

September 6, 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 Zontelli to approve the minutes of the August 2, 2018 regular council meeting.

Second by Eisen. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Fire Chief Report:

- Fire Chief Karl Hasskamp provided the departmental monthly report. There were no fire call outs for the month. There were six First Responder calls for the month; 2 in Cuyuna, 2 in in Rabbit Lake Township, and 2 in Wolford Township.
- The department will have two training events for the month. Truck-to-truck relay pumping exercise and an active shooter drill on September 22 sponsored by CRMC and the C-I High School.
- The F350 truck for the department was delivered August 29.

Water and Sewer Report:

- No issues were reported with the city sewer and water system. There was not a Serpent Lake Sanitary Sewer District (SLSSD) meeting in August.
- The repairs to the pumphouse are in process. Contractor will coordinate with the City Water Operator and the City Engineer.

Building Construction Activities:

- The clerk continues to receive inquiries on building homes in Cuyuna. Information supplied to five individuals. The city has added 6 homes over the past 18 months; growing from 126 households to 132 and the population from 334 to 360. Councilmember Zontelli noted we are getting bigger as a city.

Police Chief Report:

- Police Chief Jesse Smith presented the monthly report to the Council. Several warnings for speeding were cited. Complaints investigated included trespass on property, garbage dumping, harassing text messages, discharge of a gun in city limits, a forged check, among other activities. Checked out a burning complaint but the fire was in a campsite fire ring and permissible.
- The department will help monitor the Woodtick 100 bicycle race September 15. Chief reviewed and approved parking locations for the race.
- Boy Scout Pack 100 is hosting a family outdoor movie night at the Deerwood Park. The group is interested in having a similar event in Cuyuna in the summer of 2019 at the Cuyuna City campground and pump track park.
- Presented a wooden plaque of the American flag to the Cuyuna Fire Department in appreciation of its collaboration with the police department and its community support.

Engineer Report:

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

Attorney Report:

- Attorney Bender shared his activities for the month; including correspondence with the MPCA regarding the city's Subsurface Septic Treatment System ordinance.

Campground Report:

- Mayor Brix recommended closing the RV camp sites October 1, tilling the grass areas, place more black dirt, and seed to improve the sites. Cost of tilling is \$800. No charge for the black dirt or hauling of the dirt by Holmwig Excavating. Council discussed and agreed. No action required as council approved this expenditure in 2017. Clerk will contact the website administrator to update the city webpage with this closing date.
- The shower and bathroom need an extra coat of sealer on the cement blocks weather permitting this fall or plan to do in early spring.
- Councilmember Zontelli shared Spectrum would contribute up to \$5,000 to bring internet to the Cuyuna campgrounds. The city will need to obtain a 911 address for the campground. Also, if Spectrum needs to bore for the service, there would be an additional \$5,000 charge the city would be required to pay.

Website Report:

- The website administrator is making changes to the city's web pages for the campground and documents. Clerk will follow up again and encourage completion of the process.

Cuyuna Lakes Chamber:

- Cuyuna Mountain Bike Series "Crusher" event is upcoming. Over 500 racers registered.

Unfinished Business:

- The council reviewed with the city engineer the work completed by Tom's Backhoe Service for the sanitary sewer project and the work left to be completed. City Engineer Tim Houle recommended holding the payment request of \$46,288.62. Drainage at Trip and Foley could be improved. Some grading was performed, and it is better. There is one blacktop depression on Main Street and Anderson Brothers will fix as part of the contract with Tom's Backhoe Service. There is also one small ripple in the liner, some settlement on main street, and two mailboxes to be replaced. Councilmember Zontelli asked the status on the tracer wires that were too short. Tim Houle shared the tracer wire lines were extended with pigtails and the city water operator was ok with that as he could still get good signals.
- Tim Houle asked for council approval of \$14,643.30 for the project payment to Tom's Backhoe Service. Councilmember Stockard expressed the project should be 100% completed before any payment is made to Tom's Backhoe Service.
- **Motion by Eisen to approve payment in the amount of \$14,643.30 to Tom's Backhoe Service. Second by Z. Brix. Motion carried with councilmembers Z.Brix, Eisen, and Zontelli voting in favor and councilmember Stockard voting no.**
- Tony Pohl of WSN Engineering discussed his activities with the non-compliant private sewer line property owners. The city clerk forwards property owners' questions and he communicates with the owners. 8 thumb drives have been sent to property owners and a total of 12 people have been communicated with over the past several weeks. Several property owners have stated they can not find a contractor available for the work this fall. Councilmember Zontelli shared perhaps Ritter and Ritter would be interested in performing the work for the lines to get it completed this fall. The city

could assess the costs to the property. Council discussed that might be an option for next year. Attorney Bender told the council to proceed that route slowly as an assessment for the work might cause property to become tax forfeited if the property taxes could not be paid.

- Mayor Brix and councilmember Eisen discussed providing a second cap riser for the 5 residents whose sewer lines need to be rerouted. The sanitary sewer project provided 2 caps for each resident whose lines did not need to be rerouted. It would be fair to provide the same to the owners running new lines.
- **Motion by Eisen to purchase the riser caps for the residents required to reroute their lines. Second by Zontelli. Motion carried unanimously.**
- Property owners would need to work directly with the company and pay directly to the company.
- Council discussed traffic and street signs. Police Chief Smith previously provided a list of signs to consider ordering.
- **Motion by Z.Brix to order the traffic and street signs. Second by Eisen. Motion carried unanimously.**
- The city will apply to Rural Development for a grant to offset expenses for a preliminary engineering report for a water improvement project.

New Business:

- Clerk shared the Lions Club request to hold a raffle at the Woodtick Inn in December.
- **Motion by Stockard to approve the Lions Club raffle request. Second by Zontelli. Motion carried unanimously.**
- Woodtick 100 bicycle race event is Saturday September 15, 2018.
- Myron and Shirley Midthun were present to share their plan to split a property into two pieces, meeting all city ordinance requirements. The property surveyor pins are in except for 3 on the west side of the proposed easement road for the properties.
- **Motion by Z. Brix to approve the property split with the conditions the final 3 surveyor pins are placed for the road this fall. Second by Stockard. Motion carried unanimously.**
- Mr. and Mrs. Midthun also applied for a land use permit to add to their existing home meeting all city ordinances. No action required of the council.
- Council reviewed and discussed in detail the 2018 year-to-date and projected year end expenses and revenues to help set the 2019 budget and levies.
- Councilmember Zontelli asked why the fire department would need a levy of \$5,000 for equipment as the department has been providing gambling funds to the city to buy the equipment. Council member Z. Brix said the fire department has donated over \$300,000 to the city for equipment during the last several years from its charitable gambling funds and secured grants. The city and residents are only asked to pay \$5,000. The charitable gambling funds could be given to any number of organizations.
- **Motion by Eisen to set the 2019 expense budget at \$313, 000. Second by Zontelli. Motion carried unanimously.**
- **Motion by Zontelli to set the 2019 levies as follow:**
 - **General \$171,000**
 - **Cuyuna Fire Department Equipment Fund \$5,000**
 - **Cuyuna Police Department Equipment Funds \$10,000****Second by Eisen. Motion carried unanimously.**

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

William F Bedard

Clerk

Lloyd Brix

Mayor.