

PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE CROOKSTON CITY COUNCIL, POLK COUNTY, MINNESOTA. THE SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 24, 2011, 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: Tom Jorgens, Dana Johnson, Keith Mykleseth, Wayne Melbye, Dale Stainbrook, Tom Vedbraaten, Bob Quanrud, and Frank Lindgren.

Council Member absent: None.

Staff present were: Pat Kelly, Mike MacDonald, Tom Lindo, Tim Motherway, Scott Riopelle, Richard Rock, Tracy McGlynn, Aaron Parrish, and Betty Arvidson.

CROOKSTON FORUM

There was no one present to address the Council.

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 4.01 Mayoral Proclamation –Mayor Genereux proclaimed the week of November 6-12, 2011 as “Beyond the Yellow Ribbon Awareness” Week
- 4.02 Sarah Reese, State Health Improvement Program (SHIP) coordinator for Polk County presented Aaron Parrish with a SHIP Star Award for his leadership with the city partnership with SHIP.
- 4.03 Mayor Genereux announced that Clerk/Treasurer Betty Arvidson has been awarded the “Outstanding Community Builder” Award by the Northwest Minnesota Foundation Women’s Fund.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion by Council Member Jorgens, seconded by Council Member Lindgren and duly carried to approve the agenda as presented.

CONSENT AGENDA

Council Member Jorgens asked to move item 6.05 “Resolution to support the approval of two levies; support educational offerings at the Crookston Public Schools and to support the operations of the Crookston Community Pool” to item 8.07 under the regular agenda.

On motion by Council Member Stainbrook, seconded by Council Member Melbye duly carried to approve the consent agenda which contains the following items:

- 6.01 Approve proposed Council Minutes of October 10, 2011.
- 6.02 Resolution to approve City of Crookston bills and disbursements in the amount of \$173,122.88 Check Nos. 43361-43451. (RES NO 25576)
- 6.03 Resolution to call for a public hearing on the vacation of 8’ 11” of City property abutting the easterly property line of Lot 13, 1st Country Club Addition of Crookston, MN. (RES NO 25577)
- 6.04 Resolution approving Partial Payment Estimate No. 1, Fisher Avenue Safety Improvements-Safe Routes to School to H & S Construction of TRF, Inc. in the amount of \$147,299.16. (RES NO 25578)
- 6.05 This item was moved to item 8.07 under the Regular Agenda.
- 6.06 2011 Plumber’s and Gas Fitter’s License; Larson Plumbing, Thief River Falls, MN

PUBLIC HEARING

- 7.01 Mayor Genereux opened the public hearing on the proposed assessment for Project No. 923, Maple Street from West Robert Street to the Red Lake River, by reconstruction. City Clerk/Treasurer Arvidson stated the total project cost is \$268,568.59; city share is \$225,818.59 leaving an amount to be assessed of \$42,750. The recommended term is 2-10 years at 3.75%. Mayor Genereux stated if anyone wished to be heard to please come to the podium and state their name and address. Jack Peterson, 208 Maple Street stated there was a new sidewalk put in about 15 years ago. This project tore out the old sidewalk and installed a new one. He asked if he is being charged for another new sidewalk. Public Works Director Pat Kelly stated the project is assessed at one rate for the whole project, of which the assessment represents a portion of

the total cost. Mr. Peterson asked for clarification as to whether he was paying for the sidewalk or not. Kelly stated that a portion of the project costs are for the sidewalk. Mr. Peterson stated he felt it was foolish for the city to tear out a sidewalk and to put one back in and then charge the homeowner for it. He also feels that Maple Street was torn up by the excess traffic due to the flood control project. Kelly stated that prior to the flood control project Maple Street was severely distressed. Mr. Peterson disagreed with Kelly as he stated he had owned his property for over 30 years. His assessment is \$2500 and he feels that he should not have to be paying for it. Kathleen Petereson, 208 Maple asked how the assessment was figured. Kelly stated it was assessed at \$25/front foot. Council Member Mykleseth asked what the total cost per foot was. Kelly stated he did not have that amount. Mrs. Peterson stated that it appears they are being charged for 100 feet and she thought their lot was only 75 feet. She asked who she could meet with to clarify that. Kelly stated that he would be the one to meet with.

Joyce Benoit, stated her husband and his brother owned the property where the old water plant was. Her question was how the assessment was calculated which she stated Kelly had already answered. She stated the value of their property is \$3200 and their total assessment for two projects is over \$4000. This will make their taxes per year go from \$214 to over \$747 plus interest. This is not a residence but a storage facility. She is concerned if they will be able to keep the property with this amount of assessments on it. She stated she did not expect a resolution but just wanted to voice her concerns. Mayor Genereux asked if anyone else wished to be heard and hearing none closed the public hearing.

- 7.02 Mayor Genereux opened the public hearing on the proposed assessment for Project No. 924, West Loring Street from Maple Street to the Railroad Tracks, by reconstruction. Arvidson stated the total project cost is \$26,460.95; city share is \$21,460.95 leaving an amount to be assessed of \$5,000. The recommended term is 2 – 10 years at 3.75%. Mayor Genereux asked if anyone wished to be heard and upon hearing none closed the public hearing.
- 7.03 Mayor Genereux opened the public hearing on the proposed assessment for Project No. 925, Stearns Avenue from 8th Street to Fourth Avenue North, by reconstruction. Arvidson stated the total project cost is \$303,674.89; city share is \$264,874.89 leaving an amount to be assessed of \$38,800. The recommended term is 2-10 years at 3.75%. Mayor Genereux asked if anyone wished to be heard and upon hearing none closed the public hearing.
- 7.04 Mayor Genereux opened the public hearing on the proposed assessment for Project No. 926, North Ash Street from 7th Street to Stearns Avenue, by reconstruction. Arvidson stated the total project cost is \$185,983.01; city share of \$165,983.01 leaving an amount to be assessed of \$20,000. The recommended term is 2-10 years at 3.75%. Mayor Genereux asked if anyone wished to be heard and upon hearing none closed the public hearing.
- 7.05 Mayor Genereux opened the public hearing on the proposed assessment for Project No. 927, 8th Street from North Ash Street to Stearns Avenue, by reconstruction. Arvidson stated the total project cost is \$75,311.34; city share is \$70,061.34 leaving an amount to be assessed of \$5,250.00. The recommended term is 2-10 years at 3.75%. Mayor Genereux asked if anyone wished to be heard and upon hearing none closed the public hearing.
- 7.06 Mayor Genereux opened the public hearing on the proposed assessment for unpaid water and sewer charges and charges for current services. Arvidson stated the amount for unpaid water/sewer is \$3,992.32; the amount for mowing is \$3,538.25; the amount for snow removal is \$1,113.30 and the amount for re-inspection fees is \$153.00. Cheryl Adams, 719 North Front Street, had purchased this property at the end of August from Robert Staehnke. David Davidson was a renter in the house. Adams stated they received the notice of the assessment and they did not know there was a bill on this property. Adams asked why the bill was let go so long. She also stated that the notice has his new address on it and she had inquired as to why the bill wasn't attached to his new address and she was told the city does not do that. Kelly stated that water bills are ultimately the responsibility of the property owner. They do not transfer with the renter. Adams asked if that was the case why the bill wasn't sent to Robert Staehnke. Kelly stated that the notices are sent to whoever is listed as the owner at the time the notices are sent out. Arvidson stated that when citizens are purchasing property they should do an assessment search by calling the Clerk's office. The process checks for not only special assessments but other delinquent bills such as water, mowing and snow removal. Adams asked why Davidson was not required to put down a \$100 deposit. Arvidson stated that it was possible he had paid a deposit and that the \$92 balance was after his deposit was applied. She would have to check with staff to find this out. Adams questioned why the renter was getting water at his new address. She wanted to know why the city could not shut off his water at his new place until he came in and paid for his delinquent bill. Mayor Genereux suggested Adams stop by city hall and find out what the options are from staff. Adams questioned the process because the previous renter was not her tenant yet she is being held responsible for the bill. She feels that he should not have water anywhere else until he pays this bill.

Jake Fee, representing 105 S. Broadway, stated that he had received an assessment for \$33 for a snow removal fee. He contacted city hall about this fee, which he was referred to his Council Member who referred him back to city hall. When the snow removal was done they just took a couple of swipes. There are a lot of utility poles on this stretch. Then when the snow plows go by they push snow back up on the sidewalk. He stated they would have to constantly have to hire someone to remove snow every time the plow would go by. His biggest concern is that he got shuffled around and he can't afford to have someone constantly removing snow pushed back up by the snow plow. Council Member Mykleseth stated

that typically when there is a dispute citizens have come to the Street and Utility Committee meeting and asked Fee why he hadn't done that. Fee stated that he thought it was done with. Council Member Melbye stated the bigger concern is with the way the new handicap accessible sidewalks are out into the street further. Melbye stated he has spoken with the Mayor and Pat Kelly and try to work on a solution before the snow flies. Mykleseth agrees as you can see on the new curbs where semis are running over them. He stated this should be discussed at an upcoming Public Works Committee meeting. Mayor Genereux asked if anyone wished to be heard and upon hearing none closed the public hearing.

REGULAR AGENDA

- 8.01 On motion by Council Member Mykleseth, seconded by Council Member Jorgens and duly carried to approve the proposed assessment for Project No. 923, Maple Street from West Robert Street to the Red Lake River, by reconstruction. (RES NO 25579)
- 8.02 On motion by Council Member Vedbraaten, seconded by Council Member Mykleseth and duly carried to approve the proposed assessment for Project No. 924, West Loring Street from Maple Street to the Railroad Tracks, by reconstruction. (RES NO 25580)
- 8.03 On motion by Council Member Quanrud, seconded by Council Member Lindgren and duly carried to approve the proposed assessment for Project No. 925, Stearns Avenue from 8th Street to Fourth Avenue North, by reconstruction. (RES NO 25581)
- 8.04 On motion by Council Member Melbye, seconded by Council Member Stainbrook and duly carried to approve the proposed assessment for Project No. 926, North Ash Street from 7th Street to Stearns Avenue, by reconstruction. (RES NO 25582)
- 8.05 On motion by Council Member Vedbraaten, seconded by Council Member Quanrud and duly carried to approve the proposed assessment for Project No. 927, 8th Street from North Ash Street to Stearns Avenue, by reconstruction. (RES NO 25583)
- 8.06 On motion by Council Member Vedbraaten, seconded by Council Member Lindgren and duly carried to approve the proposed assessment for unpaid water and sewer charges and charges for current services. (RES NO 25584)
- 8.07 On motion by Council Member Mykleseth, seconded by Council Member Jorgens and duly carried to support approval of two levies; support educational offerings at the Crookston Public Schools and to support the operations of the Crookston Community Pool. (RES NO 25585)

REPORTS AND STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

Tom Jorgens , Council Member 1 st Ward	-	No report
Dana Johnson , Council Member 2 nd Ward	-	No report
Keith Mykleseth , Council Member 3 rd 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.
Bob Quanrud , Council Member-at-Large	-	No report.
Frank Lindgren , Council Member-at-Large	-	No report.

The Mayor and Council Members congratulated Aaron and Betty on their awards.

This is City Administrator Aaron Parrish's last Council meeting. Staff, Mayor and Council thanked Aaron for his service to Crookston and wished him well.

City Administrator Aaron Parrish stated it has been his distinct pleasure to serve the Mayor, Council, staff and members of the community. He and his family will remember Crookston fondly and pleased to be a small part of moving the community in a positive direction.

Parrish stated that a reception is planned for Saturday, November 5th from 9:30 to 11:30 with a program at 10:30 at the Prairie Room at UMC where Arvidson will receive her Community Builder award.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Genereux declared the meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.