

January 12, 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 Haag, Smith and Stockard remotely, and Workman. Also present were Cuyuna Police Chief Smith, City Planning & Zoning Administrator Justin Burslie, City Engineer Tim Houle, Cuyuna Fire Department Officer Jake Kewatt, 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 December 8, 2025 public hearing meeting and the December 8, 2025 regular council meeting. Second by Workman. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Fire Chief Report:

- Council reviewed the monthly fire department report. There was one First Responder call out and one Fire call out, both in Cuyuna. In January the department will train on OSHA Blood-borne presented Vector Solutions.

Water and Sewer Report:

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

Planning and Zoning Activity Report:

- The city issued 12 Land Use Permits, and 6 Subsurface Treatment System(SSTS) permits in 2025.

Police Chief Report:

- Police Chief Smith provided the council with the December activity report. There were 10 traffic stop 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, Mine Shaft Place, and Kennedy Drive.
- Among the monthly activities and calls, officers responded to complaints of a suspicious van style vehicle driving up and down Foley Street and Roosevelt Avenue, conducted a background check for a liquor license to a business in Cuyuna, checked out a report of a fire on Getaway Circle and all was ok, acted on a report of a stray dog on Minnesota Avenue, locating the owner to bring the dog home and also advising of the city's ordinances. Officers further responded to a suspicious activity report of bare footprints on a deck next to a resident's window, a CRMC ambulance response to a medical on Foley Street, cleaned up vehicle debris in middle of

Minnesota Avenue and Main Street in front of Gopher Tackle. It appeared to be a motor vehicle accident but not reported.

- Officers provided agency assists with a disturbance on County Road 30, assisted the Crosby PD with a warrant attempt on 1st Street NE, and the CWCSO with a parking complaint on Agate Lake Road.
- Cuyuna Officers also participated in “reading pals” at the CRES school.
- The Snow Serpents put up new signage and snow fence on the north and south ends of Cuyuna to help instruct snowmobilers to stay on the trails and off private property and sidewalks.

Engineering Report:

- No new information for city review.

Campground Report:

- The council will discuss possible improvements to the campground in early 2026.

Public Comments:

- Matt Steele, Cuyuna resident, thanked the council and mayor for their services and said he would be available to offer any assistance it needed. Noting in the spirit of the new year, he shared some ideas that could help engage community members. He suggested publishing the council meeting agendas on the city website, providing contact information for the council members and mayor on the website, possibility of live streaming the city meetings, and maybe a newsletter.

Unfinished Business:

- The city attorney will review outstanding open zoning non-compliances for the February council meeting.
- The city attorney will review information recently received regarding the quiet title action property on Agate Lake Shores Plat and update the council at its February meeting.
- The council reviewed the rezone request of Vinh Chung for PID 19300581 and 19300598 from “O” Open to “R2”. The City received a letter from the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources on the day of the public hearing formally objecting to the rezoning and the city needed to review, research, and consider information contained in the letter related to the rezone request.
- **Motion by Stockard to not approve the zoning request of Vinh Chung for PID 19300581 and 19300598 from “O” Open to “R2”, predicated on the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources’ formal objection that changes from Open Development/Extraction to R-2 Single and Two-Family Residential raises significant concerns regarding the long-term mineral management, land-use compatibility, and the State’s fiduciary obligations to the School Trust and local taxing districts. Additionally, the change is not compatible with the land uses and zoning classifications of the surrounding properties, which are primarily utilized for single-family residential purposes. Second by Smith. Motion carried with Brix, Haag, Smith, and Stockard voting to not approve the zoning request and Workman voting to approve the zoning request.**

New Business:

- Council discussed the 2026 City reorganization. Councilmember Haag shared he believed there is a benefit for all council members to experience the role of acting mayor.
- **Motion by Haag for Jake Stockard to be the acting Mayor and the city to keep the appointments and meeting date and time the same as in 2025. Motion second by Smith. Motion carried.**

Meeting Date	Second Monday of each month at 6pm.
Acting Mayor	Jake Stockard
Fire Chief	Karl Hasskamp
Asst. Fire Chief	Zach Brix
Official Newspapers	Crosby-Ironton Courier, NewsHopper
Official Depositories	Unity Bank of Crosby, Deerwood Bank
Board of Trustees Cuyuna Fire Relief Assoc.	Lloyd Brix, Bill Bedard
Cuyuna Economic Development Authority	Full Council and Mayor
Joint Powers Economic Development Authority	Full Council and Mayor
Serpent Lake Sanitary Sewer District	Lloyd Brix, Mike Workman
City Attorney	Tom Pearson Gammello-Pearson
City Engineer	Tim Houle Widseth
Zoning/Planning	Sourcewell
LMC Agent	Koop Insurance

- City discussed opening dates for the city campground.
- **Motion by Stockard to set the opening date for the campground as May 15, 2026 and the opening date for online reservations as January 30, 2026. Second by Haag. Motion carried unanimously.**
- Council discussed the League of Minnesota Cities Insurance Trust's liability coverage and tort limits.
- **Motion by Smith to NOT waive the statutory tort limits for the City policies. Second by Haag. Motion carried unanimously.**

Adjournment:

- **Motion by Smith to adjourn. Second by Haag. Motion carried unanimously. 6:35PM.**

William F Bedard
Clerk

Lloyd Brix
Mayor