

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
COOK CITY COUNCIL
NOVEMBER 19, 2009 – CITY HALL – 6 PM**

PRESENT: Acting Mayor Karen Hollanitsch, Councilors Jody Bixby, Dan Manick and Elizabeth Storm
ABSENT: Mayor Edblom
OTHERS PRESENT: Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Palm, Donna Snyder, Geri Wilkinson, Cook News Herald, Voyageur Sentinel, Timberjay, ISD 2142 Board Member Tom Beaudry, ISD 2142 Business Manager Kim Johnson and Bill Conger

Due to the absence of Mayor Edblom, Acting Mayor Hollanitsch called the regular meeting of the Cook City Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC FORUM:

ISD 2142 Board Member Tom Beaudry, along with ISD 2142 Business Manager Kim Johnson and Bill Conger addressed the City Council with the proposed District 2142 realignment for a proposed new school. The presentation addressed the survival of the St. Louis County School District and Community if the bonding bill does not pass on December 8.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- A. Approval/correction of Regular Council Minutes of October 22, 2009
- B. Approval/correction of Special Council Minutes of October 22, 2009 (Budget 2010)
- C. Reporting of the October 2009 Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2009	\$101,576.74	\$1,052,500.18
2008	\$ <u>97,841.35</u>	\$ <u>1,132,411.35</u>
	\$ 3,735.39	\$ 79,911.57

- D. Bill Presentation Paid since last presentation \$ 31,057.63
 Presented for payment \$343,107.85
- E. Airport Operator's Report
- F. Maintenance Department Report
- G. Ambulance Service Activity Report
- H. Parks and Recreation Commission Minutes of November 16, 2009

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to approve the consent agenda. **MOTION CARRIED**

COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:

The Parks and Recreation Commission have requested that the city allow the fire department to flood the skating rink for this winter. The council addressed areas of concern that involve keeping the rink flooded but not having a building for warming and restroom facilities available. The rink would be used during daylight skating hours. The council also addressed the cost of water for flooding the rink. The city did not charge for water and sewer usage in the past and but will consider monitoring usage for the new community center.

The Parks and Recreation Commission recommended purchasing signage out of the budget, for closing the park from 10 PM to 6 AM. The St. Louis County Sheriff's Department recommended park hours to address late night issues. The council will table park hours until the December council meeting, which will give more time to decide what will be done with the skating rink this winter.

The naming of the park road was tabled until the December meeting, as the school had not submitted entries in time for the November meeting. The Parks and Recreation Commission have recommended that the new road be named "Gopher Drive".

Mayor Hollanitsch thanked the Parks and Recreation Commission for their dedication to the new community center project.

Fundraisers for the new community center will be held through April 2010 include Bag a Buck, Beard Growing Contest, Chili Contest and Wings and Things.

The new community center building project is protected by insurance through St. Louis County. Chris Ismil, Iron Range Youth in Action (IRYA) is the project manager. IRYA is a program of the St. Louis County Extension Service and Chris Ismil is an employee of St. Louis County. City Attorney Mark Weir reviewed the tort liability letter provided by St. Louis County and considered it acceptable for liability coverage.

OLD BUSINESS:

The city water meter litigation is moving forward and the attorney's for both parties have proposed the following:

LABCO will replace all water meter valves within a two-week period. City staff will schedule appointments with utility customers to replace bad valves and those who do not respond during this time frame will lose their opportunity to have their bad valves replaced. Secure Vision has the laptop and software at the lab to fix the radio system that would not read consistently. Once the valves are replaced and the radios are reading then a 12- month warranty will be issued with a written agreement between the parties.

RLK Engineering requested that partial pay estimate #1 be paid to Maguire Iron for \$47,483.28 for the Elevated Water Storage Tank Project.

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to approve partial pay estimate #1 to Maguire Iron for \$47,483.28 for the Elevated Water Storage Tank Project. **MOTION CARRIED**

RLK Engineering presented a proposal for recommendation to hire Twin Ports Testing for construction materials testing for the Elevated Water Storage Project. The work has already been budgeted into the cost of the project.

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to approve Twin Ports Testing for construction materials testing for the Elevated Water Storage Project. **MOTION CARRIED**

Pay estimate #4 was not approved for Magney Construction on the Water Treatment Plant Project, as the request from RLK Engineering was not available for the November council meeting. Approval will be addressed as soon as possible.

RLK Engineering provided a project status report.

Question arose as to why the Spectrum Assisted Living project did not need to hold a public hearing meeting for zoning and it is because the property is already zoned appropriately for the development.

NEW BUSINESS:

The city is the approved disbursing agent for funds for the Spectrum Project. Funds have been received by the city from Iron Range Resources for \$266,988. Approval to pay \$2,840 to RLK Engineering and \$264,158 to Ryan Companies is needed.

Motion by Storm, second by Manick to approve payment to RLK Engineering for \$2,840 and Ryan Companies for \$264,158 for the Spectrum Assisted Living Project. **MOTION CARRIED**

A public hearing will need to be scheduled to vacate a portion of Second Avenue (First Ave SE) on the Spectrum Assisted Living property.

Motion by Manick, second by Bixby to adopt Resolution 091119 to set a public hearing for December 17, 2009 on the vacation of a portion of Second Ave within the City of Cook. The hearing will be held at 6 p.m. at the Cook City Hall at 127 S River Street. **MOTION CARRIED**

Attorney Mark Weir has prepared a license agreement between Norman and Andrew Eldien and the City of Cook to connect to the city sanitary sewer system. The property is already connected to city water. The Eldiens are responsible for all costs associated with the connection.

Motion by Storm, second by Manick to approve the license agreement between Norman and Andrew Eldien and the City of Cook for connection to the city sanitary sewer system. **MOTION CARRIED**

The Rude fund holds an old balance of \$1,867.50. Council approval is needed to transfer this amount to the general fund and close out this fund.

Motion by Manick, second by Bixby to transfer \$1,867.50 from the Rude fund to the general fund and close out the fund. **MOTION CARRIED**

COUNCIL FORUM:

Councilor Manick reported that he attended a meeting in Tower that focused on community shared services and concerns. This meeting was led by Nancy Larson of Community Coaching and was a networking tool open to the public. Councilor Manick liked the idea of this meeting and felt that the meeting was more school based than community wide. There will be more meetings held in the future.

Councilor Storm wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and reminded everyone to stay healthy. H1N1 immunizations will be given at the Cook School from 3-7 on November 24 and she encourages qualified individuals to get their vaccinations.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cindy Palm
Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer