

**Approved Meeting Minutes
City of Cromwell
Carlton County, MN
Special Council Meeting
September 26, 2012
6:00pm**

A special meeting of the City Council of the City of Cromwell was held on September 26, 2012 at 6:00 pm at the Cromwell Park Pavilion. This was an informational meeting to discuss the potential merging of the Cromwell and Wright Fire Departments into a Fire District.

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

Absent: Lisa Lund

Others Present: Cromwell Fire: Steve Bridge ; Mike Peterson ; Lucas Goodin
Wright City / Fire: Dave Black ; Scott Lehti ; Gene Lott ; Patti Bradford; Jake Kachinski
Dora Potts, Voyageur Press

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Clark.

Goal is to save money and provide better protection for the community.

There will be an elected board that would make all decisions for the Fire District.

- The board would be made up of representatives from each township and city
- By-laws would need to be developed and are unknown at this point

The district is asking for a resolution from both cities to donate the fire halls, the land on which the fire Halls stand, and all fire equipment to the new fire district.

- The Fire District would plan to keep both Fire Halls in Cromwell and Wright and continue to use both as this would better serve the public
- The City currently owns the Fire Hall
- Wright City Hall would need to be relocated as it is currently in the same building as Fire Hall
- The Fire District would be responsible for all upkeep, etc. of the land, building, and equipment

The district is asking for a resolution that the fire service's budgeted funds will be received from the cities until the fire district starts receiving the district taxes from the county. This will be one year plus so many months? After the district board has been organized and started.

- Fire department would not receive any funding until 2014
- City would levy through 2013 but not again for 2014
- Would not pay cities back
- The goal is to have all townships and areas pay the same amount of taxes for the fire service available to them. An individual's taxes may be adjusted depending on what they are currently paying.

The relief association is asking the cities for a resolution that both cities will be the governing body for the fire relief association until the relief association is incorporated as a governmental corporation.

- This may not be transferred to the District immediately, to be determined at a later date

Ambulance service would go under the Fire District as an Ambulance District.

- Possible ambulance service added for Wright; would need to be determined by the elected board.

The District would need to hire someone to pay bills, they would need a treasurer. The elected board will make this decision.

City sewer and water would be paid for by the District at the Cromwell location.

Mike Peterson will have Frank Yetka draft a proposed resolution for each City to review.

- A special meeting should be held between Cromwell and Wright to discuss the proposed resolutions as well as give the public an opportunity to attend to ask questions and get information.

- Tentatively scheduled for a public hearing the first week of November. Mayor Clark and Mayor Black will be in contact to decide on meeting date and time.

Motion by Tom Borglund to adjourn, seconded by Sam Clark. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.