

**Approved Meeting Minutes
City of Cromwell
Carlton County, MN
Regular Council Meeting
September 28 2011
7:00pm**

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cromwell was held on Wednesday, September 28, 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: Walter Collman, Jennifer Backer-Cromwell/Wright School superintendent.

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

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

Additions to Agenda:

- Walter Collman mentioned that the Luminary Committee has put the sign in at the park by the bank
- Jennifer Backer mentioned that she is working with MnDOT to put in a left turn lane at the 210 entrance to the school. There was discussion on the school zone plan and general discussions about traffic near and around the school.

Liquor Store:

- Music will be at the bar on the 8th and 22nd of October.
- Sales information was presented to the council. August sales were \$41,847.88, 12.03% over August 2010.
- A "Thank You" from Kalli's for the golf hole sponsorship was presented to the council.
- A request from Paul to attend the MMBA Regional meeting was presented for approval.
- Motion by Ray Lally and seconded by Warren Peters to send Sam and Paul to the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.
- A request to hire Megan Arnold permanently as a part-time bartender was presented.
- Motion by Lisa Lund and seconded by Ray Lally to hire Megan. Motion carried unanimously.
- Pull tabs rent totaled \$1236.80.

Water/Sewer/maintenance:

- The Project status report was presented to the council.
- Sam said the tower controls were working again, the modem and receiver were replaced by Sam which saved the city considerably money.

Parks and Rec / Pavilion

- The pavilion calendar for August through October was reviewed.
- A request from Lakes & Pines for space for educational training, 20-30 people to educate community members on how to attain financial security for their families. The council agreed to offer the pavilion as long as it did not interfere with a paid event.

General City/Housing/Highway

- Sam mentioned that Dahl road now has new gravel on it, (done by Carlton County).
- There was discussion on other road work within city limits.
- Several complaints regarding distressed property along Dahl road were reviewed by the Council. The council asked Scott to send a letter and a copy of the city nuisance ordinance to the property owners asking them to clean up their properties.
- There was discussion on the condition of the yard at 1237 Northstar Lane. The city council agreed we should make sure it is cleaned up and the cost assessed to the property. Scott mentioned that the owner is not responding to any inquiries on the property, and that he verified the owner is still Michael Becker as of 9/28/2011.
- Quotes on the concrete work for the pavilion, liquor store and city hall buildings were reviewed by the council. The lowest bid is from Chevy Borglund for \$1600.00 the only other bid was from Olesiak Masonry for \$1675.00.
- Motion by Ray Lally and seconded by Warren Peters to accept the lowest bid for the work. Discussion ensued on the wording of the two bids. Motion carried unanimously.
- An advertising request for the yearbook was discussed. Scott mentioned that the city has put in an ad each year 3.5" x 5" ad. Motion by Ray Lally and seconded by Lisa Lund to put a 3.5x5 ad in the yearbook again this year. Motion carried unanimously.
- There was discussion on Lake Street repairs. The city had applied for grant funding for the project, but would have had to do much more work to get the grant than the project was worth. The council asked for additional quotes on the project and will discuss at the October meeting.

Fire Dept./Ambulance:

- A grant from the DNR for \$1500.00 was requested by the fire department. It is a matching funds grant that will require the fire department to spend \$3000.00, then to get reimbursed for \$1500.00 from the DNR. Sam asked if we actually need the equipment or if we were going to buy equipment we don't need in order to get the grant. Sam said he would get more info from Steve and Mike on the equipment needed.
- Warren said he has an old fashion street light that could be used in the park by the bank if the city wanted it there.

Trustee's Notes:

- Lisa: none
- Ray: none
- Warren: Warren said he has an old fashion street light that could be used in the park by the bank if the city wanted it there.
- Tom: Tom mentioned that the old creamery building was in foreclosure and was for sale for \$34,900. There was discussion on the possible purchase of the property. Scott was instructed to check into it and the council decided to hold a special meeting to discuss the possible purchase as soon as we can get the information together.
- Tom also mentioned that we should eliminate the piles of milled blacktop we have by the pavilion and put them to use on the roads. It would clean up the area and there are plenty of roads that could use it in the city.

Clerk/Treasurer:

- Motion by Ray Lally and seconded by Warren Peters to allow Scott to attend the State Auditor training in the twin cities.
- Receipts for August totaled \$61,478.05

- Disbursements for August totaled \$60,654.59
- Claims list for approval totaled \$33,077.64
- Motion by Lisa Lund and seconded by Tom Borglund to pay the claims listed. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor's Notes:

- Sam talked about the changes related to the elimination of the Homestead credit. He mentioned that our tax bas will likely shrink, therefore making our tax rate higher. This will make some property owners pay a little more tax even though our levy is not going up. Scott explained that the exemption homeowners will get is a declining credit. The more your house is worth, the less the exemption is. Sam also mentioned that commercial properties are likely to see a bigger increase in tax than residential will. Sam also mentioned that our area will be effected by not only the city, but by the county and school district.
- Sam said we should stand pat on our levy until we know what effect the MVHC will really have on our community. Our current year MVHC payment due from State of MN is \$4,780.00. This amount will not be sent in 2012 or future years.

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