johnson will arrange to have it picked up and sold for scrap.
- Discussion on a communication failure in the water tower software. Tom Johnson is currently filling the tank manually and we are sending the equipment out for repair.
- A contact in the air conditioner at the pavilion burned out due to being left on full blast for several days following a rental. Scott billed the renters for the cost of the contact and Sam put it in.
- Sam and Scott met with an energy auditor through LCP and walked all the buildings in the city. We will get the results of the audit in the future but there are some easy energy saving items we can do now such as swapping out some light bulbs for more efficient models, cleaning air conditioning and heating units, and putting timers on the beer lights at the bar.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn by Ray Lally and seconded by Warren Peters