

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the Regular Meeting of the Crosby City Council was held on Monday, September 8, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Acting Mayor Traylor; Members Heglund, Lewis and Jarvela

**Members Excused:** Mayor Cash

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Harren; Police Chief, Mike VanHorn; Fire Chief Shayne Jacobs; Head Librarian, Abby Smith; and Administrative Assistant, Dianne Howard

**1. Call Regular Meeting to Order**

The regular meeting of the Crosby City Council was called to order by Acting Mayor, Traylor at 6:00 p.m.

**2. Pledge of Allegiance**

Acting Mayor Traylor led the Pledge of Allegiance

**3. Approval of the Agenda**

**MEMBER HEGLUND MOVED TO APPROVE THE AGENDA WITH THE ADDITION OF NEW BUSINESS E. ADDING CURB TO THE SECOND SIDE OF THE STREET FOR THE 2025 ALLEY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT AND NEW BUSINESS F. TO DISCUSS A MEMO TO SEND TO THE HALLETT TRUST REQUESTING CONTINUED COOPERATION FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY OF THE LIBRARY AND THE HALLETT COMMUNITY CENTER. MEMBER LEWIS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED BY A VOTE OF 4-0.**

**4. Approval of the Consent Agenda**

- a. Accept Donation and Acknowledge Donors
- b. Approve Minutes
- c. Approve Claims
- d. Approve Temporary On-Sale Liquor License for Cuyuna Brewing Company
- e. Approval of Liquor License for Cuyuna Lanes
- f. Approve St. Joseph Catholic Church Special Event Application
- g. Reappoint Renae Marsh to the Crosby HRA for a term to expire on 8/31/2030
- h. Approve hire of Marianne Lenz as .5 FTE Library Aide
- i. Purchase casting covers to protect new street infrastructure

**MEMBER LEWIS MOVED TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WITH THE ADDITION OF i. PURCHASE OF CASTING COVERS AT \$4,400 PLUS \$300 IN SHIPPING FOR A TOTAL OF \$4,700.00. MEMBER JARVELA SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED BY A VOTE OF 4-0.**

**5. Public Comments: None.**

**6. Presentations**

a. Meet New Superintendent, Rick Aulie and Receive Update on Operating Referendum

Superintendent Aulie reported that after two unsuccessful referendums in 2023 and 2024, the district had to cut more than \$1 million in their budget by reducing teaching positions, support staff, electives, and extracurriculars. Even with these reductions, the district faces an additional \$1 million shortfall that is projected to grow to \$1.5 million within five years without new funding.

Like many school districts, C-I is facing growing financial challenges due to the rising cost of education, inflation and 20 years of underfunding from the State of MN.

On Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> there will be a special election to vote on an operating levy that would provide \$1.5 million annually for ten years to stabilize the budget.

An operating levy is a local, voter-approved property tax that provides additional funding for the day-to-day costs of running a school district.

If voters approve the referendum, the operating levy would be supported by a property tax increase starting in 2026 and expiring after 10 years.

b. Discuss Midwest Mountain Bike Fest 2026

Jeff Frane from the Cuyuna Lakes Mountain Bike Association addressed the Council. He requested Council consider utilization of the Crosby Memorial Park to host the 2026 Midwest Mountain Mike Fest, June 19-21, 2026. This location would be more visible and closer to Crosby's downtown businesses.

They are expecting approximately 500 participants (over the course of three days) and approximately 50 vendors. They will have 20 staff members on duty. Parking challenges were discussed. Participants will be encouraged to park where they are

staying and bike to the Park. Councilmember Lewis noted that this is what occurred during the 2025 Festival held at Croft Mine. Mr. Frane asked if they could block the tent sites, cook shack and bandshell for the event. Council agreed that after payment these could be blocked. It was clarified that the use of the Park for the event excludes the softball field and skate park.

**MOTION BY MEMBER LEWIS TO APPROVE THE 2026 MIDWEST MOUNTAIN BIKE FESTIVAL EVENT AT CROSBY MEMORIAL, AND AFTER PAYMENT TO BLOCK NON-RV SITES, COOK SHACK AND BANDSHELL FOR THE EVENT. THIS WOULD EXCLUDE THE BALL FIELD AND SKATE PARK. MEMBER HEGLUND SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED BY A VOTE OF 4-0.**

## **7. Old Business**

- a. Discuss RangersLive Sponsorship Request—an audio streaming system that will broadcast all home and away games for Crosby Ironton Ranger athletics. Administrator Harren advised council that by statute, all expenditures must have a public purpose. Sponsorship of a sports team broadcast would not qualify. However, promotion of the community and/or supporting economic development would. Council discussed it further. The \$800 sponsorship request will be funded from the 2025 Economic Development budget.

b.

**MOTION BY MEMBER HEGLUND TO APPROVE THE RANGERSLIVE SPONSORSHIP REQUEST FOR \$800 FOR THE 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR FROM THE EDA BUDGET. MEMBER JARVELA SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED BY A VOTE OF 4-0.**

## **8. New Business**

- a. Approve Resolution of Support for Sourcewell Match Fund Program to purchase a compact track loader for the Public Works Department.

Administrator Harren asked that the City of Crosby submit a Match Funds application to Sourcewell to fund \$50,000 toward the purchase of a Bobcat Compact Track Loader.

Administrator Harren explained that the city has a 2004 Bobcat Skid Steer Loader that has outdated technology and is under powered to utilize the various attachments

that the City owns. Because the 2004 Bobcat does not have tracks, it also damages soft surfaces.

The Bobcat Compact Track Load is \$80,505.57. Sourcewell will fund \$50,000 of the cost. The City's match is a minimum of 25%, which will be \$30,505.57.

**MOTION BY MEMBER LEWIS TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2025-25-0908 TO SUPPORT THE FUNDING REQUEST FROM SOURCEWELL'S MATCH FUND TO PURCHASE A 2025 BOBCAT COMPACT TRACK LOADER 44. MEMBER TRAYLOR SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED BY A VOTE OF 4-0.**

- b. Approve Resolution of Support for Sourcewell Impact Fund Program to purchase radio equipment for the Fire Department

Fire Chief Jacobs stated that he would like to submit an application to Sourcewell for \$50,000 in funding toward the purchase of upgraded radio equipment. The total expense for the new equipment will be \$80,431.40. Sourcewell will fund up to \$50,000 toward this purchase. The City's portion is \$30,431.40 and would come out of the Fire Department's Donation Fund.

**MOTION BY MEMBER HEGLUND TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2025-26-0908 TO SUPPORT THE APPLICATION TO SOURCEWELL PUBLIC SAFETY IMPACT FUND TO PURCHASE RADIO EQUIPMENT. MEMBER JARVELA SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED BY A VOTE OF 4-0.**

- c. Schedule 2026 Budget and Levee Work Session—The Preliminary Levy will need to be certified by September 30<sup>th</sup>. A 2026 Budget and Levee Work Session will be held on Wednesday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- d. Schedule Public Hearing on CRMC Road Right-of-Way Vacation Application—this area is located directly behind their building. The Public Hearing to hear the petition for the CRMC Road Right-of-Way Vacation Application will be held on October 13<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. during the regularly scheduled Council meeting.
- e. Discuss addition of curb to 2025 Alley Project—The Council had requested an estimate to add curbs to the second side of the street for the 2025 alley improvement project and what the cost would be. At the time of the 2025 Alley Project, the

funding only covered curb on one side of the street. If curbs are added to the second side of the street, estimated cost will be \$61,000, which can be assessed to the properties in the project location but cannot be added to the public finance bond. It would entail 763 linear feet of concrete curb and gutter design. Council discussion continued. Property owners have asked for the addition of curb on the second side of the street. City Administrator Harren clarified that the scope of work would include: Hallett Avenue, 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue SW and 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SW for the Alley Project.

**MOTION BY MEMBER LEWIS TO ACCEPT ANDERSON BROTHERS CONSTRUCTION COMPANY'S QUOTE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$61,120 FOR ADDITION OF CURB TO 2025 ALLEY PROJECT. MEMBER TRAYLOR SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED BY A VOTE OF 4-0.**

- f. HCC Trust Memo—Administrator Harren will be meeting with the Hallett Trust Board and would like to submit a letter to the Trust on behalf of the Council regarding appreciation of the support of the Jessie F Hallet Memorial Library and the Hallett Community Center and to request a follow up meeting to regarding sustainability for Library and Center. In addition to this meeting, Administrator Harren is researching the possibility of a ½ cent sales tax to help support both the Hallett Center and the Hallett Memorial Library as both appear to qualify as having regional significance since most of the users are not from the city of Crosby serving some 22 surrounding jurisdictions.

**MOTION BY MEMBER LEWIS TO SUPPORT THE STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING WITH HALLETT TRUST REGARDING SUSTAINABILITY FOR BOTH THE HALLETT CENTER AND THE HALLETT MEMORIAL LIBRARY. SECONDED BY MEMBER HEGLUND. THE MOTION PASSED BY A VOTE OF 4-0.**

## 9. Reports

### A. Police Chief

Chief VanHorn submitted his report. He stated that regarding the 2026 Midwest Mountain Bike Fest his only concern is parking.

Member Lewis stated that the 4-way stop by Red Raven is still a danger as many drivers are blowing through the stop signs and he fears a future accident. This is a state highway. Administrator Harren will investigate possible options that could make this location safer with MnDOT in Baxter.

B. Fire Chief

Chief Jacobs submitted his report. Chief Jacobs thanked the Council for their support of the Sourcewell funding option for their radio equipment.

C. Hallett Center—HCC GM submitted his report.

D. Library—Ms. Smith submitted her report. There will be a Golf Fundraiser on Sunday the 21<sup>st</sup> with a silent auction.

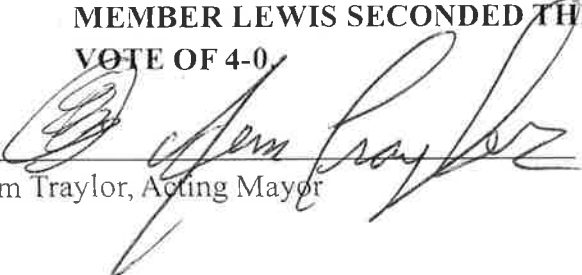
E. Public Works—PW Working Foreman Ferrari submitted his report.

F. City Administrator Harren submitted her report and stated that she participated in the LMC Clerk's Academy and graduated from the course.

G. Mayor/Committee—None.

**10. Adjournment**

**MEMBER HEGLUND MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 7:23 P.M.  
MEMBER LEWIS SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION PASSED BY A  
VOTE OF 4-0.**

  
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Jim Traylor, Acting Mayor

  
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Trish Harren, City Administrator