

**City of Cromwell, Carlton County, MN**  
**Regular Council Meeting Minutes**  
**April 20, 2016 - 7:00pm**

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A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cromwell was held on April 20, 2016 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 Phil Lippo, Warren Peters, Tom Borglund

Absent: Ray Lally (excused)

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

Others: John Mattinen (City Engineer), Commissioner Gary Peterson, Cindy Plachecki (renter), Cromwell Area Community Members: Cherie Nyberg, Wanda Karpinnen, Tracey Goranson, Deb & Rob Switzer

**1.ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA**

Under New Business add: A. Cromwell Area Community Club  
B. Commissioner Gary Peterson

**Motion by Borglund to approve the Agenda with additions. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.**

**2. PUBLIC INQUIRIES/INFORMATIONAL**

**3. OLD BUSINESS**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Cromwell Area Community Club**

Members of the Cromwell Area Community Club were present to express their ideas and goals to help beautify the city and ask for approval from the city council. Plans could involve:

1. Cut brush around the pavilion park.
2. Take down fencing in some areas.
3. Proposed gazebo at city park next to the bank with possible sidewalk and flowers.
4. Additions to the playground equipment. Possible basketball court and rock climbing structure.
5. Possible shelter, path, benches, parking area at pavilion park.
6. Get rid of the train box car behind City Hall.
7. Take down or fix fence by Trolley.
8. Potholes in city streets and alleys.
9. Move volley ball court closer to park.

They also expressed concerns about the permanent outhouse next to the horseshoe pit.

They expressed an interest in holding occasional dances at the pavilion.

They will hold a meeting on May 10, 2016 at 7 pm with John Mattinen, the city engineer, for developing a plan for improvements to the park.

**Motion by Borglund to approve going forward with improvements. Seconded by Lippo. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion by Borglund to approve the gazebo project. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.**

May 14 – Cromwell area rummage sales

May 22 - Park clean-up

#### **B. Commissioner Gary Peterson**

County Commissioner Gary Peterson was present to update us on projects around the county.

1. He has talked to Mike Sundin to see if we can push through the Cromwell-Wright Fire and Ambulance merge yet this year.
2. There is a "Green Program" at the Cromwell school. This is an educational recycling program.
3. Gary will check on his list about a Hwy 210 project due to the complaints expressed about the poor condition of Hwy 210 going through town and the flooding that is occurring due to poor drainage.
4. The University of Minnesota has a SNAP educational program to educate students about healthy food choices.
5. Dave Lee, Human Services Director, has accepted a job with St. Louis County.
6. Marci Moreland, County Assessor, is retiring in June.
7. Gary explained the Safe Routes to School grant program.
8. Gary informed us of the opiate, heroin, and methodone problem within Carlton County.
9. The County is working on getting a LifeLink helicopter stationed at Cloquet.
10. The Soil & Water office has relocated to the area by Liberalis in Carlton.
11. There is now a defibrillator in every Carlton County building and all staff have been trained on how to use it.
12. The Sandpiper has been delayed until an Environmental Impact study is done. Once this goes through there will be increased revenue for schools, cities, and townships.
13. With the half-cent county sales tax more money than anticipated has been brought in. One project benefiting from this sales tax will be County Road 123.

#### **4. CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of prior meeting minutes.
- B. Pavilion calendar
- C. General Ledger for March (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

Peters asked if the dial-in feature has been removed from the liquor store computers. The manager verified that it has and Mike Gilbertson, the city IT person, will send an e-mail to the clerk stating this.

We have earmarked the 10% fund to pay for the insurance for the playground.

**Motion by Lippo to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Borglund.**

**Yeas: Lippo, Borglund, Peters**

**Abstain: Mayor Lund abstained since she was not present at last month's meeting.**

**Motion carried.**

## **5. WATER/SEWER/MAINTENANCE**

### **A. Maintenance Report**

1. MN Rural Water has recommended that once the Fire & Ambulance is its own entity that the city install a water meter and charge the Fire Department for water used in the building. Tom explained that he manually keeps track of the gallons used for the trucks and training as we must account to the Minnesota DNR for water pumped from the wellhouse.
2. Pond samples are perfect.
3. The gate valve on one pond broke. Tom must pump out the water to be able to do the maintenance. He has people lined up to get it fixed if he is not able to do it himself.
4. Potholes all over city streets and alleys. The Fire Dept is getting quotes to asphalt their parking lot and has asked the city if we want to do asphaltting at the same time. We could possibly get a better bid if we do our projects at the same time.
5. Still trying to get someone to repair the sheetrock in the city office apartment.
6. The fence at the ballfield has heaved over the winter and needs straightening.
7. Tom was authorized to spend \$500 for pothole patch.
8. Waiting for a quote from Keith Clark for gravel. Received a quote from Craig Harp for Lally Road.
9. Ritter and Ritter will jet 1/3 of the city sewer lines in the near future.
10. The County tested the tornado/fire sirens county-wide. Our siren is not set up so the County can activate it. One of our firemen must manually set off the alarm from the fire station. The siren we have is old and is not very loud. The Fire Department is working on getting a new siren that can be activated by the County. They are looking into grants.
11. Tom has been asking for quotes for a skidsteer. He will continue to research that.

**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.

- C. The Water Ordinance and unread meter charge was tabled until further discussion with Attorney Yetka.

## **6. LIQUOR STORE**

### **A. Manager's Report**

1. April 30 – Kick Start  
Requesting an extra \$100 for this band.
2. May 14 – Live Bait  
Requesting an extra \$250 for this band.
3. Would like to purchase patio tables and chairs. The State and County have no required specifications. Would like approval to purchase 4 sets at \$93 per set. We would keep 1 picnic table on the patio. Lippo suggested spending more and getting sturdier sets. He was concerned with liability.
4. Motion sensor solar lights have been installed over the patio area.

5. The MMB Conference was awesome. Picked up lots of information and ideas. Tom Shay, the financial speaker, had lots of suggestions for the Cromwell Bar.
6. Would like to offer a limited menu of food items. Raenese will research the cost involved and get regulations from the State.
7. June 25 – Summer Fest – Looking into getting a beer wagon.
8. July – Golf Tournament
9. August 20 – Wounded Warrior Bike Ride. Have over 500 bikes signed up. The Patriots and the Thunderbirds will be attending. Raenese asked the city if they would be willing to loan money to the event to initially purchase a certificate to a Duluth Travel Agency to purchase a trip to Cozumel. Raffle tickets will be sold. The Sno-Gophers will carry the license. \$20 per ticket. Working on a 4-day, 3-night stay at MGM Casino in Las Vegas. Will have 2 beer wagons, an outdoor bar, volunteers to pour beer, certified bartenders to serve liquor. Security was discussed. Raenese asked if the city would approve free camping at the pavilion park. The Ride will start at 10 am from the bar.
10. Still having computer problems. Peters suggested upgrading to Version 14. Raenese is working with Ron from EZ Power.

**Motion by Lippo to approve the additional amount for the two scheduled bands. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion by Borglund to approve the purchase of the patio tables and chairs for \$93 per set. Seconded by Peters. Yeas: Borglund, Peters, Lund. Nays: Lippo. Motion carried.**

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

**B. Insurance Comparison**

It was suggested that we ask Carl Brandt, our insurance agent, to attend next month's meeting.

**7. PARKS AND RECREATION/PAVILION**

- A. Discussion on having Cheryl do some spring cleaning.
- B. Quilting ladies have asked if the city could purchase lighter weight mops.
- C. The Northern Pine County Men's Softball League has asked for a \$160 donation.

**Motion by Borglund to approve the \$160 donation to the Men's Softball League. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.**

**8. GENERAL CITY/HOUSING/HIGHWAY**

- A. Discussion on unpaid apartment rent and repairs. The roof has been fixed and we are waiting on a contractor to repair the sheetrock. Rain seeps into the chimney and drips down into the storage area. The city has received quotes for removal of the chimney but it is not in the budget at this time. The renter is unhappy with the condition of the apartment and will be moved out by May 15. Discussion of termination of lease.

**Motion by Lippo to serve Termination of Tenancy to the renter. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.**

- B. Bob Peterson has submitted a quote of \$300 for roadside mowing.

**Motion by Borglund to approve Bob Peterson for roadside mowing. Seconded by Peters. Motion carried unanimously.**

**9. FIRE DEPARTMENT/AMBULANCE**

**10. Clerk/Treasurer**

1. The clerk asked for approval to attend a CTAS version 8 training class in St. Paul on April 25 put on by the Office of the State Auditor. Training is free.

**Motion by Peters to approve the clerk to attend CTAS training. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.**

2. Sam Clark contacted the city to see if we would be interested in taking over the Forest Hill Cemetery. The Association has funds available for any maintenance costs and upkeep. Could be levied for if necessary. Minimal bookwork. The Clerk was asked to contact Sam Clark to see if he could attend the next council meeting for further discussion. Mayor Lund stated she would be willing to look into it after the Fire & Ambulance merge goes through.

3. Raenese has turned in her annual evaluation form. Her job performance evaluation and step increase will be on next month's agenda.

**11. TRUSTEE'S NOTES**

Phil Lippo – Lighter weight mops for use at the pavilion.

Tom Borglund -

Warren Peters – We need to come up with ideas to draw more business to town.

**12. Mayor's Notes**

The CACC will be meeting on May 10 to organize a clean-up day and discuss ideas for additions to the playground/park area. Mayor Lund volunteered to attend this meeting.

No further progress has been made to the Lundin building. Mayor Lund will talk to Lawrence Lundin.

**Motion by Peters to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 pm. Seconded by Lippo. Motion carried unanimously.**

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Mayor Lisa Lund

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
LuAnn Freiermuth, City Clerk-Treasurer