

November 10, 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 Smith and Workman. Council member Haag attended remotely. Council member Stockard was absent. 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 Smith to approve the minutes for the October 13, 2025 public hearing and regular council meeting. Second by Haag. 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 six first responder callouts for the month; 1 in Cuyuna, 4 in Rabbit Lake Township, 1 in Wolford Township. There were two fire call outs in the City of Cuyuna and one in Rabbit Lake Township.
- November training will be on Air Monitoring/CO calls through FIRE Inc
- The department received a \$20,000 matching grant from Sourcewell for turnout gear and boots.
- Christmas with Santa will be held at the fire hall on December 13 from noon to 3 PM.
- The 1st annual Cuyuna Fall Festival was very successful and well received by the community with many compliments. Extra runs were made to get additional hot dogs and buns for this fun event. The touch-a-truck event was popular, 18 pies were entered for the judging contest, ice cream sundaes with maple syrup were in demand, and fun Halloween costumes were seen for the contest.
- 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 donations.

Water and Sewer Report:

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

Planning and Zoning Activity Report:

- 4 home permits have been issued to date with 2 more applications in review.

Police Chief Report:

- Police Chief Smith provided the council with the October activity report. There were 14 traffic warnings, of which 12 were for excess speed, 1 for no proof of insurance, and 1 for failure to use the turn signal. There was an additional citation for speed and one for no driver's license.
- 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.

- Among the monthly activities, officers received a report of possible squatters in a home, a report of multiple deer carcasses around County Road Forest 22 which was turned over to the MN DNR, provided welfare checks on County Road 31 and on Agate Shores road, checked on a vehicle hidden off County Road Forest 22 and all was ok, completed background checks for the Cuyuna Fall Festival, received complaints of vehicles traveling at higher speeds through Cuyuna now that the 30MPH speed zone has been shortened by the county, received driving complaints for the intersection of North Street and Iron Hub Road, a complaint about a large number of cats in a home, and a report of a metal post protruding out of the roadway on Foley Street.
- The stop sign at North Street and Iron Hub Road is installed.
- CPD provided overnight security at Ruttger's Bay Lake Lodge Oktoberfest.
- A Cuyuna Officer went to the Cuyuna Range Elementary School to read to kids for the "reading pals" program.
- Officers participated in the 1st annual Cuyuna Fall Festival. Great community reception. Chief Smith noted the hayrides were busy throughout the day, many kids enjoyed the pumpkin carving event, the remote-control robot dog from the sheriff's department drew a lot of attention, and the drone operated by Jackie Brix provided some great views of the event for people to see. Chief Smith said there was great teamwork for this first time ever event.
- Chief Smith obtained at no charge, officer tactical helmets, a Motorola camera for a squad car, and a lifesaving device which blows up and can be thrown to someone who falls through the ice.
- Councilmember Workman mentioned it is nice to see the police around the bus stops when children are getting picked up. Chief Smith shared the department is doing more of that and monitoring vehicle speed on the side roads.
- CPD provided agency assistance to the Deerwood PD with a stolen vehicle and arrest at the Deerwood Holiday Gas Station, the CWCSO with a medical response on Cottontail Drive, and the Crosby PD with a disturbance near Subway and a medical on Main Street.

Engineering Report:

- No update from Rural Development on the review for the future city water project. Widseth will be helping the City with the next phase of the Lead Service Line Inventory Survey which may lead to another round for funding replacement of any lead service lines which could take place during the future water system replacement project.

Campground Report:

- The campground is closed and the water supply winterized.

Public Comments:

- No comments were received.

Unfinished Business:

- Council received an update on the outstanding zoning non-compliances for the bus on Cottontail Drive and the unpermitted shed on Kruse Street. The city attorney will send a letter to the property owner of the bus on Cottontail Drive. The City attorney will also follow up on

the required action for the property being used as a residence in a commercial zone district. The property owner previously accepted the plea agreement conditions to resolve the matter in court but has not done so. Additionally, the time allowed to request a rezoning application has passed. The city Attorney will send a letter to the property owner to vacate immediately and go back to court to have the court reinstate the conviction. The council discussed the increased number of vehicles and items stored outside the property. If these are in violation of the city ordinances, the city would need to review with the City Zoning Administrator.

- Council discussed the Agate Shores Road quiet title property. The city attorney has been in discussion with the attorney for the quiet title petitioner. The paperwork for the quiet title action needed to be redone and the city has yet to be officially served notice. The city previously approved the city attorney to contest the quiet title, but no action is needed pending the city receiving the quiet title papers.

New Business:

- The city will send out a second letter required by the MN Department of Health (MDH) as part of its requirements for the Lead Service Line Inventory Survey. The first letter and survey identified the service line material for the property owners' private portion of the water service line. This second letter shares that the city portion of the water lines is listed as "unknown" as it was installed in 1910-12. While probably not lead or galvanized, the MDH requires the city water system material to be listed as "unknown." The city does not know what the next steps will be but is hopeful the MDH will provide funding sources for any additional steps required of the city.

Adjournment:

- **Motion by Smith to adjourn. Second by Workman. Motion carried unanimously. 6:31 pm.**

William F Bedard
Clerk.

Lloyd Brix
Mayor