

May 12, 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, and Workman. Council member Stockard was absent. Also present were City Engineer Tim Houle, Cuyuna Police Chief Smith, City Attorney Pearson, and Clerk-Treasurer Bedard. Mayor Brix led the pledge of allegiance.

**Motion by Workman to approve the minutes for the April 14, 2025 council meeting. Second by Smith. Motion carried unanimously.**

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

**Fire Chief Report:**

- Council reviewed the monthly fire department report. There were 3 first responder callouts for April; 1 in Rabbit Lake Township, 1 in Wolford Township, and 1 in Cuyuna.
- May training will be Low Angle Rope Rescue.

**Water and Sewer Report:**

- No reports of water or sewer issues for the city lines.

**Planning and Zoning Activity Report:**

- One land use permit was issued for a home and several inquiries were received.

**Police Chief Report:**

- Police Chief Smith provided the council with the April activity report. There were 25 traffic warnings.
- Officers conducted extra patrols on Cotton Tail Drive, Snowshoe Lane, Getaway Circle, Powder House Road, Agate Shores Road, Fox Run Lane, Oak Lane, Maple Shores Road, Iron Hub Road, and Kennedy Drive.
- The department assisted the Deerwood and the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office with calls.
- An individual was arrested for driving after cancellation and transported to the Crow Wing County Jail. Vehicle was impounded and license plates seized.
- Officer noticed a garage door and another door open at a home on Maple Shores Road. Contacted the owner to advise. Owner very thankful and secured the doors.
- Officers received several calls from individuals and in review advised the people they were scam calls and not to give out any information to the callers.
- Department received a call from an individual who stated they were "served" papers.
- Department assisted a citizen with information on how to get their fingerprints and fill out paperwork for a firearms dealer.
- The Cuyuna Police Department and the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Department were advised that a predatory offender has moved into Cuyuna on Main Street.

### **Engineering Report:**

- Rural Development/USDA provided comments on the City's Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) and the Environmental Report (ER) submitted just under 3 years ago to review for the future water project. Widseth will review the comments, respond as requested, and absorb the additional costs for the services above the original PER/ER quote to the city. The City will need to start reviewing funding options which would likely be a combination of grants and loans. Potential additional funding entities could be IRRRB, Small Cities Development Program, the Army Corp of Engineering, and legislative bonding. The grant amount would be based upon a formula which determines what the city can afford to pay given its smaller user base. Widseth can provide the city with a proposal for the costs to apply for the various funding options. The city also needs to be listed on the Intended Use Plan and would need to submit the application by June 6, 2025.
- **Motion by Workman for Widseth to submit the Intended Use Plan application for the City. Second by Haag. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Campground Report:**

- RV site reservations are active with most weekends full for June and July. The restrooms, showers, and their vents have been cleaned, grass mowed, and fire pits cleaned.

### **Public Comments:**

- No comments were received.

### **Unfinished Business:**

- The city attorney updated the council on the outstanding zoning ordinance issues. Two are in the court process. Both defendants have a public defender assigned to their case. In the one case a resident is living in a former business in a commercial zone area that does not allow residential use. There is a plea agreement which would allow the person to plead guilty with a stay of adjudication for one year in which the person would need to move out. There is a fine of \$1000 \$500 stayed. The person could apply later to rezone the property to residential. The city would most likely not be reimbursed the legal enforcement costs to date for this case. Mayor Brix and Councilmember Haag restated this property is zoned commercial. The city attorney requested approval for this plea agreement.
- **Motion by Smith for the city attorney to accept the plea agreement. Second by Workman. Motion carried unanimously.**
- The second case the city has in the court system is the storage shed moved onto a resident's property. The resident contested needing a permit. A permit is required.
- No improvements were visible to the property owner on Foley Street regarding the non-compliance with the city's Nuisance Ordinance on Foley Street. Council will review at the June meeting.
- Councilmember Haag requested a letter be sent to a property owner who has several nonfunctional vehicles sitting on the property.

### **New Business:**

- Council discussed property in the Agate Lake Shores Plat. A quiet title was initiated by a resident to obtain ownership of a piece of property next to his two lots. When the plat was created in 1946 a small parcel was left open south of the resident's 2 lots as shown on the plat. Possibly for a walkway, access to the lake for the park which is on the plat. However, a house and septic system were constructed on this open parcel back in 1997 as no survey was completed. A recent survey was completed, showing the house is fully on this open parcel. The current house owner initiated the quiet title to obtain ownership for the open parcel. The council discussed the issue, noting that it was created years ago, but believes it is public property and would still like to keep access to the lake for its park in the plat and its residents. The city attorney will talk with the other person's attorney for a possible solution.
- Council gave approval to hire a part-time seasonal person to help with the campground maintenance.
- Council discussed the purchase of a new lawn mower for the city boulevards and campground for just under \$5,900. The current old city lawn mower could be sold for between \$1200 and \$2,000.
- **Motion by Haag to purchase the new lawn mower. Second by Smith. Motion carried unanimously.**

### **Adjournment:**

- **Motion by Haag to adjourn. Second by Workman. Motion carried unanimously. 7:53PM.**

William F Bedard  
Clerk.

Lloyd Brix  
Mayor