

A special meeting of the Crosslake City Council was called to order at 7:30 P.M. on February 28, 1977 in the City Hall by Mayor Orena Fogelberg. Present, in addition to the Mayor, were Councilmen Arends, Benson, Andolshek, Olson and Clerk Whisler. Also in attendance at the start of the meeting were twenty members of the community.

Mayor Fogelberg announced that, because the primary purpose of the meeting was to hear the recommendations of the Ambulance Committee, she would turn the meeting over to them.

Hildor Foss, chairman of the committee, was the spokesman for the group. He mentioned three ways the City could go. 1st, Sever connections with the Brainerd Ambulance Service and rely on adjacent communities for service; 2nd, Institute an emergency medical service whereby temporary aid and relief could be administered to the patient until an ambulance arrived; 3rd, Crosslake could enter into the ambulance service themselves. It was the belief of the committee that the third way would be best.

Mr. Foss stated that, according to the committee's calculations, the cost of either renting or buying an ambulance would be about the same. In either event it was the committee's thought that some one person should be designated as responsible for the unit. He should be salaried and he should be manning the unit five days of the week. Drivers could be hired for the other two days. Consideration should also be given to having adjacent communities enter into a "joint powers agreement" with committee representation from each of the communities. This would be equivalent to the situation at Pequot Lakes. After county assistance, fees for services and other sources of revenue, there would be a deficit of approximately ten to twelve thousand dollars. This would be apportioned to the various communities on the basis of population and valuation of property. Mr. Foss stressed the fact that whatever decision was to be made it would have to come quickly. Crosslake would be affiliated with Brainerd Ambulance only until June 1st, at which time decisions would have had to be made and action taken.

Councilman Olson asked where the money would come from, that the current financial status of the City would not permit such an expenditure. Foss reminded him that the City has, in the past, purchased items for City use when the cash was not readily available.

Betty Mezzenga, a member of the community, stated that other communities have been faced with the same problem. She suggested that perhaps the City could solicit donations to get a fund started.

Councilman Benson brought up several points that would add to the cost of maintaining ambulance service. He mentioned uniforms, training, insurance and ambulance maintenance.

Mr. Foss mentioned that he thought the committee had served its purpose, and they were awaiting further instructions from the Council as to which course they should now pursue.

Councilman Olson moved that the committee be given permanent status. Arends seconded the motion. The Mayor asked the members of the committee if they were willing to continue serving. A. Andolshek and Foss, two members of the committee, indicated their willingness to step down if someone else wanted to take their places. Mr. Ranum and Betty Mezzenga from the audience state that they would be willing to serve.

February 28, 1977

Page 2 of 2 Pages.

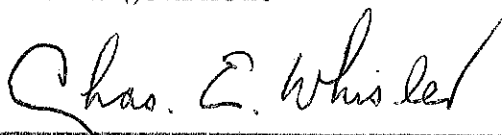
Councilman Benson asked for clarification as to the intent of the motion, whether it was to make the committee permanent with the same personnel or whether the intent was to make the committee permanent without specifying who would constitute the membership. The Clerk then asked Olson to restate his motion. Olson indicated that the same members:--Foss, Andolshek, Fraser, Wiebke and Yorek should continue to serve. The Mayor called for a vote. There were four "AYE" votes with Benson voting "NO". Motion carried.

It was proposed that City employees be used on occasion to man the ambulance, but this was rejected as being impractical because if a City employee were out in a snowstorm plowing snow or if one of the telephone workers were out at some distant point working on lines there would be too great a delay in responding to an emergency call.

Olson moved that City employees not be used in manning the ambulance and that one person be placed in charge. Arends seconded the motion. All voted "AYE". Motion carried.

The Ambulance Committee again asked for direction and were instructed, among other things, to explore the possibilities of a "joint powers agreement" and also to try to come up with the cost of an ambulance ready to roll.

Al Kelley approached the Council with the question as to why they hadn't acted on his earlier request for 3.2 beer and set-up licenses. Someone from the audience asked if this weren't a special meeting at which just ambulance committee recommendations were to be acted upon. After much, and sometimes heated, discussion Benson moved that the meeting be adjourned. Andolshek seconded the motion. When the question was called for and put to a vote, Benson, Andolshek and Fogelberg voted "AYE". Olson voted "NO", and Arends abstained. Motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.


Chas. E. Whisler, City Clerk