

City of Cromwell, Carlton County, MN
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
April 22, 2015 - 7:00pm

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cromwell was held on April 22, 2015 at 7:00 pm at the Cromwell Park Pavilion.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Mayor Lisa Lund.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor: Lisa Lund
Council Members: Warren Peters, Tom Borglund, Ray Lally, Philip Lippo

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

Other: Carl Brandt, Town & Country Insurance; Jen Anderson, Mike Peterson,

1. ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA

2. PUBLIC INQUIRIES/INFORMATIONAL

3. OLD BUSINESS

Jen Anderson gave an update on the playground project. Approximately \$121,000 has been raised to date. The approximate cost will be around \$128,692. She would like to start the ground work and landscaping this spring and start the actual structure in August. Insurance was discussed. The clerk will get details on that and bring to the next council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike Peterson asked for approval for the Fire Relief Association to increase the yearly contribution for retirement from \$1300.00 to \$1500.00. He explained that the Fire Relief is its own separate entity and is a 501C organization. He explained this is money received from the state specifically for the Firefighters Relief Association. The by-laws are also being updated. Currently the requirement for a retirement pension is 20 years of active service and the age of 55. It has been approved by the members to change this to 10 years of active service and age 55, at a pro-rated amount.

Motion by Lally to approve increasing the yearly contribution from \$1300 to \$1500 for the Fire Relief Associations retirement. Seconded by Lippo. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Peterson asked for approval for a debit card for the Fire Chief. He explained that under some circumstances purchases need to be made and the fire chief should not have to use his personal credit card and then wait for reimbursement.

Motion by Borglund to approve a debit card for the Fire Chief with a \$500 limit. Seconded by Lally. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Peterson asked for approval to purchase Motorola 8-button DEK control head boxes, two for each ambulance. He explained the difficulty and the safety issue of using the current radio system on the ambulances. He explained it is similar to texting while driving. He also explained that the driver on the ambulance at times needs a different frequency than the staff person in the back of the ambulance with

the patient as they are each receiving and dispatching information. Total cost would be up to \$300.00. Mike is also looking into a grant to help cover the cost.

Motion by Borglund to approve purchasing 4 units at a cost not to exceed \$300.00. Seconded by Lippo. Motion carried unanimously.

The computer and battery pack for the "I Am Responding" program is set up and working in the Cromwell Fire Hall and members have installed the cell phone application on their phones. The members are very pleased with the new technology. The 60-day trial period has almost expired. Mike recommended purchasing a 5-year contract for a cost of \$650 per year with a one-time \$50 setup charge.

Motion by Lally to approve a 5-year contract for the "I Am Responding" program at a cost of \$650 per year. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.

Mike Peterson is checking on a DNR matching grant for personal safety fire fighting pants, coats, boots and gloves. It is a \$5000.00 maximum grant. He asked for approval to apply for the grant.

Motion by Lally to approve applying for the DNR grant. Seconded by Lund. Motion carried unanimously.

Carl Brandt, our insurance agent from Town & Country Insurance, was present to explain the Director's and Officer's Insurance needed for the Joint Powers Board. This is liability insurance that covers the members on the board. The Joint Powers Board at their last meeting approved purchasing the Expanded Plan that has a broader range of coverage and would also cover the township representatives. The cost is \$3065.00 per year. It will also cover Errors and Omissions, and would pay for the defense in the case of a litigation and still have \$1 million additional coverage.

Motion by Lally to approve purchasing Director's & Officer's Insurance for the Joint Powers Board for a cost of \$3065.00. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.

The city is in the process of renewing its insurance. It was decided not to make any changes. We will get a quote for consideration for No-Fault Sewer Backup Insurance.

A Resolution was made not to waive the TORT liability insurance.

Motion by Lally to approve not to waive the TORT Insurance. Seconded by Lippo. Motion carried unanimously.

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: February \$546.60
- G. Treasurer's Monthly Report

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

5. WATER/SEWER/MAINTENANCE

A. Maintenance Report

- a. Repairing the Speed Zone signs.
- b. There has been interest in purchasing the old 45 foot semi van trailer behind the City Hall.

Motion by Lally to put an ad in the paper for sealed bids for the semi van trailer.

Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Ritter & Ritter will clean out sewer lines this spring. We do 1/3 of the city sewer lines each year, rotating sections.

The Cromwell City Council made a resolution to continue hiring Ritter & Ritter for this service.

Motion by Peters to continue having Ritter & Ritter clean out the sewer lines. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.

- d. Will do a pre-pond discharge on Monday.
- e. Will be making arrangements for the satellite toilets at the beach.
- f. The sewer shutoff at Ted Beck's needs repair. This is scheduled for Monday.
- g. Potatoes will be hauled away on Saturday.
- h. If anyone is interested in dust control on their road the county coordinates the application of liquid calcium chloride. Contact the Carlton County Transportation Department at 218-384-9152.

A. Project Status Report from John Mattonen.

- a. Assisted city staff with the Liquor Store door and window installation. Reviewed with Mark Udd, Northland Consulting Engineer, and John Rihilouma. Contractor may proceed. The city should consider tuck pointing the wall in the future.
- b. Assisted clerk with review of a DNR permit for a sewer line crossing the Tamarack River. This permit is no longer necessary because there is a new license for a newer pipe.

6. LIQUOR STORE

A. Manager's Report

- a. Annual employee evaluations with step increases were recommended for Melissa, Megan, and Samantha.

Motion by Peters to approve the annual evaluations with step increases. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.

- b. The alarm company has been notified for sensors to be installed on the new windows and door.
- c. Quotes were requested for the concrete patio. We received one quote from Olesiak Masonry for \$5300.

Motion by Peters to accept the quote from Olesiak Masonry for \$5300.00. Seconded by Lippo. Motion carried unanimously.

- d. Fencing to be installed. Will need to purchase a few sections of fence. The old fence will be used also.
- e. Discussion on employee background check. Will evaluate employee after the 90-day probation period.
- f. May 9 – Shop & Wine. Thirteen vendors have agreed to set up. Simpson Road Band is scheduled for the evening.
- g. April 25 – Jokimaki Benefit. Spaghetti supper and silent auction at the Pavilion from 4-7 pm.
- h. June 27 – Planning the 2nd Annual Bean Bag Tournament
- i. July – Golf Tournament
- j. Aug – Will schedule a band.
- k. Sept – Harvest Fest
- l. Computers with the POS system scheduled to be installed tomorrow.

7. PARKS AND RECREATION/PAVILION

A. Property owners on North Island Lake are making arrangements for Lake Restoration of Rogers, MN to come to Island Lake for destruction of aquatic weeds at the boat landing. They will pay for the treatment but asked if the city would pay the \$35 permit fee if necessary. According to the Carlton County Water Planner the landing has been deemed public so therefore a permit would not be necessary. The residents on Island Lake are awaiting the final decision from Carlton County and then will present the issue to the city council at the May meeting if necessary.

8. GENERAL CITY/HOUSING/HIGHWAY

A. Lisa Heittola asked for an extension on her Zoning Permit for improvements on her house.
Motion by Lally to grant a 6-month extension on Heittola’s Zoning Permit. Seconded by Borglund. Motion carried unanimously.

9. FIRE DEPARTMENT/AMBULANCE

A. The minutes to the Joint Powers Board meeting were included in the agenda packet. No additional discussion.

10. Clerk/Treasurer

- A. The audit for 2014 has begun.
- B. Thank you from Arnold Collman for the street light at the intersection of Hwy 210 and Middle Road.
- C. Debris behind Berg’s building was discussed. The clerk will send a letter.
- D. The clerk stated she would be sending out shut-off notices to those over 61 days overdue on their Water & Sewer bills

11. TRUSTEE’S NOTES

Warren Peters - The Economic Development Authority has received money from the Blandin Foundation to use for broadband internet in rural Minnesota. This grant would provide 2 free computers and WiFi if the city would provide the space for computer use to the public. The city’s portion would be to pay for 25% of the internet service. No action taken. Can be addressed at a later date if there is any interest.

Philip Lippo-
Ray Lally –

12. Mayor’s Notes

A.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Borglund, seconded by Lally, to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Lisa Lund

ATTEST:

LuAnn Freiermuth, City Clerk-Treasurer