

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Regular Meeting of the Crosby City Council was held on Monday, November 28th, 2022, at 6:00 P.M.

Members Present: Mayor; Diane Cash, Council Members; Paul Heglund, Shawn Jarvela, Jim Traylor and Vern Lewis

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Matthew Hill; City Administrator, Adria LeForte; Administrative assistant

1. Call Regular Meeting to Order

Mayor Diane Cash called the meeting of the Crosby City Council to order at 6:00 P.M.

2. Swear in Vern Lewis as new Council Member

Vern Lewis swears, that he will support the constitution of the United States and the state of Minnesota. He will faithfully discharge the duties of the office of council member to the city of Crosby and the county of Crow Wing and state of Minnesota to the best of his abilities

Mayor Cash states the City of Crosby is a Republic that is governed by the people, of the people and for the people. At the last election there were candidates, electors and voters all working together to keep the Republic going. She is pleased to have 5 elected members sitting on council, for the first time in two years.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Cash led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION BY MEMBER PAUL HEGLUND AND SECONDED BY MEMBER SHAWN JARVELA TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS PAUL HEGLUND, JIM TRAYLOR, SHAWN JARVELA AND VERN LEWIS. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.

5. Consent Agenda

- A. Approval of Minutes from the November 7th, 2022, Special Council Meeting
- B. Approval of Minutes from the November 14th, 2022, Regular Meeting

- C. Approval of Claims
- D. Approval of Estimate to do repair work on the Fire Department Ladder Truck from Emergency Apparatus Maintenance, Inc
- E. Approval of payment to Commercial Refrigeration Systems, Inc for maintenance to John Spalj Ice Arena chiller system
- F. Approval of payment to Crow Wing Country for previously approved chip sealing project

**MOTION BY MEMBER JIM TRAYLOR AND SECONDED BY MEMBER SHAWN JARVELA TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.
A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS PAUL HEGLUND, JIM TRAYLOR, SHAWN JARVELA AND VERN LEWIS.
THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

6. Public Comments

Linda Peoples, of the Crosby Courier, requests information on a facility study that was approved several months ago by City Council. She asks if this study has been completed and if that information will be released to the public.

Hill states hard data has been gathered, but the study is not yet complete. He expects completion within days. States this data will be made available to the public either online or through printed format.

Paul Heglund, of the Crosby City Council, states he is disappointment in the handling of the public works department over the last 2 ½ years under Mayor Cash's leadership. States, Mayor Cash does not have a basic understanding of public works operations. Issues he brings up to leadership, the response is always it will be discussed in a meeting. Said issues are then shoved under a table and not heard of again. He requests that Mayor Cash steps down immediately from the public works department and appoint another council member in her place. That public work operations have been slipping since Troy's retirement.

Mayor Cash responds that Paul is close to insubordination. Paul responds he is speaking his mind

7. Unfinished Business

No discussion

8. New Business

A. Consider approval of Resolution 2022-41-1128 to make application to and accept funds from the IRRR on behalf of CRES/ISD 182 – Administrator Hill

Crosby Ironton Elementary School requests that the City of Crosby submits a grant funding request to the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board and accepts any rewarded funds on their behalf. Funds received would be applied towards the creation of a new trail on the North side of the Elementary School.

CRES does receive grant funding through the IRRR at their own request. Mayor Cash states the City will be acting as a fiduciary only, and this request comes at no cost to the City.

MOTION BY MEMBER PAUL HEGLUND AND SECONDED BY MEMBER SHAWN JARVELA TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-41-1128. A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS PAUL HEGLUND, SHAWN JARVELA, JIM TRAYLOR AND VERN LEWIS. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.

B. Consider approval of a letter of support for CREDI- Administrator Hill

Cuyuna Range Economic Development Incorporated requests a letter of support from the City of Crosby in their pursual of a site visit from the Minnesota Design team. CREDI has worked with Minnesota design in the past and is hoping to reestablish that association.

MOTION BY MEMBER JIM TRAYLOR AND SECONDED BY MEMBER SHAWN JARVELA TO APPROVE CREDI LETTER OF SUPPORT. A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS PAUL HEGLUND, SHAWN JARVELA, JIM TRAYLOR AND VERN LEWIS. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.

C. Consider the approval of Resolution 2022-42-1128 approving Crow Wing Country project within City Limits – Administrator Hill

Crow Wing County and the State of Minnesota are beginning a roundabout project on the East side of Crosby. This project will be managed by the County within City limits.

MOTION BY MEMBER SHAWN JARVELA AND SECONDED BY MEMBER PAUL HEGLUND TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2022-42-1128 A VOICE

VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS PAUL HEGLUND, SHAWN JARVELA, JIM TRAYLOR AND VERN LEWIS. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.

D. Consider approval of MNDOT provided resolution related to parking restrictions within the MNDOT/Crow Wing County construction zone – Administrator Hill

City law enforcement of parking restrictions during MNDOT construction.

MOTION BY MEMBER JIM TRAYLOR AND SECONDED BY MEMBER PAUL HEGLUND TO APPROVE MNDOT PARKING RESOLUTION: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS VERN LEWIS, SHAWN JARVELA AND JIM TRAYLOR. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.

9. Reports

A. City Engineer

Report submitted in packet

Mayor cash requests for timeline for site plans on 2023 SE project. Engineer states Bolten and Menk has been contracted to complete survey work only. Survey work is expected to be completed within days. After completion, Bolten and Menk will then offer proposal to contract completion of preliminary design, final design, and construction of the project. A public improvement hearing will be held to discuss planning, cost, and timing. Loose timeframe of construction is 2024.

B. Planning and zoning

Report submitted in packet. No actionable items.

The Planning and Zoning Committee currently has 2 openings, 1 of which may be a nonresident of Crosby. There is a \$50.00 stipend for each meeting for all council members.

C. City Administrator

Report submitted in packet

December holidays will impact Council meeting days. The 26th meeting will be held on the 27th.

- D. Mayor/Committee Reports
 - a. Heglund- Snow Plowing policies

Report Submitted

Administrator Hill states current snow removal policy and the sidewalk snow removal map are both included in the packet.

Paul states, to throw the city's policy out the door. Crosby's Main Street is very busy, and the business pay a large amount of taxes. The City should ensure that sidewalk are kept clear of snow. He worries about sidewalk and road conditions once we receive larger amounts of snow.

States he is disappointed as leadership of the Public Works committee is lacking, and he has been fighting for 2 ½ years for improvements. The basics such as sidewalks, snow removal and potholes are not being properly maintained. Paul states a taxpayer called him stating the street sweeper did not sweep his residential street for the entirety of 2022. The taxpayers of Crosby deserve better from City Operations.

Jim Traylor states the City needs to move forward, and do better. Jim states he respects the mayor and work she has done for the City of Crosby.

Mayor Cash states the unfrozen state of the ground impacts Public Works ability to remove snow. She states that Paul is hostile to work with and comes off as hostile during public work meetings.

Paul responds, he is only hostile to Mayor Cash, not other members of the committee.

Mayor Cash states public works is under constant criticism from Mr. Heglund, including criticism from him in the Courier. Public works employees should not be made to feel public humiliation from any member of Council. She states that Mr. Heglunds coworkers should not be made to feel that they are being treated with disrespect. She states that City Hall

has not received complaints from the public regarding Public Works operations. She notes the turnover rate of Public Works employees and states this could be in part due to harassment from Council members.

Vern Lewis states that public works operations as of last year were not satisfactory and asks what has changed from last year to the present.

Mayor Cash states previously the Supervisor of Public Works did not participate in plowing operations. The Current Head of Public Works is involved in all aspects of operations, including snow removal. That public works staff was understaffed and there were frequent repairs to work equipment.

Paul Heglund mentions previous director of Public Works, Steve Carlson, who attempted to implement changes to Public Work operations but was unable to implement them due to Leadership being unwilling to make changes. He states work is not currently being done, plain and simple. Public works currently has good employees, but there are some who will not step up to the plate. States the city taxpayers deserve more than they are currently getting regarding public work operations.

Shawn Jarvela states that soft ground does impact public works ability to move snow. He does not want to see any City employee being harassed, and they do deserve some praise for work completed.

Paul Heglund states that every other city deals with unfrozen ground and are still able to maintain snow removal for their City.

Jim Traylor states snow can be moved regardless of ground's frozen state. Notes blacktop as an alternative for dumping snow when ground is frozen.

Administrator Hill states that MNDOT will start dumping snow from their snow removal North of Crosby (previously near Crosby water tower). The City will have room internally to dump their snow.

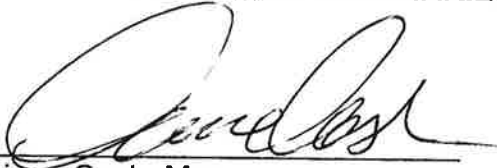
Mayor Cash requests discussion of the treatment of Public Work employees. She asks if in the past, there a situation of a council member following public work employees and harassing them about their operations. She states public works meetings feel tense and hostile. She requests that Jim Traylor replaces Paul Heglund on the public works

committee. She states public works employees need clear guidance, and not harassment.

Paul states the public has the right to know any wrong doings.

10. Adjournment

MOTION BY MEMBER SHAWN JARVELA AND SECONDED BY MEMBER JIM TRAYLOR TO ADJOURN AT 6:47 PM. A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS PAUL HEGLUND, SHAWN JARVELA, JIM TRAYLOR AND VERN LEWIS. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.



Diane Cash, Mayor



Adria LeForte, Administrative Assistant