

City of Cromwell, Carlton County, MN
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
March 16, 2016 - 7:00pm

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cromwell was held on March 16, 2016 at 7:00 pm at the Cromwell Park Pavilion.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Acting Mayor Ray Lally.

Roll Call

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

Absent: Mayor Lisa Lund (unexcused)

Employees: LuAnn Freiermuth (City Clerk-Treasurer)

1. ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA

Motion by Peters to approve the Agenda. Seconded by Lippo. Motion carried unanimously.

2. PUBLIC INQUIRIES/INFORMATIONAL

3. OLD BUSINESS

Peters asked if the dial-in feature had been removed from the liquor store computer. He is asking for verification.

NEW BUSINESS

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of prior meeting minutes.
- B. Pavilion calendar
- C. General Ledger for February (listing receipts and disbursements)
- D. Claims list for approval
- E. Liquor Store monthly sales total report
- F. Pull tab totals
- G. Treasurer's Monthly Report

The disbursement for flowers out of the Fire Department Fund was questioned by Peters. The clerk has contacted Lucas Goodin explaining that that type of purchase cannot come out of the city funds. The City will get reimbursed.

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

5. WATER/SEWER/MAINTENANCE

A. Maintenance Report

- a. The renter's garage door top panel broke. Tom rigged it back together for now but it does need a new panel or new door.

- b. Gravel is needed on Lippo Lane by the lift station, at the storm drain by the clinic, and near the fire hydrant by the clinic.
- c. Gerald Lehti called in with a complaint of flooding on the Markusen Road near his driveway. Culvert cleaning, ditch cleaning and/or road repair is needed. Discussion on whether this is a county road or city road.
- d. Tom would like the council to continue to consider purchasing a skidsteer.
- e. There are potholes all over town. Some areas need asphalt, some patching.

Borglund agreed that the city needs a skidsteer and that Tom should start checking on that. Borglund suggested getting a sweeper attachment for city streets and sidewalks.

The DOT has been pulling over trucks onto city streets and alleys for inspection. Tom and the clerk were instructed to contact the DOT and let them know they are not to pull onto our streets because the streets are getting torn up.

Motion by Peters to approve the Maintenance Report. Seconded by Lippo. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Project Status Report from JPJ Engineering

John Mattonen assisted with general questions throughout the month.

Mayor Lund, Council Member Peters, and Clerk Freiermuth met with Teri Osterman from the Minnesota Rural Water Association in February to discuss water and sewer rates. Discussion followed about rates. It was suggested that the water rate be changed to a base amount of \$24 with an additional \$3.75 charge for each 1000 gallons used and a \$5.00 flat rate for late charge. The ordinance needs to be changed before rates go into effect. Further discussion at next month's meeting to re-write the ordinance.

Teri also suggested that the city install a water meter at the Fire Department once the Joint Powers merge is complete and they are a separate entity. Discussion followed on the feasibility of a meter large enough to allow fire trucks to be filled fast enough. Tom was instructed to check with other cities.

Motion by Peters to approve the base water rate at \$24.00 with an additional \$3.75 charge for each 1000 gallons and a late fee of \$5.00. Seconded by Lippo. Motion carried unanimously.

Special Meeting Pay was discussed for the meeting with MN Rural Water in February.

Motion by Borglund to approve Special Meeting Pay for the February meeting. Seconded by Lally. Yeas: Borglund, Lippo, Lally. Abstain: Peters. Motion carried.

The city has received two quotes for demolition of the chimney on City Hall.

Any action tabled at this time.

TIF money was discussed. Lally checked with Paul Gassert, County Auditor. Paul suggested checking with Ehlers, who the contract is through, to determine if the city is able to put the TIF balance into the General Fund.

6. LIQUOR STORE

A. Manager's Report

- a. A new pizza freezer needs to be purchased. Peters will check with Restaurant Depot and Upper Lakes Foods (a demo) for pricing. The freezer needs to be NSF approved.
- b. Raenese requested approval to purchase patio tables and chairs for the patio. The Council instructed her to check with OSHA for any codes/requirements and prices. Any action was tabled for further research.

Motion by Peters to approve the Manager's Report. Seconded by Lippo. Motion carried unanimously.

7. PARKS AND RECREATION/PAVILION

- A. Discussion on insurance coverage for the annual pavilion contract groups. Mayor Lund will talk to Carl Brandt, Town & Country Insurance. Any action tabled for further research.

8. GENERAL CITY/HOUSING/HIGHWAY

- A. Tom is at the top of the wage step increment scale. Mayor Lund will gather information from other small cities on their pay scale. Will be discussed at next month's meeting.

9. FIRE DEPARTMENT/AMBULANCE

- A. A high flow meter discussed as above. The Mutual Aid Contract must be considered also.

10. Clerk/Treasurer

- a. The clerk received a request for a donation to the Carlton County Fair. Council unanimously declined.

11. TRUSTEE'S NOTES

- Phil Lippo –
- Tom Borglund -
- Ray Lally –
- Warren Peters –

12. Mayor's Notes

Motion by Peters to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 pm. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.

Acting Mayor Ray Lally

ATTEST: _____
LuAnn Freiermuth, City Clerk-Treasurer