

SPECIAL PUBLIC GATHERING
May 2, 1987 at the Community Center
2:00 p.m.

The City Council of Crosslake Minnesota met in a special public gathering on Saturday, May 2, 1987 at the Community Center. The following members were present: Mayor Oliver Courts and Councilmembers Libby Andolshek, Lyle Arends and Diana Gallaway. Absent was Councilmember Oliver Yates. Also present were Funding and Future Development Commission Members Harold Johnson and Gary Fable.

Mayor Courts called this special public gathering to order at 2:00 p.m. and stated the primary purpose for this gathering was to answer questions about the remodeling, building new or purchase of the Unique Boutique Building for City Hall. Mayor Courts thanked everyone present for coming and stated that this was not a public hearing but everyone who had something to say would be heard.

Questions were asked about the limited parking at the Unique Boutique and if any adjoining land might be purchased to accommodate additional parking spaces. Mayor Courts said there is approximately four parking spaces on the East end of the building, twelve parking spaces in front and spaces for ten or twelve cars on the South side of the lot next to the television store. He indicated there is also parking allowed on both sides of the street. He indicated that he felt that should be sufficient parking for most meetings and that large meetings would still be held at the Community Center.

One citizen asked about the placement of the Unique Boutique Building on the land and said it appeared to be too close to the road to meet zoning requirements. A former Councilmember said he was on the Council when the permit was issued for the Unique Boutique and he does not think that the building that was built is the same one that was applied for on the permit.

Another comment was that if the building is not placed legally on the property, the City should not think about purchasing it for City Hall.

After much discussion, Harold Johnson said he could hear two things that kept coming up and they are water in the basement and if the building is durable. Mr. Johnson said that there is absolutely no signs of water in the basement at present and no signs on the walls that there ever has been water in the basement. As far as being durable, according to Mr. Johnson there are no cracks in any of the walls that would indicate that the building is settling and it probably would have by now since it has been there for five years. Mayor Courts stated that he felt the same way about the durability of the building and he was also pleased that the building has a full basement which can be used for storage or future expansion.

A citizen asked how much it would cost for remodeling if the Unique Boutique was purchased and was informed that remodeling would be minimal since there were only a couple walls to be added and a handicapped ramp built outside the building.

Discussion turned to the present City Hall and the remodeling. A citizen asked about future expansion including the fire department, street department

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and equipment being housed under one roof. The possibility of putting a basement under the new portion of City Hall was also discussed. Mr. Johnson said that with the cost estimates they received it would not be economically feasible to excavate so close to an existing structure. Another citizen asked why City Hall could not be remodeling and brought up to date. Mayor Courts said that is why they mailed out the survey forms to get the feeling of the majority of the citizens.

Another citizen replied that the present City Hall is structurally sound and could last for a hundred years with a little remodeling and the balance of the money could go for a grader, front end loader, fire truck or some other thing that the City would need.

Councilman Arends said that approximately fifteen to seventeen thousand dollars was spent to remodel and insulate the roof not too many years ago and he felt that we should do a little more remodeling and keep using it.

Another citizen commented on tearing down the existing City Hall and building new on the same location. He indicated that he was on a committee a few years ago and they determined that the citizens want City Hall to remain at its present location. He said that with the \$166,000.00 available this year and with another \$40,000.00 from next years budget the building would be paid for and at a location that is favorable to everyone and without a substantial increase in taxes.

Another citizen asked if anyone had ever considered moving City Hall to the Community Center. A gentleman who had been on a previous committee to determine the needs of the City said their committee found that the least favorable location for City Hall would be at the Community Center.

A citizen asked why the Council did not put this as a referendum. Councilmember Gallaway said a referendum would cost a great deal of money and then all the taxpayers would not have been able to voice an opinion. Mayor Courts said there were many favorable comments on the forms which had been returned indicating that the people liked the idea of having a voice in what was happening.

Councilmember Arends stated that he felt the only ones who should be allowed to have any input are the voters in the City.

Mayor Courts asked how the citizens present felt the Council should vote after the survey was complete and counted. It was the consensus of the citizens present that the Council should vote the way the survey results came back because that would represent the people in the fairest way.

With no further comments to be heard Mayor Courts adjourned this public gathering at 3:10 p.m. and again thanked everyone for coming.

Recorded and transcribed by:



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City Clerk/Treasurer