

PROPOSED MINUTES OF THE CROOKSTON CITY COUNCIL, POLK COUNTY, MINNESOTA. THE SECOND REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 25, 2009, 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: Dana Johnson, Marlys Mjoen, Keith Mykleseth, Wayne Melbye, Dale Stainbrook, Tom Vedbraaten, Guy Martin, and Frank Lindgren.

Council Members absent: None.

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

**CROOKSTON FORUM**

Vern Ogaard, 129 Lincoln Avenue, had a few questions for the Council. He asked if there were plans to raise the water rates this year. Arvidson stated there were no plans to raise water rates for 2010. He also noted that he has an empty lot next to him that the County owns. There was a young man mowing it a couple of weeks ago and he asked who he was working for and the man stated he worked for the City. Ogaard informed the man that the County owned the property and no one has been back since to mow. Ogaard also noted that he had read in the paper about possibly charging a fee for walking at the new arena. He stated he would continue to walk at the Armory for free. He pleaded with the Council to not tax the citizens to death, then asked about the franchise fee and if that was planned to be increased. Mayor Genereux informed Ogaard our franchise fee is at its maximum.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

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

- 6.01 Approve proposed Council Minutes of August 11, 2009.
- 6.02 Approve City of Crookston bills and disbursements in the amount of \$232,057.85. Check Nos. 37869 through 37960. (Res. No. 25117)
- 6.03 Approve authorization to execute Safe and Sober Communities Grant Agreement. (Res. No. 25118)
- 6.04 Approve resolution for the sale of a portion of Block 8 and Block 9, Sampson’s Woodland Addition to the Crookston Housing and Economic Development Authority. (Res. No. 25119)
- 6.05 Approve partial payment estimate No. 2, 2009 Street Improvements, to Gordon Construction of Mahnomen, Inc., in the amount of \$523,114.91. (Res. No. 25120)
- 6.06 Approve amending resolution No. 25085 sale of 129 Mill Street. (Res. No. 25121)
- 6.07 Approve amending resolution No. 25086 sale of 506 Pleasant Avenue. (Res. No. 25122)

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

7.01 Mayor Genereux opened the pubic hearing on a Street Light Utility fee (SLUF) to cover the costs of providing street lights. Arvidson stated the proposed SLUF would be as follows:

Residential	
\$2.50/month	
Commercial (based on average monthly consumption*)	
Top 10% of water consumption	\$15.00/month
Middle 80% of water consumption	\$10.00/month
Bottom 10% of water consumption	\$ 5.00/month

\*Average monthly consumption to be reviewed annually

Apartments	
\$10.00/month	

Council Member Vedbraaten noted that water bills came out this week and as he was delivering them with the mail he noticed that some apartments were individually metered while some get one bill per building. He asked, if they were individually metered would they be charged the \$10.00/month. Kelly stated that even though those individually metered are apartments they are billed as if residential so they would receive the \$2.50/month charge.

Vedbraaten stated the citizens on Tudor Court for example, wanted more lighting, as the existing street lights are behind trees. They had additional lights installed in which they are paying for. So now they will be paying for the additional lights they had installed plus a fee for the existing lights, which they do not feel is adequate. Vedbraaten asked if we will be moving the lights forward in front of the trees. Genereux suggested bringing this to the Street Committee for discussion.

Council Member Lindgren stated he was not against the SLUF, but was not in favor of the rate schedule. He felt the residential rate should be higher, say \$3.00/month and set the commercial rate at \$6.50/month.

David Goosen, 113 Euclid Avenue, stated he has been following the discussion of the SLUF in the paper. He is the owner of a 4-unit apartment and felt it was unfair that he be charged \$10.00/month while those apartments with many units pay the same \$10.00/month. He felt a more equitable way would be for apartments with more units should pay more.

Mayor Genereux asked if anyone else 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 Lindgren, and duly carried to table, “Resolution to approve implementing a Street Light Utility Fee to cover the costs of providing street lights, effective January 1, 2010.” until the September 8, 2009 Council Meeting.
- 8.02 On motion by Council Member Mykleseth, seconded by Council Member Vedbraaten, and duly carried to:  
Approve a variance to reduce the required side yard from 25 feet to 2 feet within Block’s 8 and 9, Sampson’s Woodland Addition. (Res. No. 25123)
- 8.03 On motion by Council Member Mjoen, seconded by Council Member Melbye to introduce an an Ordinance of the City of Crookston, Minnesota, amending City Code Chapter 91, entitled “Animals” by amending Section 91.08 entitled “Nuisances.”  
Second reading and final passage will be held September 8, 2009.

**REPORTS AND STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS**

Rich Clauson, Widseth, Smith, Nolting, and Assoc., reported the 2009 street projects and the electric work on W. Robert should be done by the end of the week. Mykleseth asked about the sodding and Clauson stated that would be completed after Labor Day.

Frank Lindgren, Council Member At-Large	-	No Report
Dana Johnson, Council Member 1 <sup>st</sup> Ward	-	No Report
Marlys Mjoen, Council Member 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ward	-	No Report
Keith Mykleseth, Council Member 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward	-	No Report
Wayne Melbye, Council Member 4 <sup>th</sup> Ward	-	No Report
Dale Stainbrook, Council Member 5 <sup>th</sup> Ward	-	No Report
Tom Vedbraaten, Council Member 6 <sup>th</sup> Ward	-	No Report
Guy Martin, Council Member At-Large	-	No Report

**AJOURNMENT**

Mayor Genereux declared the meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

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David W. Genereux, Mayor

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Betty J. Arvidson, City Clerk-Treasurer