

April 13, 2026

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, Stockard, and Workman. Council member Haag attended remotely. Also present were Cuyuna Fire Chief Hasskamp, City Engineer Tim Houle, Zoning Administrator Justin Burslie, and Clerk-Treasurer Bedard. Cuyuna Police Chief Smith and City Attorney Tom Pearson attended remotely.

Mayor Brix led the pledge of allegiance.

Motion by Workman to approve the minutes for the March 9, 2026 regular council meeting. Second by Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Fire Chief Report:

- Council reviewed the monthly fire department report. There was one fire call in Cuyuna, and three First Responder calls in Rabbit Lake Township. April training will be fire hose testing.

Water and Sewer Report:

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

Planning and Zoning Activity Report:

- Two permits were issued in March: one for a deck and one for an accessory structure. Justin Burslie introduced Nicole Hausmann from Sourcewell. Primary zoning administration will be transitioning from Justin to Nicole in the near future.

Police Chief Report:

- Police Chief Smith provided the council with the March activity report. There were 43 various traffic stop warnings including 18 for speed and 10 for expired registration. A citation was issued for speed and another for failure to provide proof of insurance.
- Officers conducted extra patrols on Cotton Tail Drive, Snowshoe Lane, Getaway Circle, Cuyuna Campground, Powder House Road, Agate Shores Road, Fox Run Lane, Oak Lane, Maple Shores Road, Iron Hub Road, Mine Shaft Place, Trail Track Lane, and Kennedy Drive.
- Among the monthly activities and calls, CPD officer checked on a suspicious vehicle parked on the snowmobile trail off of County Road 31, responded to a burning brush pile on Getaway Circle, placed an orange cone on top of a sunken manhole cover, responded to a request for information on the proper eviction process from a house, responded to a grass fire on Trail Track Lane, removed pine tree branches from County Road 31 that had fallen from a truck blocking traffic, and addressed a report of individuals living in an RV in violation of city ordinances.

- Officers provided several agency assists to the Crosby Police Department, Deerwood Police Department, and Crow Wing County Sheriff's Department. Agency assists were for a domestic situation with a gun, a disturbance on County Road 12, a welfare check, a response to an alarm at CRMC, a shoplifter call, a medical emergency, and a warrant service attempt.
- Cuyuna Police Department, along with area agencies, escorted the Lakes Area Hockey Team going to the Mn State Tournament. The escort started at the Cuyuna Fire Hall and traveled through Crosby, Ironton, and Deerwood.
- Cuyuna police officers read books to the kids at "Reading Pals" at the Cuyuna Range Elementary School.
- Chief Smith is training on the 365 Labs; the new county wide computer system being tested for a go live date early 2027.

Engineering Report:

- City Engineer Tim Houle provided information on the recent water tower inspection which may require maintenance to be addressed prior to the new tower that is in the water system project plans. Mr. Houle will discuss with the MN Department of Health whether there are options to advance the water tower project or resources for work on the existing water tower. The city water infrastructure and tower are over 100 years old; dating back to the 1910s. The city initiated an investigation into a potential water system replacement several years ago after a successful replacement of its sewer system infrastructure and is currently moving forward with Rural Development questions on the submitted Preliminary Engineering Report(PER) and the Environmental Report(ER).

Campground Report:

- The picnic tables will be reviewed for repairs in April and digital locks for the showers will be installed for the campers' use.

Public Comments:

- No public comments.

Unfinished Business:

- The city attorney will follow up on the non-compliance of a business which is using the property for residential use, a violation of the city ordinance, and for which there is an existing court order prohibiting residential use of the property. After his review, the city attorney can request a revocation of the stay of adjudication and proceed with a contempt of court order. If there are additional issues such as vehicles not in compliance with city ordinances, he can address them. Regarding the non-compliance for the accessory structure, an unpermitted shed, he will move this case forward in the court system. Additionally, he will seek a misdemeanor charge for the non-compliant bus vehicle on Cottontail Drive. A court conference will be held to discuss the quiet title petition for property on Agate Shores. The city does not need to attend, but he will attend remotely.

- **New Business:**

- The council received a complaint about people living in a camper on a property on Kruse Street. City Zoning Administrator will review and issue an enforcement letter for non-compliance.
- The council received a sketch and information from people interested in subdividing property on the Rabbit Lake West Bowl. Brad Holmwig, one of the three property owners, was present. Approximately 40 acres are involved, some are zoned Residential 1 (R1) for single- and two-family homes, and some are zoned Open(O) which would require rezoning for any type of development.

Justin Burslie provided a history of the city process for planned developments. The information for this meeting was for concept discussion only and no action required by the council. Mr. Burslie reported there are 5 parcels involved, some are non-riparian and zoned Open (O). The current concept for the subdivision would not work given the properties involved are in different zoning classifications. Additionally, with the current concept sketch, Crow Wing County would require a turn lane and bypass for an entrance/exit from the development onto the county road.

Councilmember Stockard noted there is state trust land there and that the Minnesota DNR recently formally objected to a rezoning request in that area of property. Mr. Holmwig shared he was in no hurry to move forward with this concept and might proceed with subdividing his property which is zoned Residential 1(R1), The other property owner might move forward with a rezoning request for his Open (O) property. Justin Burslie noted a cul-de-sac would need to be included in a future subdivision of the R1 property.

- Clerk-Treasurer Bedard reported on the updates to the city's Wellhead Protection Plan which is required by the Minnesota Department of Health every 10 years. He will also be completing the annual update to the service line inventory for the city water system. He reported on the Land Use Essential Training provided by Sourcewell and the grant opportunities Sourcewell offers to cities.
- Police Chief Smith and the clerk-treasurer attended a meeting for the Unified Preventative Maintenance Program for Emergency Warning Sirens in Crow wing County. There are over 50 emergency warning sirens of different ages and maintenance requirements within the county. Also, there are several methods to set the siren. The County is looking at options to upgrade to one system tied together and one way to initiate the siren call.
- The Clerk-Treasurer will attend the Crow Wing County Pre-Election Clerks Meeting. The City uses mail in ballots and there is no state change foreseen in this year's elections for this type of balloting.
- Darla Graupman, Staff Engineer Crow Wing County Highway Department, will attend the May council meeting and provide a schedule update for the bridge replacement on CSAH#31 and detour information.

Adjournment:

- **Motion by Workman to adjourn. Second Smith. Motion carried unanimously. 6:36 PM.**

William F Bedard
Clerk

Lloyd Brix
Mayor