



## **CROSSLAKE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMISSION**

### **Minutes – November 1, 2023 9:00AM**

Attendees: Aaron Herzog, Jayme Knapp, Marcia Siebert-Volz, Chief Lohmiller, Chief Maier, Curt Mowers, Bob Heales, Matt Karlson, Jen LeBlanc

Guest: Mike Lyonais, John Auge, Steve Patterson

1. Call to Order – 0858
2. Approve Minutes October 4, 2023 – **Motion by Herzog, seconded by Chip – MOTION CARRIES**
3. Community Service Officer Position (agenda item 4)
  - Chief Maier spoke with CLC for some guidance on deploying a program. CLC told Maier it would be up to our department to build and deploy a program. Brainerd CSO's are paid \$15/hour. Maier is unsure if hiring a CSO would help with recruitment and retention for our department. Maier has someone in mind for the position but he would not be eligible to work until September 2024. Herzog shared his experience in running a CSO program for ten years during his career. Herzog and Lohmiller agreed it would be an expensive program. Maier suggested it be a volunteer program versus a paid program. Discussion ensued. Maier will start to put a program together that can be presented to the Council.
4. Guest Steve Patterson, President of Sandcrest on Crosslake HOA (agenda item 3)
  - Patterson is requesting No Parking signs on East River Road. There is a small access lot in the development on East Shore Road. Patterson states in their bi-laws, residents are not allowed to park on the street. Currently, there are lots of guests and short-term rentals who do not

read the bi-laws. The road is narrow to begin with and gets narrower with cars parked on the road. The committee was in agreeance the signs are necessary.

Motion to talk to Pat Wehner about posting signs – **Motion by Lohmiller, seconded by Maier – MOTION CARRIES**

5. Mission Twp Contract Renewal for Police Services (agenda item 6)
  - Maier introduced John Auge, Mission Township Chair of the Board. Currently contract cost is \$67,000 annually, renewing every April. The City has requested for the contract cost to increase. Auge spoke highly of the police department and said that the majority of citizens are supportive of this contract. Auge also stated the Township is understanding of the need to raise the cost. Discussion ensued. It was agreed upon that the City does not seek to make money on this contract but to cover costs. Lyonais stated the City would be requesting a 5-6% increase in the contract and also to change to a three-year contract, versus a one-year. Lyonais re-iterated to Auge that as the contract stands, the Crosslake Police Department patrols 24 hours a week and the Crow Wing County Sheriff's Office responds to calls. Patrolling provides a more personal level of service. Auge stated increases such as COLA, market adjustment and union contract changes can be built into the contract. Auge is agreeable to entering a three-year contract with a price increase.
  
6. New Store selling CBD Products on Co Rd 3 (agenda item 5)
  - Karlson stated his wife heard that this new business was going to be a marijuana dispensary. Due to the recently passed laws in Minnesota regarding marijuana legalization, Karlson wanted to start a discussion on how the City would handle a request to open a dispensary. Discussion ensued. Herzog would like the Council to speak to an attorney about stopping grow operations and dispensaries in the City. Siebert-Volz stated that was premature. Knapp stated that is a bigger discussion. It was explained that the business is renting a building on Co Rd 3 and they applied for a permit to sell CBD products such as oil and edible gummies. Karlson explained the difference between CBD and THC products. He also stated that CBD is legal. What the business owners are doing is on

the up and up. With the current laws, there is a potential for them to be able to sell legalized marijuana and related products. It was suggested that the City looks to other cities for example, speak to an attorney and possibly put a moratorium in place.

#### 7. Crosslake Officers Joining the Crow Wing County TAC Team

- Maier states that Officers Cody Haines and Pat Martin have shown a desire to join the TAC team. Maier went on to explain that the TAC team is similar to SWAT and it is a desirable extracurricular that younger officers are interested in during their career. Members of the TAC team train twice a month for four hours and callouts are limited. There would be a small cost to the City to purchase gear, approximately \$3,000 per officer. Maier states providing this opportunity to officers will be good for retention and also from a training standpoint. Maier has already been in touch with the County and they are interested in adding members. Karlson raised the question of minimum requirements/rules for having officers be eligible to join the TAC team. Discussion ensued.

#### 8. Old Business

- Short Term Rentals – Lohmiller asked for an update on the plan for short term rentals. As it stands, the County is currently handling licensing. Lohmiller brought up concerns of Life-Safety issues at properties within the City. Lyonais stated the City needs to figure out what it wants to do before January 1, 2024. There are three choices: let the County continue to handle licensing, continue with the county and add a Life-Safety ordinance or let the City handle it all. Discussion ensued. The Public Safety Commission and City Council remain divided on the issue.
- Applicants for Open Officer Position – Maier stated there was an applicant he met with and did a ride-along with Officer Martin. Maier stated there were too many red flags and he did not have a good feeling about. Another applicant is currently being background by the Sheriff's Office. Maier re-iterated the need for a 6<sup>th</sup> officer and how difficult it has been to operate with a team of five.

#### 9. New Business

#### 10. Motion to Adjourn at 1022 – **Motion by Maier, seconded by Lohmiller**