

PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE CROOKSTON CITY COUNCIL, POLK COUNTY, MINNESOTA. THE FIRST REGULAR MEETING OF DECEMBER 8, 2009, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL.

Mayor David Genereux called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and requested all present to stand for a moment of silence.

ROLL CALL

Council Members present in answer to roll call were: Dana Johnson, Marlys Mjoen, Wayne Melbye, Dale Stainbrook, Tom Vedbraaten, Guy Martin and Frank Lindgren.

Council Members absent: Keith Mykleseth

Staff present were: Richard Rock, Scott Kleven, Pat Kelly, Tom Lindo, Tim Motherway, Lee Tate, Aaron Parrish, and Betty Arvidson.

CROOKSTON FORUM

There was no one present to address the Council.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

City Clerk/Treasurer Arvidson asked to strike item 8.03 from the regular agenda.

On motion by Council Member Vedbraaten, seconded by Council Member Mjoen and duly carried that the Agenda be approved as amended.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Melbye, seconded by Council Member Johnson, and duly carried by roll call vote to approve the Consent Agenda which includes the following items:

6.01 Council Minutes of November 24, 2009.

6.02 Resolution for City of Crookston bills and disbursements in the amount of \$522,355.00 Check Nos. 38592 through 38686. (RES. No. 25182)

6.03 Resolution for partial payment estimate No. 3, Crookston Flood Control Project Stage 3B-Phase II to Rachel Contracting in the amount of \$420,614.45. (RES. No. 25183)

6.04 Resolution to purchase (2) vehicles for the Police Department. (RES. No. 25184)

6.05 Resolution to purchase a Jet-Vac from Fargo Water Equipment for the Public Works Department Water Division in the amount of \$49,800. (RES. No. 25185)

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Genereux opened the public hearing for the Truth in Taxation hearing on proposed 2010 Budget. Arvidson referred those in attendance to a handout that was provided. In 2009 the City has 62 FT employees. Due to the elimination of the School Resource Officer by the School District the last retiree in the Police Department was not replaced. Therefore the number of FT employees for 2010 is down 1, to 61. Total compensation is down for 2010 due to the reduction of 1 FT employee and the proposed wage freeze for 2010. The City has a variety of sources of revenue. Receipts make up 53% of the revenue, Local Government Aid (LGA) 31% and the levy 16%. She continued on with showing what departments are included in the General Fund (GF), or the main operating fund. She pointed out that Emergency Services (Police, Fire, EM) make up 55% of the GF and that Public Works is 23%.

In working through the budget we take the proposed expenditures against the proposed revenue, which leaves a "balance needing funding". That amount for the city is \$4,633,507. The certified amount of LGA for 2010 less the amount to be unallotted is \$3,064,272. This leaves an amount to be levied in 2010 of \$1,569,235

which is a zero percent increase over 2009. In reviewing the levy/aid comparison chart, Arvidson noted that the levy has either stayed the same or gone down since 2006. The next slide in the presentatoin showed the historical breakdown of the Market Value for the city. Since 1997 the Estimated Market Value has almost doubled. The proposed tax rate for the city in 2010 is 53.177%. In 2005 the tax rate was 85.086%. The total proposed tax rate is 138.858%, down from 211.001% in 2005. The County makes up 45% of the tax rate, the City 40% and the School District 15%. For the homeowner of a \$75,000 home in 2005 the estimated taxes would have been approximately \$1300. For that same value of home in 2010 the estmated taxes are approximatley \$954. This pictifys the increase in tax base coupled with the decrease in levy. In summary Arvidson stated that we are faced with levy limits in 2010. Our LGA is unalloted in 2010 by \$385,32. In the past year and a half we have seen unallotment totalling \$745,232. The potential exists for an additional unallotment in 2010. We have added a Street Light Utility Fee in 2010 to diversify our revenue sources. This allowed us to maintain a 0% increase in the levy. The increase we realized in the market value was due primarily to valuation increases on existing property. Due to the conitnued increase in market values and a decrease or flat levy our tax rate continues to decline.

Mayor Genereux asked if anyone had any questions and upon hearing none closed the public hearing.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 8.01 On motion by Council Member Mjoen, seconded by Council Member Lindgren, and duly carried to:
Approve resolution adopting the final budget for 2010. (RES. No. 25186)
- 8.02 On motion by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Vedbraaten, and duly carried to:
Approve resolution adopting the final property tax levy for 2010. (RES. No. 25187)
- 8.03 Stricken from the agenda.

REPORTS AND STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Frank Lindgren , Council Member At-Large	-	No Report.
Dana Johnson , Council Member 1 st Ward	-	No Report.
Marlys Mjoen , Council Member 2 nd Ward	-	No Report.
Wayne Melbye , Council Member 4 th Ward	-	No Report.
Dale Stainbrook , Council Member 5 th Ward	-	No Report.
Tom Vedbraaten , Council Member 6 th Ward	-	No Report.
Guy Martin , Council Member At-Large	-	No Report.

Dan Johanneck, CHEDA Executive Director, reported the city would be a featured community in the February addition of Prairie Business Magazine.

Tom Lindo, IT Director, reported we would be switching to Midcontinent for our phone service provider. The city could recognize a savings of approximately \$15,000 over the next 5 years.

Tim Motherway, Police Chief, introduced Lee Tate. Lee is the newest member of our police force. His first day with the city was November 30. The Mayor/Council welcomed Lee.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Genereux adjourned the meeting at 7:16 p.m.