

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Thursday, March 12, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mills at 7:00pm. Lammi, Myers, Marker and Benson (7:20pm) present.

Citizens Present: Dale Stull, Greg Johnson, Adam Roden, Tom Mills, Ashley Hendrickson, Paul and Deb Kinsley, Dale and Jan Stull, Roger Lyle, Sheila Humphrey, Kelly Swenseth, Mark Miller, Roberta Mill, Bob and Nancy Lindblom, David Denn, Jason Crotty, Kate Bourgeron.

Citizens Considerations – Morgan Ludeke is a Life Scout from Troop 114 looking for service projects to help become an Eagle Scout, and questioned if the City of Marine had any potential projects for him. The Council suggested making garbage bin surrounds and advised Mr. Ludeke to contact the City when he is interested in moving forward.

Dan Froiland – Mr. Froiland recently resumed ownership of the Brookside and is requesting the Council waive the late fees for the Brookside past due garbage and sewer bill. Chuck Dougherty, the previous owner, had incurred late charges on unpaid bills from the last quarter of 2007 through the third quarter of 2008, totaling over \$2,000. Lammi believes the City needs to be creative when it comes to getting sustainable businesses downtown and suggested Froiland give some type of incentive to get a buyer. Marker thinks it is a fairness issue and believes the City should waive the fees.

*Marker moved and Myers seconded that the City agree to waive all late fees for the Brookside Bar and Grill. Motion passed unanimously.*

T-Mobile – Kelly Swenseth, T-Mobile representative, was in attendance to advise the Council that T-Mobile is looking to extend coverage throughout Marine and is looking for potential sites for a booster antenna. Mayor Mills suggested looking at the maintenance building site or potentially William O'Brien. Myers stated he would like to see T-Mobile as a carrier on the new tower recently erected in May Township before they begin looking for new sites in Marine. Ms. Swenseth advised that due to the height of that tower, any additional carriers would have their signal significantly diminished due to the landscape to the north. A map showing the coverage area using the May Township tower was distributed for the Council's review. Myers offered to contact Ms. Swenseth to discuss these options further.

Planning Commission – Chairman Willenbring submitted a written summary of the February meeting. The March meeting will be cancelled due to the Commission attending a Riverway workshop that same evening.

Committee Reports –

Jackson Meadow Public Improvements – Myers reported that he and Jack Warren met with Harold Teasdale to discuss the North system. The modeling of that system has been approved by the MPCA. The Homeowners Association is looking into installing a larger blower to help decrease the nitrate levels along with looping the gray water back through the system a second time to help with the filtering. Jason Crotty reported there was a pump failure and the system currently only has one pump in operation. The City was also informed that the Department of Health requires a permit from the DNR if more than one million gallons are pumped from the system annually. Crotty stated the City is on track for the 2009 permit, and he is checking into whether the City will need to have a permit for 2008.

Public Safety – Chief Denn reported that the 800 MHZ is up and running and the quality is exceptional. Chief Denn would like to pursue getting the public works department on the system also.

The Appreciation dinner will be held on Sunday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Kiwanis camp.

Roads- Lammi recapped the MNDOT update meeting held prior to the Council meeting. Due to the recently passed stimulus package, the 2010 Highway 95 resurfacing project has been moved up to this summer. Lammi is working with residents to address several issues such as a turn lane at Butternut Falls and the drainage issue from Hwy 95 to Judd Street. The City will continue to have informational meetings with MNDOT to discuss these various issues.

Personnel/Building Inspector – Reviewed the February maintenance report and project list. Lammi stated that due to the current state of the green truck he would like to look into the possibility of purchasing a new truck this year. Jason Crotty has received several quotes, and the cost of a new truck will be approximately \$50,000 - \$55,000. Currently the City has \$20,000 in the budget. The City could consider paying for the balance with Certificates of Indebtedness over a two or three year period. The City would also look into either trading in the green truck as part of the new truck purchase or selling it out right. With the money the City would get from the green truck, the total cost of the new truck would be between \$40,000 to \$45,000.

*Lammi moved and Benson seconded to pursue a new 1 ton vehicle per the specs received, not to exceed \$48,500. Motion passed unanimously.*

Recreation – Myers reported that the ice rink is closed for the season. The Gateway Trail Association is moving forward with obtaining the necessary easements from the property owners in order to extend the trail through Marine. The City is still on board with the trail extending along the west of the maintenance shop property to William O'Brien. Myers is still working on the Hoke access issue.

Animal Control Contract – Sherrill Reid, Animal Control Officer, submitted a written contract for services provided to the City. One change that was noted was an increase in the fee for transporting an animal to the impound facility. That fee was previously \$75 and will now be \$90, however that increase will be offset by the City no longer paying a portion of Ms. Reid's annual insurance. The City Attorney has reviewed and approved the contact.

*Myers moved and Marker seconded to approve the contract for Animal Control Services between the City and Sherrill Reid. Motion passed unanimously.*

Finance – No Report.

Hall/Restoration – The Restoration Society will hold a visionary meeting on April 11<sup>th</sup> and a regular meeting on May 8th.

Cemetery – Mayor Mills advised a letter was received from Gary Campbell stating he would like to begin his restoration work in the cemetery again. The City would very much like Mr. Campbell to continue his work.

Quotes have been received for new cameras and the City will review for comment at the April meeting.

Riverway Rules – The next meeting will be held in March.

Village Center – Benson is working on setting up a meeting with residents interested in the Village Center.

Library Update – Benson reported that there are residents in Lake Elmo trying to form a “friends of the library” group to speak on behalf of the boutique libraries in the County. There also seems to be no indication that the Library Board will be adding hours back to the Marine library. Discussion was held as to whether or not the Library Board would still be interested in a joint venture with the City for a new library. Lammi will contact Pat Conley for clarification.

Wastewater and Water Systems – Jason Crotty reported they will be using approximately \$1500 of the wastewater budget to investigate the I&I situation.

Pine Cone Trail – The reassessment hearing was held prior to the Council meeting. The overall assessment amount was reduced by \$35,640. The Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 031209-01 to reduce and adopt the final assessment roll for the Pine Cone Sewer project.

Consent Calendar – *Lammi moved and Myers seconded to approve the Minutes of 2/12//09, Treasurer's Report dated 2/09, the List of Bills for 3/12/09, Zoning Administrator's Report, Planning Commission Minutes, and the February Maintenance Report. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business – Marker would like to explore the possibility of expanding the City website to add additional information that would make the site more personalized, for example information on the Village Center. He will contact our web provider and look further into the options available.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report – Clerk Peterson advised she will be attending the City Clerk's conference next week.

Adjournment – *Marker moved and Benson seconded to adjourn at 8:25p.m. Motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk