

**City of Crosby  
Council Meeting  
Monday, June 26, 2023  
6:00 p.m.**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Regular Meeting of the Crosby City Council was held on Monday, June 26, 2023, at 6:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Mayor Cash, Council Members Heglund, Lewis and Jarvela.

**Members Absent:** Council Member Traylor.

**Staff Present:** Matthew Hill, Administrator Clerk Treasurer; Dianne Howard, Administrative Assistant; Joe Langel, City Attorney; Phil Martin, City Engineer; Scott Sadusky, Building Inspector

**1. Call Regular Meeting to Order**

Mayor Cash called the meeting of the Crosby City Council to order at 6:03 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Cash led with the Pledge of Allegiance

**3. Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION BY MEMBER LEWIS AND SECONDED BY MEMBER JARVELA TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED.**

**A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS HEGLUND, LEWIS AND JARVELA. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Consent Agenda**

- A. Approval of Minutes from June 12, 2023, Regular Meeting
- B. Approval of Claims
- C. Approval to hire Martin Strom as part-time temporary employee in the Public Works Department
- D. Approval of Special Event application for St. Joseph's Catholic Church Fall Festival
- E. Approval of temporary on-sale permit for St. Joseph's Catholic Church Fall Festival
- F. Approval of Renewal for 2:00 a.m. license/permit for the Spalding House

**MOTION BY MAYOR CASH AND SECONDED BY MEMBER HEGLUND TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE EXCEPTION OF (A.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM JUNE 12, 2023 TO NEW ITEM 7.(G.) IN NEW BUSINESS AND (B.) APPROVAL OF CLAIMS TO ITEM 7.(H.) IN NEW BUSINESS. A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS HEGLUND, LEWIS AND JARVELA. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

5. **Public Comments** Carol Harding stated that she had submitted a nuisance violation the end of May and some of her neighbors did as well. To date, she has not received an answer back. Ms. Harding stated that her neighbors are nocturnal people who she believes steals and works on bikes in their garage all night long. She said this has been going on for two years. She had spoken with two past chiefs of police with little response. Ms. Harding also spoke with City Administrator Hill at the end of April, and he had told her about the violation form. She submitted a detailed report, with 12 items that were in violation. Ms. Harding attended tonight's meeting as she wants to know what she has to do next. She stated that she has lived in her home for 14 years and now has purchased a security system as she does not know what is coming and going at her neighbor's house. Her second item of concern is different cars coming and going all night long and cars that come and stay days at a time. She has tried to help her neighbors and attempts to stay cordial with them. Mayor Cash stated that this may be addressed further during the building inspector's report later in the meeting. Ms. Harding stated that she would just like to have further guidance. Mayor Cash informed Ms. Harding that follow-up does not go through the complainant but is taken care of behind the scenes. City Administrator Hill confirmed that this is the process but that he will be Ms. Harding's contact for any further follow-up on this issue.

6. **Unfinished Business:** None at this time.

7. **New Business**

A. **Legislative Update**—Representative, Ben Davis, the House Representative for our district, 6A, gave a report.

Representative Davis stated that it is an honor to represent this area. Having grown up in the area, he stated that he is very impressed with the growth of Crosby, the hope that it has created for the future, and that we would like to continue to help with that. Mr. Davis is concerned that recent legislation that has been passed may hurt some of our small businesses. He said he believes that Government is going to dictate what benefits companies will have to give to their employees, and that government is getting too big. He said that he will continue to fight for small businesses. Mr. Davis stated that elections changes will also be implemented and that paying someone to ballot harvest will no longer be allowed in the State of Minnesota. It will now be a misdemeanor

offense to pay someone to ballot harvest. In conclusion, he touched on nursing home funding that was originally set for 3.9 million for the entire state. They were, however, able to get a 300-million -dollar budget secured for nursing home funding. Representative Davis said he will keep fighting for what he believes is right. He then provided his personal cell phone number 218-839-2989 for council so they can contact him with any additional concerns. He also addressed Mayor Cash to let her know that he is currently digging into funding for storm water runoff in connection with the Crosby City Park. Mayor Cash thanked Representative Davis for coming.

- B. Consider request for funding from Economic Development fund for memorial sign in honor of George H. Crosby – Tim Leonard, Cuyuna Iron Range Heritage Network

Mr. Leonard from the Cuyuna Range Heritage Network was not able to be in attendance this evening. City Administrator Hill presented on behalf of the George H. Crosby sign. He continued to explain that Mr. Leonard is leading the fundraising endeavors for this project and he did ask for \$10,000.00 in Economic Development funds for this sign. As this is an unbudgeted item for the Economic Development fund, City Administrator Hill said staff recommends that Council denies this request at this time. The preference is that the Cuyuna Range Heritage Network completes some fundraising and then returns with a request for some additional matching dollars in 2024.

**MOTION BY MEMBER HEGLUND AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LEWIS TO DENY REQUEST AT THIS TIME FOR FUNDING FROM ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND FOR MEMORIAL SIGN IN HONOR OF GEORGE H. CROSBY DUE TO THIS BEING AN UNBUDGETED 2023 ITEM UNTIL FURTHER FUNDRAISING IS DONE BY THE HERITAGE NETWORK. A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS HEGLUND, LEWIS AND JARVELA. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

- C. Consider approval of bid for sidewalk improvements – Administrator Hill

The Public Works Committee, Public Works Foreman and City Administrator Hill identified areas of sidewalk that were a priority for replacement. The City Council has set aside \$50,000 for the sidewalk project. Three bids were received: Jones Concrete was the low bid at \$17,800.00; Ideal Concrete was the middle bid at \$33,499.25; and there was a third bid from Custom Contracting for \$47,100.00. Recommendation from Administration and Public Work Foreman is to accept and proceed with the low bid from Jones Concrete. The Council will have to make a determination on what to do with the remaining funds.

**MOTION BY MEMBER HEGLUND AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LEWIS TO APPROVE BID FROM JONES CONCRETE AT \$17,800.00 FOR SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS.**

**A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS HEGLUND, LEWIS AND JARVELA. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

**The funding that is remaining will be brought back to the Public Works Committee for further consideration on the most beneficial distribution at a later date.**

D. Consider approval of request from Fire Department to purchase turnout gear and boots – Fire Chief, Jay Decent

Chief Decent reported that the gear is coming up on the 10-year mark. 18 sets of gear are 10 years old and 7 sets are 9 years old. The Fire Department is requesting the purchase of 25 sets of turnout gear and 27 sets of lightweight gear that will be discounted due to the original purchase of turnout gear from Heiman Fire Equipment, who was the low bid of the three bids that were received. The department will take half of the funds from their Donation Account and the other half from their Equipment Fund to purchase this equipment. City Administrator Hill stated that Bailey Swanson from the Fire Department is actively pursuing additional grant funding. It will take approximately 6 – 8 months to receive this equipment, so it gives the Fire Department more time to possibly supplement their funds with additional grant dollars. The Fire Department has a special opportunity with Sourcewell for \$10,000 that may close at the end of this month. If that is approved, it would cut an additional \$5,000.00 of cost off from the two funds from which the payout will be dispersed for the needed gear. Mayor Cash asked if this was the first time the department has ordered the lightweight gear. Chief Decent stated yes, it is but the lightweight gear has definite benefits as the gear is very useful in extrication being 3 lbs. lighter which is advantageous during rescues. City Administrator Hill shared that the Cuyuna Bike Crew also has also communicated interest in partnering with the Fire Department—if not on this project--on a future one. There is additional equipment that would be useful for extraction up in the recreation area for the protection of their riders.

**MOTION BY MEMBER HEGLUND AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LEWIS TO APPROVE REQUEST FROM FIRE DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE TURNOUT GEAR.**

**A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS HEGLUND AND LEWIS. MEMBER JARVELA ABSTAINED. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

E. Consider approval of request from Fire Department to purchase new boots for the Fire Fighters—Fire Chief, Jay Decent

Fire Chief Decent reported that the Fire Department has identified a need to replace the boots for the fire fighters. The \$12,285.00 cost will be split in half and will come from both the Fire Department Donations Fund and the Fire Department Equipment Replacement Fund. The higher quality boot was chosen as it is more comfortable as well as more functional. The Fire Department is actively fundraising for this purchase as well.

**MOTION BY MEMBER LEWIS AND SECONDED BY MEMBER HEGLUND TO APPROVE REQUEST FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE NEW BOOTS FOR THE FIRE FIGHTERS AT A COST OF \$12,285.00.**

**A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS HEGLUND AND LEWIS. MEMBER JARVELA ABSTAINED. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

F. Consider approval of Amendment #1 on waste collection contract with Range Disposal Service Inc. – Administrator Hill

City Administrator Hill reported that the current contract for refuse collection wraps up in November of this year. The Refuse Committee has met with the leadership of Range Disposal and has agreed to extend the current contract with no change to the contracted terms or rates for an additional 5 years. Member Heglund asked if bids are needed on this. City Administrator Hill stated that the City has the authority to offer an amendment like this without going out to bid.

**MOTION BY MEMBER JARVELA AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LEWIS TO APPROVE AMENDMENT #1 ON WASTE COLLECTION CONTRACT WITH RANGE DISPOSAL SERVICE INC.**

**A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS HEGLUND, LEWIS AND JARVELA. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

G. Amendment of June 12, 2023, City Council Minutes/Mayor Report

Mayor Cash asked for clarification of the minutes on the very last page. She is asking that we amend June 12, 2023, City Council Minutes/Mayor Report section from: Mayor Cash believes we are paying 76-77 percent, which costs our resident who use the sewer approximately \$6,000 per year--to instead read: Mayor Cash believes we are paying 76-77 percent, which costs \$6,000 per each percentage point per year.

**MOTION BY MAYOR CASH AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LEWIS TO AMEND JUNE 12, 2023, CITY COUNCIL MINUTES TO READ: MAYOR CASH BELIEVES WE ARE PAYING 76-77 PERCENT, WHICH COSTS \$6,000 PER**

**EACH PERCENTAGE POINT PER YEAR—ON THE LAST PAGE OF THE MINUTES.**

**A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS HEGLUND, LEWIS AND JARVELA. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

H. Approval of Claims/Oberg Fence repair for \$1,000.

Claim clarification requested for the Oberg Fence invoice of \$1000 for fence repair. A brief council discussion followed during which Member Heglund stated that he believes that snow being piled on the fence this past winter may have caved it in and he wants this to be brought up to Public Works so it does not happen again. City Administrator Hill inquired if there was any specific concern over the actual invoice. Member Heglund stated no.

**MOTION BY MEMBER JARVELA AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LEWIS TO PAY THE OBERG FENCE INVOICE FOR REPAIRS.**

**A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS HEGLUND, LEWIS AND JARVELA. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **8. Reports**

A. City Engineer Report--Engineer Martin had one update. He received a response from MnDOT today. They were intending to get bids for the storm sewer connection on Highway 210 and Cross Avenue in the middle of July and they think the work will be done in August. City Administrator Hill thanked Engineer Martin for his help during the workshop earlier today.

B. Planning and Zoning Administrator Report—City Administrator Hill stated that Brittney Cotner did not have anything to bring to Council. She did submit a report and City Administrator Hill stated that he could answer any questions.

C. City Inspector Report—Scott Sadusky provided a report and stated that he would be happy to answer any questions. Inspector Sadusky said that he will meet with Ms. Harding after tonight's meeting to double check what Jeff is doing with that complaint and that City Administrator Hill will be the point person if Ms. Harding has any additional concerns. Mr. Sadusky shared a list of the many projects that are currently active in Crosby. Lofts, Lake and Co., The Mercantile, and The Drunken Noodle have a temporary Certificate of Occupancy. Victual expansion has a temporary Certificate of Occupancy. The High School renovation has begun. The Elementary School has also started. 105 1<sup>st</sup> Street SW is progressing on the wine bar. 28 W. Main in in plan review. The Sanctuary has a couple of small items. And finally, the Heartwood expansion has

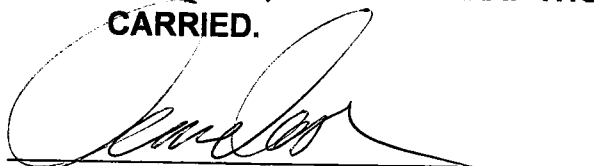
received their building permit and has begun work. Member Heglund thanked Inspector Sadusky for his service.

D. City Administrator Report—City Administrator said that he is open to any questions. He would like to mention that the pool work at the Hallett Center—tear out of the existing equipment has begun. They have ordered everything and everything is on the way. We are hoping for mid to end of July for completion of repairs—they start swimming lessons on July 24<sup>th</sup>—so that is the goal. With some of the materials that are required, that may be cutting it pretty tight, but we are still hopeful. We worked with Sourcewell and did get the \$50,000 grant for new technologies, phone systems and fiber to most of our city buildings. This will include a significant technology upgrade at the Hallett Community Center. City Administrator Hill will be presenting those projects at the first council meeting of July. We had to go out to bid for the technology as it met the dollar thresholds. Everything else will have contracts with the respective contractors. Sourcewell is a tremendous ally in the things that we do here in Crosby.

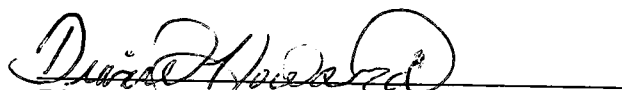
E. Mayor/Council/Committee Reports—Mayor Cash stated that it is 8 days until the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. She is very much looking forward to it; and appreciates all of the hours that were put in to get ready for this event by many of the employees at the City as well as the Fire Department—awesome! Member Heglund said that he is not happy about the painting that has not yet been completed with the yellow lines and crosswalks in Crosby. He said the detour also needs to be cleaned up. With the 4<sup>th</sup> holiday and the amount of traffic, Member Heglund would like to see this all get done. In addition, Member Heglund stated that he does not approve of the UPM mix that is currently being used by Public Works to fill the potholes. Member Jarvela would also like to see the yellow lines and crosswalks done prior to the 4<sup>th</sup> holiday as it is a safety concern. Mayor Cash stated that this has all been noted and the City Administrator Hill will follow up.

**MOTION BY MEMBER JARVELA AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LEWIS TO  
ADJOURN AT 6:52 P.M..**

**A VOICE VOTE: THOSE VOTING AYE: MAYOR CASH, MEMBERS LEWIS,  
HEGLUND, AND JARVELA. THOSE VOTING NAY: NONE. MOTION  
CARRIED.**



Diane Cash, Mayor



Dianne Howard, Administrative Assistant