

**MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING
COOK CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 27, 2009 – CITY HALL – 6 PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Dick Edblom, Councilors Jody Bixby, Karen Hollanitsch, Dan Manick and Elizabeth Storm

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Administrator-Clerk/Treasurer Theresa Martinson, Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Palm, Cook News Herald, The Timberjay, Geri Wilkinson, Doctor Harold Johnston, RLK Engineer – John Jamnick, Wolftrack Classic Sled Dog Race Committee – President Joe Russell, Vice President Barb Simanton and Treasurer Mark Crenshaw.

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

PUBLIC FORUM:

Officers of the Wolftrack Classic Sled Dog Race Committee requested that the City of Cook be the half – way checkpoint for their sled dog race on March 7th, 2010. This race begins in Ely, MN. The committee has requested permission to bring a maximum of 25 teams (250 sled dogs) to Cook for this event. Musher and sled dogs would rest in the city park next to city hall from approximately 7p.m. for up to an 8 hour rest period. The public and non-profit food booths are welcome as the halfway checkpoint usually attracts a large crowd. The committee also urges retailers to stay open during the evening.

Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Bixby to grant permission to the Wolftrack Classic Sled Dog Race to utilize the city park, located by City Hall, as the half-way check point on March 7th, 2010. **MOTION CARRIED**

RLK Engineer, John Jamnick, presented a change order in the amount of \$16,980.00 for Traut Wells for additional work for test borings and 12” steel casing method. The change order increased the contract amount as Traut Wells has had difficulty locating water. Mayor Edblom has requested that RLK Engineering explain why Traut Wells did not utilize the test site for where KO Well Drilling initially located an adequate source of water. According to John Jamnick, the initial test site was not utilized because of flood plain issues; however, the city had not been notified of these issues. The city council feels that they are being held responsible for a change order that could have been avoided if the correct testing site had been used. RLK Engineer, John Jamnick, commented that he would have Traut Wells drill at the initial testing site and cover the cost. Mayor Edblom commented that the change order is the responsibility of RLK Engineering and not Traut Wells so he does not want to withhold payment to Traut Wells.

Motion by Manick, second by Storm to approve a change order payment of \$16,980 to Traut Wells, but with additional discussion with RLK Engineering to hold them responsible for the additional cost of the change order. **MOTION CARRIED**

RLK Engineer, John Jamnick presented Pay Estimate Number 1 for \$29,480 to Traut Wells for work performed on the Well Replacement Project.

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to approve Pay Estimate Number 1 for \$29,480 to Traut Wells for work performed on the Well Replacement Project. **MOTION CARRIED**

RLK Engineer, John Jamnick presented Pay Estimate Number 1 for \$106,875 to Magney Construction for work performed on the Water Treatment Plant.

Motion by Manick, second by Hollanitsch to approve Pay Estimate Number 1 for \$106,875 to Magney Construction for work performed on the Water Treatment Plant project. **MOTION CARRIED**

Water Tower bids were open on August 26 at Cook City Hall. Low bid was awarded to Maguire Iron of Sioux Falls, SD for \$799,300. Caldwell Tanks of Louisville, KY was the only other bid for \$806,000. Construction of the foundation will begin in the fall of 2009 with the project being finalized in the spring/summer of 2010. The grant agreements have been received and funding is in place for the water tower project. The old water tower does not register for the state’s historical list so can be removed as part of the project. RLK Engineering recommends accepting and awarding the low bid to Maguire Iron for the water tower project.

Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to accept and award the low bid for \$799,300 to Maguire Iron, of Sioux Falls, SD for the water tower project. **MOTION CARRIED**

CONSENT AGENDA:

A correction to the July minutes, under Council Forum, which reads H1M1 Influenza and should read H1N1 Influenza.

- A. Approval/correction of the Regular Council Minutes of July 23, 2009
- B. Approval/correction of Special Council Minutes of July 23, 2009 (2008 Audit)
- C. Approval/correction of Special Council Minutes of July 29, 2009 (Lift Station Replacement Project)
- D. Reporting of the July 2009 Liquor Store Sales

	<u>MTD</u>	<u>YTD</u>
2009	\$187,868.51	\$751,056.61
2008	<u>\$185,973.80</u>	<u>\$748,540.21</u>
	\$ 1,894.71	\$ 2,516.40

- E. Bill Presentation Paid since last presentation \$146,173.75
 Presented for payment \$149,192.75
- F. Airport Operator’s Report of August 2009
- G. Parks and Recreation Minutes of August 2009
- H. Ambulance Service Report of July 2009
- I. Maintenance Department Report of July 2009
- J. HR and Safety Issues for Municipal Liquor Stores

Motion by Storm, second by Hollanitsch to accept the consent agenda with the above listed correction. **MOTION CARRIED**

COMMISSION AND STAFF REPORTS:

The Airport land acquisition purchase agreement deadline was August 16, 2009 for the runway expansion project. Attorney Mark Weir is waiting for signed purchase agreements. This deadline will not delay the project start time of spring 2010.

The Parks and Recreation Committee requested that the City Council accept and approve 35% (\$3466.30) payment to DSGW Architects for professional services for the new recreation building. The original approved contract is for \$9800.

Motion by Manick, second by Hollanitsch to pay 35% (\$3466.30) to DSGW Architects for professional services for the new recreation building. **MOTION CARRIED**

The IRRR has offered a contract to apply for demolition funding for the existing recreation building at the Doug Johnson Park. Administrator Martinson received the grant paperwork with a very short deadline to complete. The council is concerned that the city would lose status for future grants by applying for this demolition grant. The council also feels that this grant opportunity would be better utilized next spring when more research could be done for these grants.

Motion by Hollanitsch, second by Storm to apply for the IRRR demolition grant and contingent on the city not losing status for future grant funding. **MOTION CARRIED**

The city council informed the Parks and Recreation Committee that they still have not seen a requested budget for the new recreation center. The committee was reminded that the council has approved the building project to the amount of the funds raised and not above and beyond.

The Fire Department has received a Volunteer Fire Assistance grant award from the Minnesota DNR. The fire department will receive \$2100 towards Structural Turnout Gear. Administrator Martinson requested council approval for her and Chief Johnson to sign and accept the Volunteer Fire Assistance grant for \$2100.

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to sign and accept the Volunteer Fire Assistance grant for \$2100 to be used towards the purchase of structural turnout gear. **MOTION CARRIED**

OLD BUSINESS:

The Spectrum Assisted Living building project is scheduled to begin on September 15, 2009. Financing has been received and the property has been purchased. A public hearing will be held in the future to vacate an old street through the property. The council will also need to approve the development agreement at a later date.

NEW BUSINESS:

The League of MN Cities will hold a regional meeting in Virginia MN on Sept 30, 2009. If any council is interested they should contact City Hall staff.

Mediacom submitted a letter date August 5, 2009 stating their general rate information for cable television channels.

Administrator Martinson requested council approval to sign the 2010 Census Partnership Agreement Form to assist in promoting the 2010 US Census.

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby to approve Administrator Martinson to sign the 2010 Census Partnership Agreement Form and promote the 2010 US Census. **MOTION CARRIED**

The preliminary levy is due September 15, 2009 and the final budget and levy due in December, 2009. Preliminary budget meetings will be held at City Hall on September 10, 2009 and September 14, 2009 at 6 p.m.

COUNCIL FORUM:

Councilor Storm commented that Blight letters should be written for those who let their properties go. The city should also commend those who take initiative and pride in their properties. Mayor Edblom requested the blight list and said that he will contact those with blight issues.

Councilor Storm commended Administrator Martinson and Deputy – Clerk/Treasurer Palm for their efforts in presenting the budgets for monthly presentation for the council.

Councilor Storm requested that the Parks and Recreation Commission have better communication with the city council. Councilors would like to see more community people on the commission.

Mayor Edblom requested that a letter be written on behalf of the city council and former Mayor Harold Johnston, to the ISD 2142 School Board, regarding the referendum to build a new school for Cook and Orr.

Motion by Storm, second by Bixby for Mayor Edblom to write a letter on behalf of the city council regarding the ISD 2142 School Board referendum, to build a new school for Cook and Orr.

Councilor Manick encourages school support for Cook and feels the city needs to promote our new infrastructure and water well/tower capacity to support an expanding population.

Mayor Edblom reported that there is a group of walkers from the Baptist Church who are willing to collect trash throughout the city. City Hall will provide trash bags and garbage disposal for this group.

RLK Engineering has attempted to contact LABCO regarding the water meter issues and has received no response. The attorney representing the city will schedule a meeting with LABCO's bonding attorney.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Manick, second by Bixby to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m. **MOTION CARRIED**

Respectfully Submitted,
Cindy Palm - Deputy-Clerk/Treasurer