

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF CROSSLAKE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2023
2:00 P.M. – CITY HALL

The Council for the City of Crosslake met in a Special Session on Wednesday, March 8, 2023. The following Council Members were present: Mayor Dave Nevin, Aaron Herzog, Sandy Farder, and Jackson Purfeerst. Marcia Seibert-Volz was absent. Also in attendance were City Administrator Mike Lyonais, City Clerk Char Nelson, Park Director TJ Graumann, Zoning Administrator Pete Gansen, Public Works Director Pat Wehner, and Fire Chief Chip Lohmiller. There were approximately 10 audience members on Zoom and in the audience.

Dave Nevin called the meeting to order at 2:05 P.M.

Dave Nevin thanked the County for coming to Crosslake to discuss Short-Term Rentals and stated that personally, he would rather partner with the County so that the rules were the same for everyone on the Chain of Lakes.

Chris Pence, Crow Wing County Environmental Services Manager, reported that the County's Short-Term Rental Ordinance changed in 2023 to become a land-use based ordinance, rather than public health ordinance.

Dave Nevin asked how the County responds to complaints. Chris Pence replied that the County has a 24-hour phone line to leave a message and also has contact information for the property owner or agent that can be reached in an emergency.

Gary Griffin, Crow Wing County Land Services Director, stated that the County has reduced the number of days for a property to comply with a violation notification from 90 days to 45 days. The County accepts photos and videos from neighbors as documentation for a complaint. Dave Nevin stated that many residents that had complaints last year have said they received no response from the County. Gary Griffin replied that there is no staff at the County at 2am and the police are not always available. Dave Nevin asked if the County charged fines. Gary Griffin replied that there are no fines imposed on owners and that the ordinance was not designed to be a punishment, rather a way to control the situation. Dave Nevin asked if the County would consider imposing fines and Gary Griffin replied they would not.

The Cities of Crosby, Nisswa, Deerwood and Fifty Lakes have agreed to have the County administer their short-term rentals. Gary Griffin reported that Crosslake had the most rentals in Crow Wing County last year. The County uses a web-crawling website to find unlicensed rentals as well as reports from neighbors.

Mark Lindner of 16543 Pine Lure Drive stated that he reported his neighbor as an unlicensed renter last year and nothing has happened.

Aaron Herzog asked if the County would review the City's proposed ordinance regarding life safety issues and Gary Griffin replied that they would not.

Sandy Farder asked if the City could do their own enforcement if the County licensed the rentals in Crosslake. Gary Griffin replied that the property owner has 45 days to comply before enforcement could take place.

Mark Wessels, Chair of the Planning and Zoning Commission, stated that the City could contract with the County for the remainder of 2023 and then use the rest of the year to get its ordinance ready to go for 2024.

Chip Lohmiller stated that the Council will have a revised version of the City Ordinance in their packets for next week's meeting and pointed out that the County has no life safety plan in their ordinance.

Rebecca Wharton of 13402 Hidden Valley Road stated that she is a renter and is favor of regulation and stated that the County's ordinance works well.

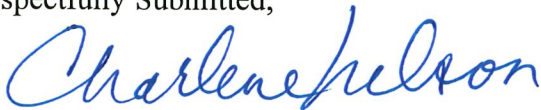
Jackson Purfeerst stated that the City is not ready to implement its ordinance and that more staff will be needed once the ordinance is approved.

Bill Schiltz of 13176 Albinson Road stated that there needs to be adequate regulation in the ordinance including enforcement. Mr. Schiltz stated that \$500 for the permit fee is not enough to cover costs and a septic compliance should be required every year.

Dave Nevin thanked the County for attending the meeting.

MOTION 03SP2-01-23 WAS MADE BY JACKSON PURFEERST AND SECONDED BY SANDY FARDER TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 2:35 P.M. MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL AYES.

Respectfully Submitted,



Charlene Nelson
City Clerk