

June 7, 2018

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 Stockard to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2018 regular 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 Zontelli. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Fire Chief Report:**

- Fire Chief Karl Hasskamp provided the departmental monthly report. There were two fire call outs; one in Cuyuna and one in Rabbit Lake Township. There were also 8 First Responder calls for the month in Cuyuna, and Rabbit Lake and Wolford Township.
- The department will train with a live burn trailer during the month.

**Water and Sewer Report:**

- Mayor reported there are no issues with the city sewer and water system.

**Building Construction Activities:**

- 4 applications in process.

**Police Chief Report:**

- Police Chief Jesse Smith presented the monthly report to the Council. The department responded to a messy yard complaint, phone scam, harassment, ATV driving through the park and on the pump track. Served eviction notice. Several written and verbal warnings for vehicular infractions.

**Engineer Report:**

- Tim Houle and Tony Pohl of WSN&A were present. Discussion in Unfinished Business section of agenda.

**Attorney Report:**

- Attorney Bender attended a webinar on sexual offender placements. He noted Cuyuna and many other cities in MN may need to revise their sexual offender ordinances as recent studies do not indicate an offender will be more likely to reoffend. No action is required though of the council at this time.
- Shared his discussions with several cities and his research on the topic of short term rentals/vacation housing within a city. The city ordinances do not address. Councilmember Zontelli thought the city should allow short term rentals considering the interest of mountain bikers looking for places to stay for a few days. Police Chief Smith noted an influx of short term renters might lead to additional enforcement issues. The current apartment owner requesting permission to provide short term rental units uses Airbnb company to vet valid short term renters for units and also provides insurance. Council took no action to create a short term rental/vacation housing ordinance, but the apartment owner can offer short term rental terms for now in the commercially zoned property. City will address if problems occur in the future.

### **Unfinished Business:**

- Council discussed the non-compliant private lateral sanitary lines. A second letter will be sent via registered mail stating the individual lines need to be repaired/replaced and sump pumps flowing water into the city main line need to be removed. Letter will share the city can provide a thumb drive video of a property owner's line to assist with obtaining accurate quotes for repairs.
- Tim Houle went over the punch list of items Tom's Backhoe needs to complete this summer. Punch list items include manhole repair, clean out pipe castings moving and caps not seating correctly, and seeding. Council asked the city engineer to relay to the contractor work needs to be completed by July or the city would pursue other avenues to complete the work. Council asked the city engineer to also consult with Rural Development on how to proceed if the city needs to complete the work itself.
- Councilmember Stockard presented the council was a quote from Rice Lake Contracting to repair the existing pumphouse main pipe and floor. Cost would be \$39,500. Work could be scheduled within 3 weeks. The contractor also recommended the pumphouse be painted inside and a dehumidifier added as well as performing some additional maintenance and electrical upgrades. Council and engineering will inquire if there are grants available to help with this cost
- Council discussed with Tim Houle the long range plan for replacing the water system. New wells, new pump house, water tower, and water mains. First step would be to meet with Rural Development to talk through the process and review previous studies. Suggested 2 councilmembers or mayor, the water operator, and the clerk-treasurer attend the meeting. Councilmember Eisen thought should start the process now as it takes time. Councilmember Zontelli asked what type of grant/loan ratio would be available. Typical ratio for funding would be 50% grant and 50% loan. Councilmember Zontelli asked how people could afford it. He thought would need more than 50% grant. Tim Houle shared there are two parts of the meeting with Rural Development. Review the engineering component for the project and a financial component for funding options Rural Development would look at the City's house hold median income and the number of users to determine a fair share it thinks the users can afford to pay. Councilmember Stockard asked the engineering cost to review the study. Tim Houle stated the meeting with Rural Development would be at no charge.
- Councilmember Zontelli presented a sample ordinance which would require a permit for RVs parked in yards for over 14 days. He said the time frame could be changed if better suited for Cuyuna. Also, the sample ordinance to consider puts a time frame in which people could not live in the units; for example, from November to April. An RV could be allowed on a property with a home. Could allow up to 4 RV units. An RV could still be allowed on property without a home, but it would need to be covered or enclosed when not in use. Council could determine the number of days an RV could be used on property without a home. Adopting an ordinance would also allow the city to manage sewage and its disposal properly. Councilmember Zontelli felt the city should have an ordinance in place as there is potential for an RV campground to come to the city. Mayor Brix was concerned the ordinance would prevent home owners with RVs from using the units on weekends when family comes up. Resident Bierman asked why the city would allow 4 RVs per property when the city has an RV campsite available for units to stay in. Council took no action, but the topic of RVs in Cuyuna will be discussed again in July.
- Council discussed the City's Minnesota Building Code ordinance and the use of Land Use Permits to satisfy the Minnesota Building Code.

- **Motion by Stockard to repeal the City's Minnesota Building Code ordinance. Second by Eisen. Motion carried unanimously.**

**New Business:**

- The council received a request to vacate a platted road in the Oak Hill Addition just north of the intersection of North Street and Chicago Avenue. A resident has a shed that appears to be in the right-a-way but has been there since the early 1900s and possibly before the road was platted. Councilmember Eisen noted the county web base view of lot lines is not always accurate and the property owner should survey placement of his shed to verify whether it is in the right-of-way. Also, councilmember Eisen noted the city typically has not vacated platted roads. No action was taken by the council at this time.
- Council set the cancellation fee for campground reservations at \$10 if it is cancelled 14 days prior to the first reservation night. No cancellation is allowed within 14 days of the first reservation night.
- The city received a very good quality report for its well water with no violations in 2017.

**Motion by Eisen to adjourn. Second by Stockard. Motion carried unanimously.**

William F Bedard  
Clerk

Lloyd Brix  
Mayor.

Approved