

**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING  
COOK CITY COUNCIL  
NOVEMBER 20, 2008 – CITY HALL – 6 PM**

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PRESENT: Mayor Dick Edblom, Councilors Karen Hollanitsch, Elizabeth Storm, Dave Danz and Dan Manick.

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: The Timberjay, Cook News Herald, Councilor Elect Jody Bixby, Candi Nylund, Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson and Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Palm.

Mayor Dick Edblom called the regular meeting of the Cook City Council to order at 6:00 PM.

**PUBLIC FORUM:**

None

Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Storm to approve the consent agenda as follows:

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. Approval/correction of the Regular Council Minutes of October 23, 2008
- B. October Police Report was not submitted for approval
- C. Reporting of the October Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2008	\$98,109.37	\$1,132,000.49
2007	<u>\$91,704.59</u>	<u>\$1,078,352.81</u>
	\$ 6,404.78	\$ 53,647.68

- D. Bill Presentation

Paid since last presentation	\$ 73,454.95
Presented for payment	\$ 45,026.22

- E. October Airport Operator's Report

- F. Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes – November 17, 2008

**MOTION CARRIED**

**COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:**

The new equipment for snow removal / grounds maintenance has arrived at the Cook Municipal Airport and storage has been addressed.

Dr. Robert Shreck has donated \$500 toward the airport culvert project and a thank-you letter has been sent acknowledging this donation.

The October 23, 2008 council minutes were incorrect in the approval of appraisal companies for the airport. The correct Appraiser should be Culbert Realty and the Review Appraiser should be Skip Pitzen. The two were transposed at the motion of approval.

Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to approve the correction of the October 23, 2008 council minutes to approve the correct Appraiser as Culbert Realty and the Review Appraiser as Skip Pitzen. **MOTION CARRIED**

Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Manick to approve Pay Estimate #2, as final payment, to Lake States Tree Service for \$10,906.51. This payment is for tree clearing and spraying at the Cook Municipal Airport.

Owens Township has donated \$500.00 towards the Parks and Recreation general fund. A thank-you letter has been sent to them.

Numerous fundraising activities will occur in the following months for the Parks and Recreation building fund. The October Haunted Cave fundraiser was successful in raising \$2,050.00. The Bag a Buck contest continues for the month of November. Other upcoming fundraisers include: Chili Cook-Off – January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2009, SADD Fishing Contest – February 14, 2009 and the Broomball Challenge – February 21, 2009. The Parks and Recreation Committee is also researching non-profit 501C3 status.

The council was informed that the current design project for the Parks and Recreation building is currently on hold. The council informed the building committee that final adoptions need to be presented to the council for approval.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

The city garbage survey will be added to the December council agenda. Mayor Edblom recommended more research and study for the next meeting. Administrator Martinson reported that the city is out of large trash bags and will not order more until a council decision has been finalized. Residents will need to use small bags for now.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Funds will not be contributed for Lobbyist funding for the Hwy 53 Task Force due to funding concerns for the project. Members of the council felt that funding will assist in monitoring the project but not actually moving ahead with the next phase of the project. A letter will be submitted on behalf of the Cook City Council.

Councilor Storm and Administrator Martinson will begin succession planning with all department heads to put procedures into place. The succession planning will further develop procedures to protect each department against unforeseen circumstances in employment. A questionnaire will be developed and publicized for the council.

Walker, Giroux and Hahne submitted a bid for \$16,000 for the 2008 Audit Confirmation. Council members questioned if we should search for quotes from other CPA firms to reduce the cost of the audit. It was decided that there are a limited number of CPA firms in the area that audit cities and schools etc. The cost of the audit has not increased significantly from the previous year and the current firm does an accurate job with the audit.

Motion by Storm, second by Danz to accept Walker, Giroux, and Hahne for \$16,000 to complete the 2008 Audit for the City of Cook. **MOTION CARRIED**

Administrator Martinson reported that in January there will be Minnesota Mayor Association and Newly and Experienced Elected Officials Conferences with funds budgeted to attend. Approval for attendance will be on the agenda for the December council meeting in anyone is interested.

#### **COUNCIL FORUM:**

Motion by Manick, second by Danz to recognize that funding from the liquor store will pay for the \$21,000 lighting project for the Doug Johnson Park. **MOTION CARRIED**

Councilor Storm expressed appreciation for the SADD Chapter Halloween Haunted Caves and all efforts to produce this event. She also reported that light poles (no lights) and stop signs have been installed at the Doug Johnson Park since October 16, 2008.

Councilor Storm discussed the need for city residents and businesses to keep city sidewalks clean of snow and ice debris for the safety of each other.

Councilor Storm also expressed appreciation for the voters and the hard work by election judges and city staff during the general elections. She thanked those who ran for city council and appreciates their involvement with the city.

Councilor Danz congratulated new Councilor-Elect Jody Bixby and encourages more participation to city residents to run for City Council.

Mayor Edblom wishes a Happy Thanksgiving to all and reminds residents and the council that the next council meeting is December 18, 2008 (earlier) due to the Christmas Holiday.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Manick, second by Storm to adjourn the meeting at 6:36 PM.  
**MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Palm  
Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer