

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF CROSSLAKE
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2018
8:15 A.M. – CITY HALL

The Council for the City of Crosslake met for a special meeting on Friday, September 21, 2018. The following Council Members were present: Gary Heacox, Dave Schrupp, Brad Nelson and Dave Nevin. Patty Norgaard was absent. Also present were City Administrator Mike Lyonais, City Clerk Char Nelson, Public Works Director Ted Strand, Police Chief Erik Lee, Fire Chief Chip Lohmiller, Northland Press Reporter Bill Monroe, and Council Candidates Aaron Herzog, Clay Porter, and John Andrews. There were approximately thirteen people in the audience.

Deputy Mayor Gary Heacox called the meeting to order at 8:15 A.M. and announced that the Council would take a tour of the property and buildings next door which are for sale.

The meeting reconvened at 8:40 A.M. in City Hall.

Police Chief Erik Lee stated that the property is great but wasn't sure if the buildings would serve the City. 5 Bugles has reviewed the space needs of the City and developed a building that would last 40-50 years of growth.

Dave Nevin stated that this is a once in a lifetime opportunity for the City to acquire five plus acres of land adjacent to City Hall. Mr. Nevin added that it could work as a temporary office if City Hall is remodeled or rebuilt and the City could sell it later.

Fire Chief Chip Lohmiller stated that the property would have no benefit to the fire department because they need more space.

Business owner Linda Randall suggested that the City could rent the buildings for employee housing or youth hostel for seasonal workers.

Dave Schrupp stated that he needed more information to make a good decision and added that he would like to see the presentation from 5 Bugles first.

Dave Nevin stated that he didn't think the current footprint of City Hall was big enough for a remodel.

Paul Hiniker, owner of the adjacent property, stated that the Old Fire Hall was built first as a youth center. The back building was built specifically for the school. The last appraisal of the property came in at 1.5 million. Mr. Hiniker stated that he is asking \$900,000 and that there are other interested parties.

Brad Nelson stated that it would be great to have more land next to City Hall but was unsure if the buildings would be of any use. Mr. Nelson stated that he is not in favor of the City renting out property.

Tom Schreiber stated that this is a unique opportunity for the City and that it made sense for the City to purchase it because it was a good price.

Business owner Pat Netko stated that the land alone is valuable to the City and could sell off part of it later. Ms. Netko asked where the funds to purchase the land would come from.

Mike Lyonais noted that the estimated value from the County is much lower than the asking price. The City could bond or use existing cash from the proceeds of the phone company sale. The estimated cost to remodel City Hall or to demo and rebuild were very close.

A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the value of the land to the City and whether the buildings could be remodeled for use by the City, whether the City could divide and sell the land, and whether it made it sense to purchase the land and remove the buildings. Brad Nelson noted that if the lot was empty, the cost would be much less than \$900,000.

MOTION 09S1-01-18 WAS MADE BY DAVE SCHRUPP AND SECONDED BY BRAD NELSON TO DIRECT DAVE NEVIN TO ASK HY-TEC CONSTRUCTION TO LOOK AT BUILDINGS TO DETERMINE IF THEY COULD BE REMODELED FOR USE AS CITY HALL AND POLICE DEPARTMENT. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

There being no further business at 9:30 A.M., the Gary Heacox adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,



Charlene Nelson
Administrative Assistant/City Clerk