

August 4, 2016

The regular meeting of the Cuyuna City Council was held at 7:00 pm in City Hall. Present were Mayor Brix and council members Z.Brix, Eisen, and Stockard. Council member Zontelli was absent. Mayor Brix led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion by Z.Brix to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2016 council meeting. Second by Eisen. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Eisen to approve payment of the invoices and the forthcoming regular monthly invoices. Second by Z.Brix. Motion carried unanimously.

Fire Chief Report:

- Fire Chief Dirkes shared the monthly departmental report. The department responded to fire calls in Cuyuna and Rabbit Lake Township. No action required.
- **Motion by Z. Brix to approve entering into an agreement with the HGAC public entity cooperative to source reduced costs for a fire truck. Second by Eisen. Motion carried unanimously.**

Water and Sewer Report:

- No issues reported for the SLSSD or the city infrastructure.
- Mayor Brix shared that the district is considering a change in its fee structure. District would only charge for the water pumped and not by the reading from the flow meter for the sewage. There is not an additional cost to treat storm water infiltration into the system as it is clear water and evaporates from the treatment ponds.
- Mayor reported a rental property is pumping storm water from its building and directing the flow onto another property owner's property and next to his septic system. Fire Chief Dirkes shared that the rental unit's storm water drain pipe was a fire hazard and needed to be moved away from an egress window in the rental property. It should not however been necessary to direct onto neighboring property.
- Mayor shared that Holmwig Excavating asked to purchase city water for work on state Hwy 6. Council saw no issues with the request.

Building Construction Activities:

- No new activity. Clerk sent an additional request to the city building/zoning officer regarding compliance to a permit for work issued for a property on CSAH31. Work is not completed and over a year has passed since the issuance of the permit.

Police Chief Report:

- Council received the monthly police report. No action required.

Engineer Report:

- Tim Houle, WSN Engineering, was present to report on the sanitary sewer project later in the meeting as an agenda item.

Attorney Report:

- The Council reviewed the final draft of the Bee Ordinance.
- **Motion by Z. Brix to approve the Bee Ordinance. Second by Eisen. Motion carried unanimously.**

Website Report:

- No report

Cuyuna Lakes Chamber:

- Chamber active in upcoming events: Music in the Park, Sala Oremageddon bike event.

Unfinished Business:

- Tim Houle presented the final sanitary sewer project plans, specs., costs, and their review and comments to Rural Development's questions. Since 2012 the costs have gone up and he proposed that a segment on Foley and one by the existing PVC pipe by Minnesota be listed as alternatives in the plan to reduce cost and match funding. He asked the council to approve sending the plans now to Rural Development.
- **Motion by Eisen to submit the final plans to Rural Development. Second by Eisen. Motion carried unanimously.**
- Council extended the permit review time for the Variance/Special/Conditional Use application to raise animals and erect a shelter in the shore land residential district.
- **Motion by Z. Brix second by Eisen to hold a public hearing at 6 pm on September 1 in City Hall for the Variance/Special/Conditional Use application to raise animals and erect a shelter in the shore land residential district. Second by Eisen. Motion carried unanimously**
- Clerk presented information on Cuyuna Oakwood Estates and the road ownership. The City had accepted the development plat in 2008 and the road. City will place some gravel on the road and fix some wash out areas. The city will review the road for continued maintenance.
- Council tabled any action on the Powderhouse Road approach/CSAH 31. The county, road owner, property owners, and council representation will meet to discuss options for the approach.
- **Motion by Eisen to opt out of the state law regulating health care dwellings less than 300 square feet. Second by Z. Brix. Motion carried unanimously.**

New Business:

- Mayor shared that the area for additional camp sites has been tilled, dragged and is ready for black dirt and seed. The dirt would be donated at a savings of \$1,400 for 70 yds. The city would only pay for the labor to spread and haul the black dirt. The cost to add black dirt to this area would be \$1,200.
- Mayor Brix stated providing electricity at the RV campsites is important to campers. City will obtain costs to run service to the area. Users of the campsites have provided positive comments on the park area and restrooms. However, the bathrooms do need additional ventilation and also an inside dead bolt to lock the door.
- Greg Rider, developer, shared that he has 31 lots in his subdivision development. Sale of the lots has been slow and he owns the majority of them. He appreciates the city mowing and grading the road, but believes the lots would sell better if the road was black topped. He presented the city with a couple of options to black top the road and further asked the city to split the expense with him. Estimated cost for the project is \$75,000 and the city would pay for half. Mr. Rider believes the city would benefit from his lots selling.

- City Engineer Tim Houle and the clerk explained the normal process for this type of project, to black top a road, is to access the project in full to the property owners who benefit from the improvement. City would get the bond to pay and collect taxes over time. Tim Houle explained the council can initiate the process or a petition with 35% of the property owners could be presented to the council. The law states the city engineer and city must review the costs, estimate the cash flow, review the specifications, and hold a public improvement meeting. Additionally, the city must get the plans and specs together to bid the proposal.
- Council took no action to participate in the cost sharing for the black top project proposed by Greg Rider. The city does not have funds for the project.
- Council tabled until the September meeting the Cuyuna Fire Department request to raise the city contribution to the lump sum pension program for its members.
- Liam Knutson, resident, stated an orange cone had been removed he placed by a culvert on the street. The culvert is not draining well. The council will look into the issue and also advised him to file a police complaint for the missing orange safety cone.
- Council will review the 2017 preliminary budget and levy in September.
- Two council and the mayor positions are slated for this fall's election.
- Council discussed possible land that might be available for a private enterprise to establish a short term rental unit that would appeal to bike trail users. No action taken.

Adjournment:

- **Motion by Eisen to adjourn. Second by Z. Brix. Motion carried unanimously.**

William F Bedard
Clerk

Lloyd Brix
Mayor..