

April 7, 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, Stockard, and Zontelli. Mayor Brix led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Motion by Z. Brix to approve the minutes of the March 3, 2016 regular council. 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 provided the department's written monthly report. Three first responder calls; one in Cuyuna and 2 in Wolford Township.
- Department will hold pumper training in April.
- Requested assistance from the city attorney drafting a letter to a fire department member who is not meeting the department's attendance and training requirements.
- Department added 2 new members.
- 4 members obtained First Responder certification. Department needs 4 First Responder emergency medical bag/kits. Requested the City pay for 2 at \$400 each. The department will pay for 2 also.
- **Motion by Eisen to purchase 2 First Responder emergency medical bag/kits. Second by Zontelli. Motion carried unanimously.**
- Department committee is finalizing specs for quoting a new pumper.

**Water and Sewer Report:**

- No open issues for the city sewer/water infrastructure. There was not a SLSSD meeting in March.

**Building Construction Activities:**

- No report.

**Police Chief Report:**

- Assistant Police Chief Pickar presented the written monthly report. Activities included responding to an attempted burglary along Cottontail Drive, property check, assistance to the Crosby Police Department, several speed warnings, parked vehicles without tabs, and traffic control on CSAH 30 during a house burn for training purposes. No action required from the council.

**Engineer Report:**

- Tim Houle, WSN Engineering, was present and offered to assist with the spring road review.

**Attorney Report:**

- City attorney provided the resolution to monitor subdivisions.
- **Motion by Eisen to adopt the resolution. Second by Z. Brix. Motion carried unanimously.**
- Shared information with the council regarding the open meeting law.

### **Website Report:**

- No report

### **Cuyuna Lakes Chamber:**

- Chamber is coordinating a number of events for 2016; including Music in the Park, Boat Races, and Mountain Bike Races. The Chamber would welcome volunteers for the events' committees.

### **Unfinished Business:**

- Tim Houle updated the council on the sanitary sewer project. With changes to include some in-line replacements, Rural Development requested additional information for the preliminary planned design. Also reviewing the current preliminary costs versus the initial estimate from 2013-2014. Initial review indicates cost could be higher and WSN engineering and Rural Development will look at the project options; such as bidding the extension on Foley Street separately. Goal is for a late 2016 bid and construction in early 2017.
- County is moving forward in April with the improvements to CSAH31 and will share options for the Powderhouse Road access at a later date this summer. Upgrading that access will be a separate project.

### **New Business:**

- Pastor Paul Mattson from Immanuel Lutheran Church in Crosby asked for approval of a fund raising event to be held Sunday June 26 from 4pm-8pm at the Woodtick Inn. The funds for the benefit will help children in Malawi through the church's mission. He shared that there would be music provided by Lamont Cranston and expected several hundred attendees.
- Council discussed the LMC Liability Coverage for the city. State statute allows cities to limit the tort liability per Section.
- **Motion by Zontelli to not waive the monetary limit for tort liability as allowed by state statute. Second by Stockard. Motion carried.**
- **Motion by Zontelli to approve the permit for the fund raising event and closure of the section of Foley Street with barricades for the event between 4 pm and 8 pm Sunday June 26. Pastor Paul will provide the proper Certificate of Insurance for the event. Second by Z. Brix. Motion carried unanimously.**
- Council heard from representatives of Advocates Against Domestic Abuse (AADA) that they are exploring developing a business that would provide overnight accommodations for visitors to the Cuyuna Lakes area who wish to take advantage of the many recreational opportunities. AADA would like to partner with a city entity in this development. Council requested additional information.
- Council discussed when to open the pump track and the bathhouse/shower facility. Council decided to open the bathhouse/shower facility May 1. Bruce Swanson shared the track needs some additional good clay base. Council gave ok to haul 30 yards to store on-site for the maintenance. The pump track will be sealed once it dries out. Also, the council approved the placement of split rail fencing between the bath house and the track. City will arrange for regular garbage pickup. Councilmember Stockard asked if Lloyd Brix could be the caretaker this year as he lives close to the track; mowing and taking care of the bathrooms and shower. Council will discuss compensation. Council member Stockard noted it is difficult to maintain the pump track with volunteers and the City, having invested considerable dollars, needs to consider paying for

regular maintenance. Council was favorable to hiring the mountain bike crew or other people with the knowledge to perform 10 hours weekly maintenance of the track.

- City will add North Street to the spring/summer dust control application.
- Aaron Hautala, president of the Cuyuna Mountain Bike Crew, updated the council on the funding efforts for the trail expansion. \$254,000 has been raised for trail projects, including connecting the Cuyuna pump track to the trail system. Details need to be worked out with the DNR and crossing school trust land. Aaron pointed out he is meeting with other area clubs, such as ATV, to discuss a safe route for the connecting trail. He shared there is a request in front of the legislature to include \$4.2 million dollars in the bonding bill to enhance the Cuyuna Country State Recreational Area and encouraged the City to write in support of it. Additionally, the mountain bike crew is hosting a fund raiser event at Maddens on June 4. The **ForCuyuna** event proceeds will be matched 100% by the Hallett Trust. Funds raised will be used to provide 10 miles of single track bike riding in the Cuyuna Hills. Aaron encouraged the council to attend. Mayor Brix mentioned he hunts in the Cuyuna Hills and asked if that would be prohibited. Aaron noted hunting would continue to be allowed and could be written into an agreement. Also, the planned trail would not prevent use of the area for the other activities and it would be a cooperative process to determine the best route for the trail. The property under consideration is all on county land and would also need to factor in the county's 30 year tree harvest plan.
- Aaron Hautala also spoke as a residence requesting the city to reconsider its ordinance prohibiting chickens in the city. He shared the Brainerd ordinance which allows for up to 4 chickens and no roosters. Further, he noted many people wish to grow and raise their own food. The city had reviewed this topic twice before over the past two years, held a public hearing, and declined to change the ordinance. No action was taken.
- Aaron Hautala also shared he would like to raise bees, which is not covered by the ordinance. He shared a similar ordinance that the City could consider on this subject. Council will review.
- Council approved spraying of Round-Up around the pump track rail fence. Council member Eisen added another blue bird house to the fence. It was noted that the cedar fence posts have sunk in some areas. Clerk to contact the subcontractor to review.
- Council member Eisen noted the increased duties of the clerk and suggested a raise. Clerk shared he would be ok to hold on the raise for 2016. No action taken.
- Council discussed maintenance needed on the Iron Hub Road. An area needs to be dug up, clay removed and rock and gravel laid back in. Council member Z. Brix noted the work was approved in this year's budget. Clerk will review the budget for the approved amount. Council will get a quote on the required work.
- Council member Z. Brix noted 2 fire hydrants do not open.
- **Motion by Zontelli to obtain prices for 2 hydrants and installation. Second by Eisen. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **Adjournment:**

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

William F Bedard  
Clerk

Lloyd Brix  
Mayor