

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
CITY OF CROSSLAKE, MINNESOTA  
SPECIAL SESSION - February 24, 1988  
1:00 p.m. at City Hall

The City Council of Crosslake Minnesota met in a special session on Wednesday, February 24, 1988 in the Council Chambers of City Hall. The following members were present: Mayor Oliver Courts and Councilmembers Elizabeth Andolshek and Diana Gallaway. Absent were Councilmembers Lyle Arends and Oliver Yates. Also present were Funding and Future Development Commission members Dean Swanson, Bill Thompson, Harold Johnson, Rick Kock and Bonnie Gries, Arlene A. Buchite, City Clerk and Donald Coulter, City Surveyor.

Mayor Courts called this special meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone present and explained to Ms. Gries what her duties would be as a new member of the Funding and Future Development Commission.

Mayor Courts stated that the first item of business with the Funding and Future Development Commission would be their recommendations on the City hiring an assessor at the City level rather than going through the County level.

Dean Swanson said that some of the Commission members met with Conrad Bye, County Auditor and some also met with Ron Schultz who is the assessor for Ideal Township. Mr. Swanson said that after talking to both of those gentlemen it is the recommendation of the Funding and Future Development Commission to keep the assessing method we have at present. In order for the City to hire an assessor they would have to be trained and work under a certified assessor for a year. Mr. Swanson said that the Assessor's office would arrange for a meeting to answer questions and to make the Council aware of the process undertaken to evaluate property. The Assessor has guidelines that must be followed and the Commission feels it would be very difficult for the assessor to live locally.

Councilmember Gallaway said she had some concerns because it seems as though Crosslake is assessed higher than our neighboring cities and townships. She indicated that one citizen in particular who owns industrial land found his property is taxed higher than industrial land in Brainerd.

Committee member Bill Thompson said he also felt his taxes were too high and he was paying more here for a much smaller home that he did in Scott County. He indicated his taxes were adjusted somewhat but that he was still not happy with them.

Don Coulter, City Surveyor said that he felt that because of the police and fire protection Crosslakes taxes are higher and property values are increased.

Councilmember Gallaway said she would like to have a meeting or public gathering and invite the citizens and the people from the Assessor's office. Mayor Courts said that could probably be arranged when everybody has returned for the summer.

The next item for discussion was the old city hall building. Mr. Swanson said this was dealt with before he became a member of the commission but the recommendation was the same as was previously given - to sell the building and land.

Mr. Coulter said he personally was against the whole idea because if the Council would look back about 15 or 16 years they could see how the City has grown. Mr. Coulter feels that the City could not get enough money from the sale of the building and that the Telephone Company keeps expanding and will probably need the additional land.

Mr. Harold Johnson said that the Commission had checked with the Catholic Church, Game and Fish Club, VFW, and the Lion's Club and none of them were interested in the building. He said the final decision on the building is up to the Council.

Discussion ensued regarding the possibility of housing the Chamber of Commerce information booth in the building and using the restrooms for the public during the summer months. Clerk Buchite will call the League and get some information on the possible use of the building without making it handicapped accessible.

Mr. Swanson the Funding and Future Development Commission has also been working on the Cemetery project. He said he had checked with Robert Allen and Mr. Allen felt the City was only using about one-half of the property they own. The Commission will also check with Mr. Woog who has property adjacent to the Cemetery about buying some of it. The Commission will come back to the Council with a recommendation later.

Mr. Swanson said the maps that he and the City Clerk obtained from the County were atrocious. Mr. Swanson said the County does not want to cut loose with any money to update or obtain maps according to the County Surveyor. Clerk Buchite said she has a problem with adequate City maps also and would like to see a map with street names on to show or give to visitors.

The last item discussed was street lights. Mayor Courts said he has had requests for street lights all along main street for joggers and walkers. It was the consensus of the Council and Funding and Future Development Commission that street lights are not essential. The location of the light on the Moolight Bay corner was discussed and it was the consensus of everyone present that there is no problem with the location of the light.

MOTION NO. 2S-01-88 WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER ANDOLSHEK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GALLWAY TO ADJOURN THIS SPECIAL COUNCIL SESSION AT 2:25 P.M. MOTION PASSED WITH COUNCILMEMBERS ANDOSLHEK AND GALLAWAY VOTING AYE.

Recorded and transcribed by:

Arlene A. Buchite, City Clerk/Treasurer