

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, March 10, 2011

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

Citizens Present: Robin Brooksbank, Jim Anderson, Kay Anderson, Mary Scott, Stacia Rivers, Peter/Christine Cundall, Susan Knapp, Marilyn Cathcart, Page Holmquist, David Denn, Meryl Rose, Sharon Redmund, Fred Remund, Sue Logan.

Citizens Considerations -

Library Committee Report – Robin Brooksbank and Sue Logan were in attendance on behalf of the library committee. Brooksbank stated that several members of the committee investigated other library systems, and also met with Pat Conley and Jim Shug of Washington County to discuss the possibility of closing the Marine library. After numerous committee meetings, Brooksbank reported that they had come up with a consensus for one recommendation (attached). The first part of the recommendation is a recommendation that Washington County continue to fund new books/media inventory, the ordering/pickup and checkout hardware. The City would then provide the space and telecommunications and one or two part-time employees to work a total of 20 hours per week, along with volunteers. The committee figured the employees would cost approximately \$19,000 annually, which would be paid for between the Jordan bequest funds and through a Friends of the Library group, which the committee is proposing be created. Brooksbank advised the next step, if the Council approves, would be to begin the process of forming the Friends of the Library group and then present this recommendation to the County.

Marker stated he appreciates the work done by the committee and that the overall plan takes in the need for additional office space.

Lammi questioned if the committee had looked at the kiosk system as an option. Brooksbank advised that parents were concerned that the kiosk would take away from the kids using the library system. Lammi believes there should be options which include partnerships with local businesses, or some type of community center or reading room in which the Jordan bequest could still be used if providing library services. He thinks the recommended model will be a challenge to get County approval.

Benson believes this proposal is a great starting point for dialogue with the County, which is what they were really looking for.

Marilyn Cathcart, resident, thinks this is a wonderful proposal and is a great compromise for both the City and Washington County.

Stacia Rivers, resident, believes the County is ready to work with the City and would also like to

see current services, such as the summer reading program continued by the County.

Susan Knapp, resident, noted that forming a group such as Friends of the Library, would allow all future donations/bequests to be in control by that group and would avoid County involvement.

The consensus of the Council was to have the committee move forward with presenting the recommendation to Washington County for their comments and move forward from there. Benson will contact Pat Conley to begin the discussions.

Planning Commission - Willenbring reported that Rebecca and Roland Ulm purchased the building on the corner of Judd and Berkey Streets. Currently that property has no water or septic, and the City is not allowing any new connections to the City sewer. The Ulms plan to use that building as a studio, and are looking into alternative septic systems.

Mike Zajac has not attended a meeting since early last fall due to a work conflict, and the Commission was concerned about the numbers needed for a quorum. They have recommended removing Mike as a Planning Commission member, noting that once his work schedule allows, he can certainly re-apply to be a member.

Ron Brenner and Gwen Roden met with Cynthia Graham, owner of Merchant Marine, and have determined that no CUP will be required.

Willenbring is working with the potential new owners of 575 Judd Street for a plan to reconstruct the home.

A letter of interest was received by Kristina Smitten to join the Planning Commission.

Benson moved and Marker seconded to officially remove Mike Zajac from the Planning Commission. Motion passed unanimously.

Lammi moved and Marker seconded to accept Kristina Smitten as a member of the Planning Commission effect immediately to fill the term of Mike Zajac. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports –

Jackson Meadow – Marker reported that there have been discussions between the developer and Homeowners Association which may lead to a formal request to transfer the system to the City. Marker and Jack Warren are working with TKDA to discuss the scope of evaluating the system.

Public Safety – The Appreciation dinner will be held on Sunday, April 17th. The public safety annual report will be ready for the April meeting.

Roads– Washington County will be doing a road project on County Road 7. This project is part of a state aid program, and therefore requires Municipal approval before the County can move forward.

Lammi moved and Benson seconded to approve Resolution 031011-01, approving a County project within municipal corporate limits. Motion passed unanimously.

Personnel/Building Inspector – No Report.

Recreation – Mowery advised the Legacy Trail Grant application is almost complete, and needs to be submitted no later than March 31st.

Finance – Clerk Peterson presented the 2010 Financial Statement.

Marker moved and Lammi seconded to approve the 2010 Financial Statement. Motion passed unanimously

Hall/Restoration – No Report.

Cemetery – Marker will contact Gary Campbell regarding his letter inviting the Council to visit the Rutherford column burial.

Village Center – Benson reported that the Village Center committee has been meeting twice per month. One of the topics being discussed is the current storm water issue. Jim Shaver has advised the Watershed District would be willing to grant assistance with a storm water flow assessment. Clerk Peterson will draft the request letter.

Wastewater and Water Systems – Jason Crotty advised the City will need to adopt a wastewater management plan for our onsite Mound systems sometime in the near future.

Tommy Boesel will be receiving a Wastewater Operator award from the MPCA for his compliance with the 2010 monitoring reports.

Consent Calendar – *Lammi moved and Marker seconded to approve the Minutes of 2/10/11, Treasurer's Report dated 2/11, the List of Bills for 3/10/11, Zoning Administrator's Report (None), Planning Commission Minutes and the February Maintenance Report. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business – Clerk Peterson advised the 2011 Board of Review meeting will be held on April 12th from 9am – 10am.

Reibel Litigation Update – The City Attorney notified Clerk Peterson that Brent Reibel is requesting to back out of the settlement agreement. Reibel is proposing to drop all claims against

the City and reimburse the \$1,000 the City paid for his appraisal, and in return the City will give him back his land. The recommendation from both the League of MN Cities and the City Attorney is to deny the request given the time and money the City has already invested in this matter.

Marker moved and Benson seconded that the City continue to stay the course and move forward with the settlement agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report – None

Adjournment – *Mowery moved and Benson seconded to adjourn at 8:32pm. Motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk