

December 8, 2025

The regular meeting of the Cuyuna City Council was held at 6:00 pm at the Cuyuna Fire Hall. Present were Mayor Brix and council members Haag, Smith, Stockard, and Workman. Also present were Cuyuna Fire Chief Hasskamp, Cuyuna Police Chief Smith, City Engineer Tim Houle, and Clerk-Treasurer Bedard. City Attorney Tom Pearson attended remotely. Mayor Brix led the pledge of allegiance.

Motion by Workman to approve the minutes for the November 10, 2025 council meeting and the November 17, 2025 special council meeting for the MN Paid Leave Act. Second by Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Workman to approve payment of the invoices and forthcoming regular monthly invoices. Second by Haag. Motion carried unanimously.

Fire Chief Report:

- Council reviewed the November fire department activity report. There were 4 fire callouts: 3 in Cuyuna and 1 in Rabbit Lake Township. There were 5 first responder callouts for the month: 3 in Cuyuna and 2 in Wolford Township.
- Fire Department officers were elected and will be the same as in 2025.
- December training will be OSHA blood/borne provided by Vector Solutions.
- Christmas with Santa will be held at the fire hall on December 13 from noon to 3 PM.
- The relief association also donated \$1,500 to the City for the Fire Department Equipment Fund. Council expressed gratitude to the fire department and relief association for the donation.

Water and Sewer Report:

- No reported water or sewer issues for the city lines.

Planning and Zoning Activity Report:

- 5 new home permits were issued in 2025, with a total of 11 land use permits issued in 2025. 6 Septic Subsurface Treatment System permits were issued in 2025.

Police Chief Report:

- Police Chief Smith provided the council with the November activity report. There were 17 traffic warnings, of which 7 were for excess speed, 3 for no proof of insurance, 1 for a stop sign violation, 4 for inoperable headlights, and additional warnings for failure to use the seatbelt and driving with use of a cellphone. Citations were issued for Driving after Revocation of license and Driving with Expired Registration.
- Officers conducted extra patrols on Cottontail Drive, Snowshoe Lane, Getaway Circle, Powder House Road, Agate Shores Road, Fox Run Lane, Oak Lane, Maple Shores Road, Iron Hub Road, Kennedy Drive, Mine Shaft Place, Foothills Drive, Maple Shores Road, and Foley Street.

- CPD and the Snow Serpents put up snow fence on the north and south end of Cuyuna on County Road 31/Minnesota Avenue. The Snow Serpents also put up new signage for the trails and the Woodtick Inn Bar. There are designated and marked snowmobile trails all the way to the Woodtick Inn Bar and the installed snow fencing and signage should help snowmobilers stay off private property.
- Among the monthly activities, CPD took a report of a vehicle versus deer accident on County Road 31 near Forrest Road 22 and a further report of a vehicle versus deer accident on Getaway Circle, responded to a medical call on Kruse Street and assisted the Crosby Ambulance, investigated a suspicious vehicle on Fox Run Lane, received a complaint about suspicious activity on Fox Run Lane and it is under investigation, received a scam call complaint from a resident on Cottontail Drive saying they were being blackmailed for money, received a complaint about a suspicious vehicle driving around Cottontail Drive and investigated the incident, locating the suspicious vehicle and identifying the driver. Officers received a call over vehicle ownership after a relationship break up and advised individuals this was a civil matter and to seek legal advice with a civil attorney.
- CWCSO responded to a welfare check on Tripp Avenue and an intoxicated person refusing to leave a residence on Cottontail Drive.
- Ambulances responded to medicals on Cottontail Drive and Foley Street.
- The Cuyuna Fire Department (CFD) and the Cuyuna Police Department (CPD) handed out candy bars to the Halloween trick or treaters.

Engineering Report:

- Tim Houle, appointed city engineer from Widseth, requested the city to consider Widseth's reappointment at its January meeting.

Campground Report:

- The council will set the campground opening date and the opening date for reservations at its January meeting. There are already individuals requesting reservations for the 2026 season. The City will look at updating its website for ease of use by individuals.

Public Comments:

- No member of the public was present to speak and no comments were received.

Unfinished Business:

- The council will receive an update in January on the outstanding zoning non-compliances.
- Council discussed the Agate Shores Plat property quiet title action.
- **Motion by Stockard for the city attorney to move forward discussion with the attorney for the quiet title petitioner. Second by Workman. Motion carried unanimously.**

New Business:

- Council discussed appointment of a city representative to the Serpent Lake Sanitary Sewer District Board.

- **Motion by Haag to reappoint council member Michael Workman to the Serpent Lake Sanitary Sewer District Board. Second by Smith. Motion carried unanimously.**
- Council reviewed the liquor license renewal for the Woodtick Inn. Police Chief Smith reported the business is compliant. Clerk Treasurer reported the required insurance policy is current.
- **Motion by Haag to approve renewal of the Woodtick Inn liquor license for 2026 with the permit fees the same as in 2025. Off sale \$100, On sale \$1,300, and Sunday liquor \$100. Total 2026 fees of \$1,500. Second by Smith. Motion carried unanimously.**
- City Attorney Tom Pearson requested the council table the rezone request of Vinh Chung for his properties so he could review recent information.
- **Motion by Haag to table the Vinh Chung rezone request until the January 12, 2026 council meeting. Second by Smith. Motion carried unanimously.**
- Council discussed the property split request from David Willie for 23695 Oak Lane. Justin Burslie, Cuyuna Zoning Administrator and Associate Director of Community Development, shared his staff report for the property and recommended approval with no conditions based on his 7 findings of fact.
- **Motion by Stockard to approve the property split for David Willie at 23695 Oak Lane. Second by Smith. Motion carried unanimously.**
- Daria Graupman, Staff Engineer for Crow Wing County Highway Department, was present to share the project information for the 2026 Rabbit Lake bridge replacement. The project covers 600 feet of CSAH31 with 100 feet in the city limits. The bridge will have a 3-section concrete span on steel beams and will be raised 18 inches over the water to allow for better boat travel. The bridge will also have 6-foot shoulders for safer pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The start date will be after July 1, 2026 and the project will take 12-16 weeks to complete. During this construction time all traffic will be rerouted to State Highway #6 with signage between Deerwood and Crosby and Ironton. CSAH31 will have signage prior to North Street in Cuyuna advising vehicles the county road is closed and there is no turnaround for vehicles by the bridge project.
- Council discussed the 2025 expenses and revenues, approved general fund transfers to departments, and the 2026 expenses and revenues. Council agreed to leave the budget and the levies the same as approved for the Preliminary Levies and Budget in September 2025.
- **Motion by Haag to set the 2026 Expense Budget at \$489,545. Second by Workman. Motion carried unanimously.**
- **Motion by Haag to set the 2026 General Levy at \$316,000, the Cuyuna Fire Department Equipment Levy at \$16,000, and the Cuyuna Police Department Equipment Levy at \$16,000. Second by Workman. Motion carried unanimously.**
- The 2026 levy amounts remain the same as the 2025 levy amounts: no increase.

Adjournment:

- **Motion by Workman to adjourn. Second by Haag. Motion carried unanimously. 6:25 pm.**

William F Bedard
Clerk.

Lloyd Brix
Mayor