

City of Cromwell, Carlton County, MN
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
May 15, 2013 - 7:00pm

A regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Cromwell was held on May 15, 2013 at 7:00 pm at the Cromwell Park Pavilion. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Clark.

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

Absent:

Employees: Jenny Clark (Clerk-Treasurer), Paul Lampi (Bar Manager)

Others Present: John Mattonen, JPJ Engineering ; Dora Potts, Voyageur Press

Public: Rodney Lund, Ann Corcoranann, Les Augerstrom, Butch Levinski, Dan Karppinen, Jill Dahl, Michael Heaser, Mark Huhta, Debbie Huhta, Ken Anderson, Jeff Swatek, Lynn Swatek

1. ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA

- A. Lisa Lund would like to add Lake Street to Water/Sewer/Maintenance- 5c

2. PUBLIC INQUIRIES / INFORMATIONAL

Those present came to express their personal opinions of events at the liquor store.

- A. Dan Karppinen- Asked about someone being in the bar at 3:00 am and if anyone served customers and let them take out a plastic cup. Mayor Clark stated he did serve customers on the morning of the snow storm when no bar employees could make it to the bar to open and that he did serve drinks in plastic cups but is unaware if they left with them. Dan felt it unfair that the bar manager is being blamed for things the bartenders are doing. Multiple people present as well as councilperson Lund accused Mayor Clark of slandering or badgering Lampi for months.
- B. Michael Heaser- Asked the following questions regarding the video cameras in the bar: What is the cost, what is the purpose, when are they reviewed, why are there so many, why are there no signs up regarding the cameras, is there any internet access? Mayor Clark addressed each of his questions.
- C. Butch Levinski- Asked why the council is "harassing" the bar manager. Mayor Clark stated the Council is responsible to the citizens of Cromwell to ensure the bar is run properly. He further stated the bar manager's job description states they will take direction from the Mayor and the Council. It was reaffirmed by unanimous motion in a previous meeting that the Mayor does indeed have power to direct the bar manager. Lund stated this was not how she understood it.
- D. Ann Corcoranann- Asked why the bar has plastic cups, if these are eliminated this may solve the problem of "to go" cups. She suggested the city initiate the policy of not having plastic cups available.
- E. Ken Anderson- Stated he feels Lampi has a lot of integrity and is very honest. Lampi spoke about the discipline he has received and that it was unfair.
- F. Jeff Swatek- Asked if the council likes the Municipal and the money it brings in. He stated that, in his opinion, there will no longer be a Cromwell Muni if they don't stop messing with Paul Lampi.
- G. Debbie Huhta- Accused the council of watching them and harassing them. Multiple people commented on a member or members of the council watching when they come and go.

3. OLD BUSINESS - NONE

- A. None

NEW BUSINESS

4. CONSENT AGENDA

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- A. Approval of prior regular and special meeting minutes
- B. General Ledger for April (listing receipts and disbursements)
- C. Claims list for approval
- D. Treasurer's monthly report
- E. Liquor Store monthly sales total report
- F. Pavilion calendar & use spreadsheet

Motion was made by Ray Lally, seconded by Warren Peters to approve the above consent agenda items as submitted. Motion carried unanimously.

5. WATER / SEWER / MAINTENANCE

- A. Project Status Report- JPJ Engineering
- B. Carlton Co. Joint Agency Agreement Unstaffed Recycling Center

Motion by Warren Peters, seconded by Tom Borglund to approve the Carlton Co. Joint Agency Agreement Unstaffed Recycling Center. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Lake Street- Lund stated that a culvert is missing which has been an issue and should be installed again. John Mattonen stated this could be done to alleviate any drainage issues.

6. LIQUOR STORE

- A. Manager's Report
 - i. One application was submitted by Vedra Peterson for the cleaning position. Lampi has interviewed her and plans to hire her.
 - ii. Lampi questioned if the request for sponsorship from the girl's softball team was approved. Lampi was informed this was up to him as this falls under the advertising budget.
 - iii. May 17th Simpson Road Band \$300.00 ; May 18th Pajama Party ; June 29th- The Jacks
 - iv. Lampi stated he appreciated the public who came and that he has not "stirred the pot". He feels his paycheck comes from the customers. He stated he questions some items that were said tonight. He said has addressed the items in his evaluation and questions why he has not received his annual step increase. Mayor Clark pointed out that he has not addressed all the items in his evaluation.
 - v. Lampi submitted bartender discipline documentation to the council.
- B. Compensation review for upcoming step increases for Megan Arnold and Carol Anderson. Due to recent discipline items, no motion to approve step increases at this time but will be reviewed at future meeting.
- C. Lisa Lund would like to add the item internal controls to the agenda. Mayor Clark reminded her that items should be added at the beginning of the meeting.

Motion by Tom Borglund, seconded by Warren Peters to add internal controls to the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Lund presented a document to the Council from the Mayor's Association website and stated that there is a law that mayors have no authority to supervise or investigate city staff. Lund accused Mayor Clark of violating this law and that he has taken action without council approval. Lund stated that only the council as a whole should be supervising city staff, that it is not a good idea to have just one member doing this. Warren Peters questioned how city staff would handle questions or issues

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throughout the month if they are unable to go to the Mayor for guidance and stated we would need to have weekly meetings if this were the case. Lund further stated she would like Mayor Clark be removed from the internal controls committee. Mayor Clark stated that what Lund presented was not a law but something from the Mayor's handbook. He stated that he has not done anything or given discipline that had not been discussed with the council first. Discussion on what internal controls are- inventory, cash controls, and data integrity; it has nothing to do with security cameras. No motion to remove Mayor Clark from internal controls. Lund asked that Paul Lampi be the one to review video footage and everyone agreed; this will be discussed with the city attorney. Ray Lally would like a meeting with the city attorney and city auditor. Lund asked Mayor Clark to apologize to Paul Lampi. Members of the public made derogatory comments towards Mayor Clark. Further discussion on video cameras in the bar and supervision of city staff.

7. PARKS AND RECREATION / PAVILION

- A. Community garden update- there has been enough public interest and progress is being made. The location is at the park to the East of Northview Bank and will contain mostly flowers.

8. GENERAL CITY / HOUSING / HIGHWAY

- A. Zoning permit application from Rodney Lund submitted for approval. Lisa Lund stated the structure would be movable and placed on railroad ties. Discussion on if a permit is required for this type of structure. John Mattonen will look into what the ordinance states but the council could approve the application and if it is found that a permit is not needed, one will not be issued.

Motion by Ray Lally, seconded by Warren Peters to approve the zoning permit application as submitted by Rodney Lund. Motion carried unanimously.

- B. Camp Noah donation request reviewed. This involves safety and educating children on safety issues and will be open to all elementary aged children.

Motion by Warren Peters, seconded by Ray Lally to donate \$100.00 to Camp Noah. Motion carried unanimously.

9. FIRE DEPARTMENT / AMBULANCE

- A. April 15th meeting notes reviewed by the council

10. CLERK / TREASURER

- A. Google Analytics (website data) report reviewed for the month of April
- B. MMCI training summary reviewed
- C. Private data at meetings- Discussion on payroll information in agenda packets. Gross pay is the only form of pay that is public information. However, the council does have a legitimate business reason to review all checks paid out. The General Ledger will be given back to the Clerk at the end of each meeting and paycheck amounts will be redacted from the public packet.

11. TRUSTEE'S NOTES

Lisa Lund: -Lund asked if the new safe for the bar been installed. Mayor Clark stated Tom will be installing this soon.

Ray Lally: -Lally stated a new culvert has been installed since the Lally Rd. sign was knocked down.

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Warren Peters: -Peters asked about address/fire numbers.
 -Peters addressed a statement made by Lampi in an email regarding the POS system at the bar as well as statements made by bar patrons- he stated that he does not "mess" with the POS system and would never mess with data accuracy or integrity. Lampi stated that he simply meant that the computer has been messed with and doesn't know why the reports are not adding up. Peters said he has only worked on the bar computer when there have been questions or issues with the POS system. Lampi stated he does not have a lot of computer knowledge and has appreciated the help with the POS system but that Peters does not have the right to go behind the bar. He further stated he does not have the answer why the daily reports are not correct but will try to figure out the problem.
 -Peters addressed earlier comments made and stated that he does not watch the bar or the patrons.
 -Peters and Borglund are no longer on the Harvest Fest committee. Will advertise in the bus bulletin to see if there is an interest from the community otherwise Harvest Fest may not be happening this year.

Tom Borglund: -

12. MAYOR'S NOTES

- A. Mayor Clark made a statement in regards to the liquor store.
 - i. Lampi stated he has addressed the items he was asked to complete and feels his character is being harassed. He investigated the situations he was asked to, plans to schedule himself a night shift when he does the next schedule for June, and will work with Hugh Heinecke when he comes.

13. CLOSED SESSION

Motion was made by Ray Lally, seconded by Warren Peters to close the meeting at 8:55 pm for an annual employee review of Water/Sewer/Maintenance supervisor Tom Johnson. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURN

Motion was made by Warren Peters, seconded by Ray Lally to re-open closed session and adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Samuel A. Clark

ATTEST:

City Clerk-Treasurer Jenny Clark