

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING  
CITY OF CROSSLAKE  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2018  
8:00 A.M. – CITY HALL

The Council for the City of Crosslake met in a special session on Wednesday, December 19, 2018. The following Council Members were present: Mayor Patty Norgaard, Dave Schrupp, Gary Heacox, Brad Nelson and Dave Nevin. Also present were City Administrator Mike Lyonais, City Clerk Char Nelson, Public Works Director Ted Strand, Police Chief Erik Lee, Park Director TJ Graumann, Land Service Specialist Jon Kolstad, and Northland Press Reporter Bill Monroe. There was one person in the audience.

Mayor Norgaard called the meeting to order at 8:02 A.M. and turned the meeting over to Mike Lyonais. Mike Lyonais reported that the negotiating team of Gary Heacox, Dave Schrupp, Attorney Jessica Durbin and himself met with AFSCME representative and employees on December 10<sup>th</sup> and that by the end of the day, both teams agreed to a contract. The new contract begins January 1, 2019 and ends December 31, 2021. Mr. Lyonais reviewed the new wage scale included in the contract, noting that steps 1-5 on the current scale were deleted and 5 new steps were added. Many steps on the current schedule were below minimum wage. Mr. Lyonais compared the scale to League of MN Cities job classifications and found it to be within pennies of current market.

Other changes included language updates to comply with State law, increase in clothing allowance from \$300 to \$500, and increase hours of vacation time carryover from 120 hours to 128 hours.

Union employees asked that the City establish a safety committee to consider such things as adding a washer/dryer at the shop for employees who work in the sewer plant and with pesticides/chemicals to use for their work clothes.

Dave Schrupp asked that employees purchase similar clothing and suggested that the City pay to have City logo embroidered on clothing. All council members were in favor of this idea.

Ted Strand stated that his employees were happy with the negotiating committee and how the process worked.

MOTION 12S1-01-18 WAS MADE BY BRAD NELSON AND SECONDED BY GARY HEACOX TO APPROVE LABOR CONTRACT BETWEEN CITY OF CROSSLAKE AND AFSCME, AFL-CIO, LOCAL UNION #689 FOR THE PERIOD OF 1/1/19-12/31/21. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

TJ Graumann and Dave Schrupp demonstrated the use of Skype. Some council members will be out of town this winter and would like to participate in council meetings via Skype. Mike Lyonais reviewed State law regarding the use of Skype at meetings. A lengthy discussion ensued.

Dave Nevin cautioned that if council members are out of town, they don't know what is happening in the community. Mike Lyonais replied that social media keeps people connected. Brad Nelson added that council members intend to attend meetings and that he understands the concerns, but

that Skype is the way of the future. Dave Nevin argued that people are not engaged in the community if they are out of town. Gary Heacox stated that Skype works for businesses but not cities. Mr. Heacox suggested that only two members be able to Skype in for a meeting. State law requires that only one member be physically present at a meeting to use Skype. Dave Schrupp reported that many surrounding cities use this technology for their meetings. Mr. Schrupp has already served four years on the Council and has a good attendance record. Mr. Schrupp had to make his vacation plans in May for this winter, long before he knew if he would win the election. Jon Kolstad stated that the military has been using this technology for 15 years. MOTION 12S2-02-18 WAS MADE BY PATTY NORGAARD AND SECONDED BY DAVE NEVIN TO ALLOW THE USE OF SKYPE IN THE EVENT OF COUNCIL MEMBER ABSENCE FOR CITY MEETINGS AS LONG AS TWO MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ARE PHYSICALLY PRESENT. Dave Nevin asked what would happen if there were bad weather and the connection failed. Mike Lyonais replied that the City would have bigger problems to deal with if the weather was so bad that service was out. Dave Nevin said he is willing to give this a try and change the policy later if issues arise. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

There being no further business at 8:45 A.M., Mayor Norgaard adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Charlene Nelson  
Administrative Assistant/City Clerk