

PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE CROOKSTON CITY COUNCIL, POLK COUNTY, MINNESOTA. THE SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 27, 2007, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL.

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

Council Members present in answer to roll call were: Craig Bunes, Marlys Mjoen, Wayne Melbye, Harry Manole, Tom Vedbraaten, Guy Martin and Frank Lindgren.

Council Member absent: Keith Mykleseth.

Staff present were: Mike MacDonald, Nathan Morlan, Tim Motherway, Tom Lindo, Scott Kleven, Aaron Parrish and Betty Arvidson.

**CROOKSTON FORUM**

Jim Sullivan, representing Crookston Valley Cooperative (CVC), was here concerning the railroad tracks along Fairfax Avenue. About a year ago CVC was contacted about whether they would be in favor of abandoning the tracks. CVC said they were not as they still intend to use them. It has come to CVC's attention the City is looking into abandoning them and he just wanted to know where they stand. CVC is scheduled for a building process this summer to rebuild the under track which is where the loading facilities are located where they unload trains and trucks. CVC still intends to use the tracks so they are kind of sitting in limbo. Mayor Genereux stated the City had looked into that area as a potential walking/biking path sight but would only be interested if the RR was interested in abandoning it. If CVC has plans to use the RR the City would not pursue abandoning it. Sullivan stated CVC is looking at spending a substantial amount of money for improvements this summer and would like to know what is happening. Mayor Genereux called on Scott Kleven, Parks & Recreation Director, to comment on the status of the path. Kleven stated in 2002 the City received a grant from the Department of Transportation to link up our walking/biking trail system, and the area along Fairfax was one of the sights the City felt was a prime location. There has been some discussion regarding the lack of use of that rail line. Kleven has been in contact on an informal basis with MN Northern Railroad regarding the possible abandonment of that rail line. Kleven sent a letter to the General Manager of MN Northern Railroad stating if they were to abandon that line the City would have an interest in putting the trail on that site. Kleven stated he had visited with our local engineers and they commented that it would be less work and costs to put the walking/biking path on top of the abandoned rail lines. Kleven stated again that we would have interest in that rail line area if it were to be abandoned. This is done a lot throughout the state with the Rails to Trails program. Mayor Genereux reiterated the city is not pushing the RR to abandon that line but we would be interested in it if they chose to do so.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- 6.01 City Council Minutes of March 13, 2007.
- 6.02 Resolution to approve City of Crookston bills and disbursements in the amount of \$376,375.65. Check Nos. 31183 through 31303. (Res. No. 24588)
- 6.03 License for the MMA Fighting Show, National Guard Armory, April 13, 6 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
- 6.04 Special Sport & Conventional Facility Licence, Irishman's Shanty for MMA Fight, April 13, 6 – 11 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- 7.01 For an Ordinance of the City of Crookston, Minnesota, amending City Code Chapter 11, entitled "Land Use Regulations" (zoning) by adding to or changing certain definitions in Section 11.03 entitled "Definitions" and by changing and reorganizing Section 11.55, containing floodplain regulations.

Mayor Genereux asked if anyone wished to be heard to please come to the podium and state their name and address.

Mike MacDonald, Community Development Director, stated the ordinance that comes before the Council tonight is to provide required language changes to our existing ordinance and it will bring our ordinance into compliance to Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) standards. It also is a mechanism by which the City will recognize the recent changes in our flood plain that resulted from the completion of our Federal flood control project. FEMA recently issued a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR). The flood insurance rate map is part of that LOMR and the various attachments that are included in the LOMR will also

become part of the official documentation for our flood plain and part of our local flood plain ordinance. The adoption of this ordinance basically serves to recognize that project and will allow the citizens who were protected by the project to find themselves not subject to our flood plain ordinance. This item did come before the Planning Commission for review and their recommendation was to adopt the ordinance as presented.

Mayor Genereux asked if anyone wished to be heard and upon hearing none closed the public hearing.

**REGULAR AGENDA**

8.01 Final passage of an Ordinance of the City of Crookston, Minnesota, amending City Code Chapter 11, entitled “Land Use Regulations” (Zoning) by adding to or changing certain definitions in section 11.03 entitled “Definitions” and by changing and reorganizing Section 11.55, containing Floodplain Regulations.

Council Members voting in the affirmative: Bunes, Mjoen, Melbye, Manole, Vedbraaten, Martin and Lindgren.  
Council Member voting in the negative: none.

**REPORTS AND STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Frank Lindgren, Council Member-at-Large - No report.  
Craig Bunes, Council Member 1st Ward - No report.

Marlys Mjoen, Council Member 2nd Ward, stated she has had several calls regarding the water not draining between Memorial Drive and Golf Terrace on the new path.

Rich Clauson, Widseth Smith and Nolting, stated it has been taken up with the contractor and they will address it and hopefully correct it.

Wayne Melbye, Council Member 4th Ward, asked if the water standing by St. Paul’s Lutheran Church was part of the same problem as over by Golf Terrace, and Clauson stated yes, and they are going to look at the drainage in that area also. Melbye also wanted to thank Mike MacDonald for getting the LOMR done and the ordinance passed for the flood control project in his Addition.

Harry Manole, Council Member 5th Ward, - No report.  
Tom Vedbraaten, Council Member 6th Ward - No report.  
Guy Martin, Council Member-at-Large - No report.

Mayor Genereux stated that the Legislature is looking at the City of Crookston’s half-cent sales tax and hopefully it will pass.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Genereux declared the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

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David W. Genereux, Mayor

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Betty Arvidson, City Clerk-Treasurer