

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
CROSSLAKE, MINNESOTA
REGULAR COUNCIL SESSION
November 10, 1986 at City Hall

The City Council of Crosslake, Minnesota, met in a regular session on Monday, November 10, 1986 in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The following members were present: Mayor August Mezzenga, and Councilmen Robert Allen, Oliver Courts, Orval Nelson and Oliver Yates. There were approximately 15 members of the community present.

Mayor Mezzenga called this regular council session to order at 7:30 p.m.

II. CONSENT CALENDAR - Minutes of public hearing and regular council session on October 14, 1986; Minutes of the special council session on October 29, 1986; Clerk/Treasurer's financial report for October; Telephone Company's financial report for October; and Cablevision's financial report for October.

Councilman Allen made a motion and then withdrew the motion. Councilman Nelson said he had a correction to Motion No. 10-11-86 whereby the \$40,000.00 would be placed in a fund for the City Hall Project and not remodeling fund. MOTION NO. 11-01-86 TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALENDAR WITH THE CHANGING OF THE WORK "REMODELING" TO THE WORK "PROJECT" IN MOTION NO. 10-11-86 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN NELSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN COURTS. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

III. NEW BUSINESS

Nothing

IV. CLERK'S REPORT

MOTION NO. 11-02-86 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN COURTS TO PAY INVOICES FOR: WIDSETH SMITH NOLTING AND ASSOCIATES FOR \$2,294.53; FITZPATRICK, LARSON AND FITZPATRICK FOR \$564.19; AND GENTECH DESIGN, INC. FOR \$850.00. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN NELSON AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION NO. 11-03-86 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN NELSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN COURTS TO CERTIFY THE DEBT SERVICE LEVY TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR FOR THE ROAD PROJECT FOR \$57,355. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Clerk Arlene Buchite said she had received two requests for hardship cases relating to the assessment project for the roads. She had spoken to the City Attorney who had informed her that if a hardship claim was filed, it would simply defer payment until a later time, such as death or sale of the house. A hardship case would not relieve the liability of the assessment.

V. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Mezzenga stated he had no formal report but that he wanted to congratulate all the newly elected members of the Council and wish them well in their years of service to the City of Crosslake.

VI. COMMISSION REPORTS

A. Building

Councilman Nelson said he had spoken to Bill Meyer from Gentech Design, Inc. and that they were ready to present a contract for building plans for the

new City Hall. Mr. Nelson said that with a new Council taking over in January, he felt that anything further on building plans should be postponed until that time. MOTION NO. 11-04-86 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN NELSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN COURTS TO POSTPONE ANY FURTHER PROGRESS ON THE BUILDING PLANS FOR THE NEW COUNCIL. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

B. Cemetery

Councilman Courts said he had gotten some rough estimates for the split rail fencing at the Cemetery and that it would run around \$850 installed but that would not include the sign. Discussion ensued as to whether a fence was needed and if a fence was needed because of the snowmobilers, would gates be needed. Councilman Courts said he had not seen the gates to the cemetery closed at any time since he has lived in the area. Lyle Arends said he had obtained some pipe that could be used to put the sign up but it was the consensus of the Council that if a wood fence is installed the sign should also be wood. The fence issue was tabled until another meeting.

C. Park

Park Director Felber said she had been approached by a Green Thumb worker about working for the City. Green Thumb is a federal program for employing the farmers or rural people at minimum wage to supplement their income. Ms. Felber stated she could use him at the Park a couple days a week and the third day he could clean City Hall and the garage to make up the 24 hours a week they usually work. This was tabled until personnel liaison Nelson has a chance to check it out more thoroughly. Mr. Nelson said he is normally not in favor of such programs because the government usually wants the City to hire this person after their initial 6 months or year is up. Ms. Felber said she did not believe this was the case with this program but she would check it out.

D. Personnel

Councilman Nelson said the Council had received a letter addressed to Telephone Manager Anthony Mayer regarding the proposed union negotiated benefits. Mayor Mezzenga stated that there were a number of demands in the letter including a 6½ percent increase in salary. Mayor Mezzenga also noted an article from the newspaper indicating that major unions are settling for average first year weekly pay raises of 1.3 percent. Mr. Nelson said that he would be in favor of rejecting the proposed changes in the contract including the 6½ percent salary increase. MOTION NO. 11-05-86 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN NELSON TO REJECT THE AMENDMENTS TO THE AGREEMENT AS PROPOSED BY UNION LOCAL 949 IN LETTER DATED OCTOBER 13, 1986 WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ITEM NO. 7 WHICH WE WILL OFFER A FIFTEEN CENT AN HOUR RAISE FOR EACH YEAR OF THE TWO YEAR AGREEMENT. MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN ALLEN AND PASSED. COUNCILMAN COURTS VOTED NAY. Councilman Courts asked why the other City employees should be given a twenty cent an hour raise and the telephone company employees only a fifteen cent raise. Councilman Nelson said this is only the beginning negotiations. Mayor Mezzenga stated he does not want to see the gap widened between the Telephone and other City employees, all City employees should receive the same benefits.

E. Planning and Zoning

Nothing

F. Public Safety

Nothing

G. Roads

Clerk Buchite said she had received an inquiry regarding the load limit posted to Dream Island. She said the person inquiring said that a truck that pumped cess pools refused to go over the bridge and the inquirer wondered what would happen if fuel oil trucks and other trucks performing vital services refused to cross the bridge. It was stated that the bridge has been posted for some time now and trucks do cross it. Clerk Buchite was directed to contact Duane Blank at the Crow Wing County Highway Department to see if any funds would be available for bridges.

Road liaison Yates said that Pat Hoag had asked about purchasing a new blade for the plowtruck. He said the County just scraps them when they get that bad and buys a new one. MOTION NO. 11-06-86 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN NELSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN YATES TO PURCHASE A NEW BLADE FOR THE SNOW PLOW AT APPROXIMATELY \$580.00. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Bruce Buxton from Widseth Smith Nolting and Associates was present to request final payment for the road project contractor. Dene Carney said the patch on Sunrise Boulevard was alright. Mr. Carney said it should keep the water off the roadway. Councilman Courts said he does not think it looks good but it probably will suffice. MOTION NO. 11-07-86 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN ALLEN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN NELSON TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND APPROVE FINAL PAYMENT TO TRI-CITY PAVING FOR \$3,479.96. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

H. Telephone Company

MOTION NO. 11-18-86 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN NELSON AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN COURTS FOR APPROVAL FOR TWO TELEPHONE COMMISSION MEMBERS TO ATTEND THE MFA FALL CONFERENCE IN ST. CLOUD. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY. Manager Mayer said the new building is coming along fine, that the concrete is poured and basic construction has begun. Poor reception on Channel 6 was discussed briefly.

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Police Department

Nothing

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

NOTHING

IX. PUBLIC FORUM

Libby Andonshek said she would like to make a comment on the salary increases and she felt the City employees got shafted.

Lyle Arends said Mrs. Bertha Newcomb had called him regarding the road project and that she had not realized that she should have appealed her assessment. One of her neighbors had theirs cut from 500 feet to 250 feet. Mayor Mezzenga explained that the appeal process is past and that a person would have to go to court to get any changes made. Clerk Buchite indicated she had spoken to this woman and had spoken to our City Attorney. Mr. Fitzpatrick said that for a hardship case the assessment would not be

forgiven but would simply be deferred until a later date such as the selling of a home or the death of the property owner. Mr. Fitzpatrick said the time for appeal was long past. Clerk Buchite said Mrs. Newcomb had requested the right to pay one-half of the assessment due and place the other half on her property taxes.

Don Coulter also commented on the salary increases by saying that he found it rather curious, that historically, in periods of high national inflation, the Council says this is Crosslake, it does not mean a thing to us and in periods of low national inflation and low salary increases the national averages are the Council's gospel for Crosslake.

X. ADJOURN

Councilman Nelson said he had a meeting to attend on the eighth of December and would like to have the Council meeting a little earlier than usual. It was the consensus of the Council that the meeting should begin at 6 p.m. MOTION NO. 11-09-86 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN ALLEN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN NELSON TO ADJOURN THIS REGULAR COUNCIL SESSION AT 8:20 P.M. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

Recorded and transcribed by:



Arlene A. Buchite
City Clerk/Treasurer