

Floodwood Forum  
PO Box 286  
Floodwood MN 55736-0286  
August 27, 2014

LuAnn Freiermuth  
1272 Highway 73  
PO Box 74  
Cromwell MN 55726

Attn: Ms. Freiermuth

Re: Information Request

This is an official request for information pursuant to the Data Practices Act. Please provide all information available for the following:

Copy of receipts corresponding with checks for Warren Peters/Peters Home and Hardware and Samuel Clark:

- Check #16100 (10/26/12) - "Rebuild bar server/memory upgrade..." and "Re-configure POS system department..."
- Check #16452 (3/14/13) - "POS system/computer & cameras"

I request to review the check ledger from 2011 to now.

- Copy of forms showing who watched videos of bar activities and for what purpose since the October 23, 2013 Policy was passed
- Copy or other proof that video's not involved in either investigations or incidents were destroyed
- Log of individual(s) that destroyed the video's, specifying what time period it covered
- Purchase papers/receipt of currently used POS system in liquor store
- Policy of lumping purchases together and passing by board approval of consent agenda. In lack thereof, the minutes discussing it

Thank you,

Marvin Pirila  
Editor, Floodwood Forum  
(218) 476-2232

Floodwood Forum  
PO Box 286  
Floodwood, MN 55736-0286  
November 16, 2014

LuAnn Freiermuth  
1272 Highway 73  
PO Box 74  
Cromwell MN 55726  
Attn: Ms. Freiermuth

Prior to seeking a Data Practice Advisory Opinion from the Commissioner of Administration, the Floodwood Forum is making one final request for the full answer to the questions previously requested. These include:

A data request was made from the City of Cromwell on 7/15/14 by fax. This request included “All information regarding the purchase and use of the video system in the bar, including purchase info., stations, and persons granted access.”

Pursuant to an email on 8/27/14, you were asked for the following:

- Copy of forms showing who watched videos of bar activities and for what purpose since the October 23, 2013 Policy was passed
- Copy or other proof that video's not involved in either investigations or incidents were destroyed
- Log of individual(s) that destroyed the video's, specifying what time period it covered
- Policy of lumping purchases together and passing by board approval of consent agenda. In lack thereof, the minutes discussing it

When no response was received, a second request for the same information was requested by email on 9/2/14.

On 10/1/14 the Forum questioned the Cromwell City Council on why information related to the video was omitted from its answer to the Data Request. A copy of the original was sent this same day.

Your prompt and full compliance with the Data Practices Act is requested.

Thank you,

Marvin Pirila  
Editor, Floodwood Forum

Floodwood Forum  
PO Box 286  
Floodwood MN 55736-0286  
March 9, 2015

LuAnn Freiermuth  
1272 Highway 73  
PO Box 74  
Cromwell MN 55726

Attn: Ms. Freiermuth

Re: Information Request

This is an official request for information pursuant to the Data Practices Act. Please provide all information available for the following:

- Copy of complete recording of December 17, 2014 meeting
- Manual log of those viewing videos

Thank you,

Marvin Pirila  
Editor, Floodwood Forum  
(218) 476-2232

City of Cromwell

1272 Hwy. 73 | PO Box 74 | Cromwell, MN 55726

Ph: 218.644.3570 | Fax: 218.644.3204

cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net | www.cromwell.govoffice.com

**Invoice**

INVOICE DATE
4/22/015

DUE DATE

<b>BILL TO</b>
Floodwood Forum Marvin Piirila PO Box 286 Floodwood, MN 55736

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Data Request Fees:	
Video Review Log was sent on 11/19/2014	\$0.00
Advice from city attorney in regard to the request for the December City Council Meeting audio	\$37.50
Clerk Wages for research	\$14.80

Floodwood Forum  
PO Box 286  
Floodwood MN 55736-0286  
July 16, 2015

LuAnn Freiermuth  
1272 Highway 73  
PO Box 74  
Cromwell MN 55726

Attn: Ms. Freiermuth

Re: Information Request

This is an official request for information pursuant to the Data Practices Act. Please provide all information available for the following:

- Copy of check originally provided to Warren Peters for the purchase of a P.O.S. system
- Copy of backside of check after cashing at bank
- Copy of the estimate and/or invoice provided initially for cost of P.O.S., including company being purchased from
- Copy of email from Mr. Peters requesting a refund
- Copy of emails from Mr. Peters to city councilors/mayor regarding the P.O.S. since 1/1/15
- Copy of disclosures from Mr. Peters regarding commissions and/or earnings he was to gain from purchase of P.O.S. system
- Copy of resolution authorizing the purchase via a city councilor
- Copies of all documents related to the planned purchase of the P.O.S. system

Thank you,

Marvin Pirila  
Editor, Floodwood Forum  
(218) 476-2232

## Data Request

MARVIN PIRILA

7/27/15

To: cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net

From: **MARVIN PIRILA** [REDACTED]

Sent: Mon 7/27/15 9:23 AM

To: cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net (cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net)

Pursuant to chapter 13, Data Practices Act, I am requesting the following information on councilor Warren Peters:

- Copy of claim related to 'spike in Chlorine levels' killing bait
- All supporting documents related to the Chlorine claim
- Copy of resolution allowing Mr. Peter's to purchase a P.O.S. system
- Copy of check reimbursing city

Thank you,

Marvin Pirila  
Editor, Floodwood Forum  
PO Box 286

## data request

LuAnn Freiermuth

8/03/15

To: 'MARVIN PIRILA'

From: **LuAnn Freiermuth** (cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net)

Sent: Mon 8/03/15 8:32 AM

To: 'MARVIN PIRILA' [REDACTED]

I have finished your data request.

You may come in and pick it up or I can mail/scan it to you after payment.

1<sup>st</sup> Request: 27 pages plus 2 hours = \$36.35

2<sup>nd</sup> Request: 3 pages plus 1 hour = \$15.55

LuAnn Freiermuth

Clerk/Treasurer | City of Cromwell

Ph.: 218.644.3570 ext. 10 | Fax: 218.644.3204

1272 Hwy. 73 | PO Box 74 | Cromwell, MN 55726

[cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net](mailto:cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net) | [www.cromwell.govoffice.com](http://www.cromwell.govoffice.com)

Confidentiality Notice: This electronic transmission, including any files attached thereto, may contain confidential information that is legally privileged, confidential, and exempt from disclosure. The information is intended only for the use of the individual or entity named above. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or any employee or agent responsible for delivering the message to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, dissemination, copying, distribution, or the taking of any action in reliance on the contents of this confidential information is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please destroy it and immediately notify me at [cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net](mailto:cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net) or 218-644-3570. Thank you

In accordance with Federal law and U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, sex, familial status, sexual orientation, and reprisal. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington D.C., 20250-9410 or call 866-632-9492 (voice) or 800-877-8339 (TDD)

Marvin Pirila

October 7, 2015

LuAnn Freiermuth  
1272 Highway 73  
PO Box 74  
Cromwell MN 55726

Attn: Ms. Freiermuth

Re: Information Request (Summary of answers for \$61.84)

This is an official request for information pursuant to the Data Practices Act. Please provide all information available for the following:

- Copy of complete recording of August 19, 2015 meeting **[Waiting on Flash Drive]**
- Manual log of those viewing videos **[None]**
- Job Description for Secretary/Treasurer (LuAnn Friermuth) **[Available 10/26/15, picked up 11/9/15]**
- Copy of receipt showing Warren Peters reimbursed the city for the POS system and related items **[Available 10/26/15, picked up 11/9/15]**
- Copy showing who owned the router in the bar that it was transmitting to a private IP address **[Ms. Friermuth reported this as none, N/A]**
- Copy of IP address footage was going to **[Ms. Friermuth reported this as none, N/A]**
- All information regarding private feed from camera in bar **[Ms. Friermuth reported this as none, N/A]**
- Information regarding Warren Peters insurance claim for alleged Chlorine spike **[Ms. Friermuth reported there was no 'alleged Chlorine spike']**

Thank you,

Marvin Pirila

Note: \$61.84 was charged for the information, of which \$60.84 was for labor costs. Short of a simple recording, Ms. Friermuth should have been able to assemble the rest of the information in minutes. This is seen as nothing more than a scheme of deterrence rather than compliance with the Data Practices Act.

## No Response to Data Request

MARVIN PIRILA

10/22/15

To: cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net

From: **MARVIN PIRILA** (marvindp@msn.com)

Sent: Thu 10/22/15 1:53 PM

To: cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net (cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net)

Ms. Friermuth/City of Cromwell

You have failed to make a timely response to the request previously submitted (seen below). Please answer immediately to avoid the intervention of the State Commissioner (IPAD). Generally, this type of information is to be retained in a format for public request within five days, yet now it has been 15 days thus far. What is your justification for this delay? All items are public and subject to disclosure under Chapter 13 of Minnesota Statutes. You have no legal standing in withholding any item in the request. If you did, you would have to answer with the items you are disputing and under what statute/provision of law. I have the option of pursuing the information via District Court, and if necessary I will. Be aware that if this option is required the statute will require the City of Cromwell pay my necessary costs in doing so.

Additionally, as a new data request (October 22, 2015) I am requesting a full recording of last night's city council meeting.

Respectfully,

Marvin PIRILA

City of Cromwell

1272 Hwy. 73 | PO Box 74 | Cromwell, MN 55726  
Ph: 218.644.3570 | Fax: 218.644.3204  
cityofcromwell@frontiernet.net | www.cromwell.govoffice.com

**Invoice**

INVOICE DATE
10/26/15
DUE DATE

<b>BILL TO</b>
Marvin Pirila 1 N Cloquet Rd N Esko, MN 55733

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Data Request:	
1. Waiting to receive a flashdrive from Marvin for the Aug 19, 2015 meeting.	
2. Log of those viewing videos: Nothing added since last request.	
3. Job Description for Sec/Treas - 3 pages	\$0.75
4. Copy of receipt showing Peters reimbursed city for POS	\$0.25
5. Copy of who owned router in the bar that was transmitting to a private IP address	NA
6. Copy of IP address footage	NA
7. Info regarding private feed from camera in bar	NA. No camera. Your info is incorrect
8. Info regarding Peters insurance claim for alleged Chlorine spike	Not an ALLEGED chlorine spike
Labor costs for gathering info	\$60.84
<i>pd 61.84 11-9-15</i>	
<b>Invoice Total</b>	<b>\$61.84</b>

Please make checks payable and mail to:  
City of Cromwell  
PO Box 74  
Cromwell, MN 55726  
Billing Questions: Please call 218-644-3570 ext. 10 M-Th. 8:00am-4:30pm

Draft of complaint (withheld)

Re: Complaint regarding thereafter mentioned data request (see below)

On October \_\_\_\_, 2015 LuAnn Friermuth emailed me to say the data practices request was completed and she would need a flash drive for the audio recording of the city council meeting.

On November 9, 2015 I picked up the data requested and left a flash drive for the audio with Ms. Friermuth.

The charge for three pages and a copy of receipt came to \$61.84. Ms. Friermuth claims it took her four hours to determine the majority of the items did not exist, or weren't available because it was requested as "alleged" rather than "actual" (Chlorine spike). There is no way Ms. Friermuth did not know immediately if an item existed. Furthermore, from my several visits in Cromwell, I know she spends the first part of her shift visiting Mr. Warren Peters at the Hardware Store. She knew and elected to play this game of overcharging as a means of deterrence. Let me tell you, the plan to deter me only makes me more dedicated to learn why this city council chooses to play endless games with information.

Minn. Stat. § 13.03, subd. 1 states that "Records containing government data must be kept in an arrangement that makes them conveniently accessible."

Minn. Stat. § 13.03, subd. 3, "If a responsible authority determines that requested data are not public, the individual requesting the data must be so notified, and the applicable statute or temporary classification must be cited."

- The council has backtracked significantly on the claims of a private feed that was available at the bar
- Mr. Peter's was allowed to float public money without any evidence of a purchase
- The insurance claim made by Warren Peters was never made public
- The bounced check from Mr. Peter's wife was misrepresented by Ms. Friermuth in a previous data request
- Ms. Friermuth intervened in a public meeting when her job prohibits it (given the context)

Marvin Pirila

[REDACTED]  
February 12, 2016

LuAnn Freiermuth  
1272 Highway 73  
PO Box 74  
Cromwell MN 55726

Attn: Ms. Freiermuth

Re: Information Request

This is an official request for information pursuant to the Data Practices Act. Please provide all information available for the following:

- All paper transactions showing the disposition of the router removed from the bar
- All paper transactions showing how the bar came into possession of the router
- Mr. Peter's acceptance of the router via writing. If nothing was transacted, simply state so.
- The private IP address on the router
- All written correspondence, including emails, regarding Warren Peters insurance claim for a Chlorine spike. Provide expected cost of retrieval if the information is not readily available, providing reasons why they are not. The Data Practices Act demands that public entities keep data in such a way as to facilitate quick and easy access to information
- Copy of the police report filed, if available

Thank you,

Marvin Pirila  
[REDACTED]

Note: As of 2/27/15, there has been no response to the data request. This is continual stonewalling of public information and violation of the Data Practices Act.