A meeting of the Council for the City of Crystal Falls was held in the Council Chambers of the City Hall on Monday, July 13, 2015 at 5:32 P.M. Central Time.

Roll Call: Mayor Sommers, Councilors Sherby, Schiavo, McCarthy and Hagglund.

Absent: None

Also Present: City Manager Olson, City Clerk/Treasurer Peltoma and City Attorney Lawrence.

Mayor Sommers led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Sommers temporarily adjourned the regular meeting at 5:33 pm to conduct a Public Hearing regarding the sale of property located north of 316 Fairbanks.

Comments: City Manager Olson explained to the Council the description of the parcel.

Charles and Lisa Olson are interested in purchasing the lot to the north of their property. They are asking that the building clause be withdrawn.

City Manager Olson explained that the building clauses were imposed in the great western plat to increase tax base. However, the area that the Olson’s are inquiring on has not been platted out.

Mayor Sommers asked how close it goes to the pit.

It is not near the pit.

Randy Hegstrom commented that the city invested money in sewer, water, roads etc., to account for the building clause mandate. This lot is nowhere near any roads, water or sewer. He said whether the building clause is included should be a case by case scenario.

Attorney Geoffrey Lawrence suggested that the hiring of a surveyor should be the responsibility of the successful bidder.

Erik Moon asked if the snowmobile or ATV trail is used.

Councilor Schiavo offered that the ATV/snowmobile trail has been closed.

Geoffrey Lawrence commented that the city can put the land out on bids, but do not have to sell it.

City Manager Olson suggested waiting to take action on the sale until the Nylund parcel confusion is resolved.
Mayor Sommers closed the public hearing at 5:46 pm.
The City Council took no action to offer land for sale North of 316 Fairbanks pending resolution of the sale of land to Jeff Nylund.

Mayor Sommers temporarily adjourned the regular meeting at 5:47 pm to conduct a Public hearing regarding the land swap with Randy Hegstrom.

Comments: City Manager Olson explained the location of both parcels of land that are in question to swap. She also noted that there was interest from others wanting to bid on the land; however, they were not present at the hearing.

Erik Moon asked what the City will gain.

City Manager Olson offered that the Hegstrom’s lot is next to a City vacant lot. There would be a better opportunity for public parking or a new business to build. The City parcel that Mr. Hegstrom wants to swap for the Superior Ave lot is 6 acres and a value of $4800. The value of Mr. Hegstrom’s Superior Ave lot is $1620.

Erik Moon commented that the City has so many vacant buildings on downtown already.

Randy Hegstrom added that there are other ways to access his property but the City’s parcel would be the best. Randy Hegstrom solicited signatures from downtown businesses in favor of the land swap. He added that more parking would benefit the City.

Councilor Hagglund asked if Mr. Santilli (from MDOT) said there would be access from the highway. It is not known yet.

Mayor Sommers closed the public hearing at 6:03 pm.

Councilor Hagglund supported by Councilor Sherby moved to exchange City owned Lot 4 of Government Lot 3 for Lot 96, known as 324 Superior Ave which is currently owned by Randy Hegstrom.

Ayes: Mayor Sommers, Councilors Sherby, Schiavo, McCarthy, and Hagglund.

Nays: None Absent: None

Motion carried.

Visitors: Doug showers representing the Central UP Youth football asked if they could use the soccer field at Runkle Lake Park for three home football games.
The Council supports the use of the Runkle Lake Soccer field for the Central UP Youth football program.

Mayor Sommers supported by Councilor Schiavo moved to accept the bid for the sidewalk replacement to Northern Concrete in the amount of $26,800, with completion date in mid-October. (One other bid was received from FA Industrial Services ($43,300))

Ayes: Mayor Sommers, Councilors Sherby, Schiavo, McCarthy, and Hagglund.

Nays: None  Absent: None

Motion carried.

The Council discussed the Crystal View Apartments Parking Lot retaining wall. Further discussion will be held at next month’s meeting.

Mayor Pro-tem Sherby suggested no action at this time for the current proposed Ordinance No. 2.25 (Mobile food Vehicle Vendors).

The City Council directed Attorney Geoffrey Lawrence to contact Mr. Nylund regarding the property he is proposing to purchase from the city.

The City Council directed City Manager to let AT & T know that there is no interest in renegotiating the water tank lease.

Councilor Sherby supported by Councilor Schiavo moved to approve the 3rd 2015 ATC additional Capital amount of $892.82.

Ayes: Mayor Sommers, Councilors Sherby, Schiavo, McCarthy, and Hagglund.

Nays: None  Absent: None

Motion carried.

The City Council agreed with recommendation of City Manager Olson regarding water faucets at the cemetery including the removal of faucets that are not energized, fixing those that are and making them more visible, and shutting down the use of sprinklers.

Mayor Sommers supported by Councilor McCarthy moved to vote the six incumbent trustees to the MML Worker’s Comp fund.

Ayes: Mayor Sommers, Councilors Sherby, Schiavo, McCarthy, and Hagglund.

Nays: None  Absent: None

Motion carried.

Budget Hearing will be on August 10, 2015 at 4:30 pm.
The Regular Council meeting in August will be on the 10th at 4:00 p.m. to accommodate WPPI Energy’s governing body visit.

Discussing the revised Employee Handbook will be postponed until next meeting.

Councilor Hagglund supported by Councilor McCarthy moved to accept the 3rd quarter budget amendments dated July 8th, 2015.

Ayes: Mayor Sommers, Councilors Sherby, Schiavo, McCarthy, and Hagglund.

Nays: None Absent: None

Motion carried.

There was discussion from the Council on the City Manager search.

Councilor Schiavo seconded by Councilor McCarthy moved that the items on the Consent Agenda be approved as noted below:

1. The following reports for the month of June 2015:
   A. Regular meeting minutes from June 8, 2015, Special meeting minutes from June 18th and June 25th.
   B. Police report, as submitted by Police Chief Tim Bean, indicating 135 complaints, of which 2 were closed by arrest, 0 parking tickets, and logging of 1,470 miles on patrol duty.
   C. Public Works Department activity report as submitted by Foreman Kelly Stankewicz.
   D. Electric Department activity report as submitted by Chief Electrician David Graff.
   E. Treasurer’s Revenue Report as submitted by Clerk/Treasurer Tara Peltoma.

2. Payrolls and disbursements in the amount of $360,133.82 be approved, and instruct the City Clerk to draw checks on the City Treasury in payment of same.

Ayes: Mayor Sommers, Councilors Sherby, Schiavo, McCarthy, and Hagglund

Nays: None Absent: None

Motion carried.

Mayor Sommers supported by Councilor McCarthy moved to temporarily adjourn the regular meeting at 7:40 pm pursuant to the Open Meetings Act Section 15.268 (c) to go into closed session for the Union Negotiation Discussion.

Ayes: Mayor Sommers, Councilors Sherby, Schiavo, McCarthy, and Hagglund

Nays: None Absent: None

Motion carried.
CITY OF CRYSTAL FALLS       July 13, 2015
Regular meeting resumed at 8:30 p.m.
Councilor Sherby supported by Councilor Schiavo moved to adjourn this meeting at 8:30 p.m.

PRESIDING OFFICER_________________________

PRESIDING CLERK ___________________________