

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, June 10, 2010

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

Citizens Present: Fred Hundt, Dale Stull, Bruce McGregor, David Denn, Gordon Maltby, Dorothy Deetz.

Citizens Considerations

Flag Dedication – Mike Harnetty was present on behalf of the Scandia Marine Lions to present an American Flag to the City Council. This particular flag was donated by the Air Force, and has not only traveled the globe but was also flown over Afganistan. The flag has been framed and will hang, along with a certificate of recognition, in the upstairs of the Village Hall.

Kathy Harker - Deer Issue – Kathy Harker is a resident and lives on Nason Hill Road and is concerned with the growing deer population. She is wondering if the City has thought about additional ways to control the deer. Ms. Harker is also unhappy with a deer fence her neighbor has recently constructed, which covers 17 acres of their property. Kathhy and her husband are unhappy with the look of the fence, which does comply with City ordinance, however she believes is unsightly. The Council advised that the City allows both bow hunting and shotgun hunting in the rural districts. William O'Brien State Park also has a special hunt one weekend per year, and Camp Kiwanis has a Bucks and Buckthorn program with is also aimed at controlling the deer population. As for the deer fencing regulations, the Planning Commission has agreed to review the requirements to potentially add further restrictions on the color and building materials allowed.

Larry Baker – 440 Judd St. – Mr. Baker recently purchased the home at 440 Judd Street and is very concerned with the growing water issue between Highway 95 and Judd Street. Mr. Baker presented an arial map from several years ago of the swampy area between Hwy 95 and Judd Street, along Berkey Street, which shows several trees inhabiting that area. Those trees are now dead due to the excessive water flowing in that area, and nowhere for that water to drain . Due to the increase in water, the water problem in his basement is getting progressively worse also. Mr. Baker met with MnDot regarding the culvert work done last year. They confirmed that the culver size was not increased, however if the old culverts were plugged in any way, the new open culverts would certainly allow more water to flow under the highway and into that swamp area. The Council advised that there have been water issues in that area for many years, and back in the 1980's, the City would periodically clean out that area to avoid the water backing up. The City can no longer touch that area, as it is now regulated by several different agencies including the Mn DNR, Washington County Soil and Water, MnDot and the Watershed district. Mr. Baker suggested a short term solution to the problem would be to plug the culvers along Hwy 95 to eliminate any additional water flow into that area, and then contact the University of MN to potentially conduct a study of that area for possible solutions. Lammi advised MnDot is in

control of those culvers, and strongly believes they would not allow any of them to be blocked. From the City's side, the culverts along Judd Street will be fixed/replaced during the Judd Street reconstruction project, however there is no plan to increase the size or add additional culverts as that would involve working with the DNR as there would be significant increased flow into the St. Croix river.

Robin Brooksbank – VC Signage – Ms. Brooksbank has been working on a proposal to place a sign along Hwy 95 which would advertise the City and its businesses. Unfortunately all of the land around the downtown area is owned by MnDOT, and their policy is to allow a permit to place a sign in their right of way, however there cannot be any commercial advertising included on the sign. Discussion was held whether it a sign with just the City name would be worth installing. Benson will follow up on the issue and report back at the July meeting.

Liquor License Proposal – Colin Faulkner, part owner of Marine Mills, questioned the chances of obtaining an off sale liquor license. The proposal is to open a shop and offer home delivery of wine to area residents. Any additional license granted would require an amendment to the City's liquor ordinance. The Council stated they would be willing to hear Mr. Faulkner's proposal, however he must present a complete detailed plan.

Music Permit Requests – Two music permit requests were reviewed. The first request was made by Linda Tibbets for the Toni Polentes benefit on Saturday, June 13th from 1-6pm. Linda also requested the Council waive the \$25 as the event is a benefit for a local business owner.

The second request was from the Brookside Bar and Grill to have music on Saturday, July 3rd from 6pm – 9pm and July 4th from 2pm – 6pm. Matt Miller, owner, stated they will be in contact with Kipps Security for the night of July 3rd.

Marker moved and Myers seconded to issue a music permit to Linda Tibbets as requested. Motion passed unanimously.

Benson moved and Lammi seconded to waive the \$25 fee as requested. Motion passed unanimously.

Benson moved and Lammi seconded to issue a music permit to the Brookside Bar and Grill for July 3rd and 4th. Motion passed unanimously.

Joe Matsumoto – Easement Re-Location Request – Mr. Matsumoto owns the property at 1601 Broadway Street. Currently there is a pedestrian easement which runs through the property, which is being used for agricultural purposes. Mr. Matsumoto is proposing to construct a deer fence around that section of the property to protect his crops, and therefore would like to re-locate the easement to the perimeter of the property. Myers has walked the property and believes the new proposed location would work for a trail. The Land Trust would also need to approve the proposed new location. Mr. Matsumoto will move ahead with acquiring a survey and new legal descriptions for the trail.

Planning Commission - Chairman Willenbring submitted a report of the May meeting. T-Mobile is concerned that the area chosen for the tower site may be too costly to build a foundation as the soil is very loose, and they are looking for suggestions on a second site location. Clerk Peterson will contact Amy Dresch to request she visit the site to discuss possible new locations.

The Tanglewood Association is requesting to contract with the City for crack sealing. Jason Crotty stated the City has no plans for sealing until at least 2011, but would be willing to discuss the issue at that time.

Committee Reports –

Jackson Meadow – The proposed mitigation plan from EcoCheck is coming together. Jack Warren has been working with EcoCheck during the process. The City has begun mowing the trails.

Public Safety – Chief Denn reported the Department was called to a very difficult house fire the morning of June 7th, and commended Fire Fighter's Nels Peterson, Mike Aspengren, Andy Weaver, Bill Ries and Matt Thibodeau for their outstanding work.

Art Fair – Lammi noted that the preparations for the upcoming Art Fair are in the works, and commended Doris Strand and the other volunteers for making this event so successful. There has been discussions with the Art Fair committee to attempt to increase the communication between them and the City. Lammi believes we need to begin working with the new businesses during the Art Fair to ensure they can also be successful during this event. Unfortunately the cooperation from the Art Fair committee has not been optimal, however the City will continue to work to better the communications and merge this event into a City/volunteer effort.

Roads–Judd Street Project - TKDA emailed the plans and documents to the City just prior to the Council meeting and the numbers came in between \$370,000 and \$404,000. The amount budgeted for this budget is \$385,000, so it is right on target. There are a few areas to cut from to bring the total cost down if needed. The bids will be published June 12th.

Personnel/Building Inspector – No Report.

Recreation – Myers reported that the walking trail map is complete and the sales have been very successful.

MN Historical Society Property - A meeting was held with Tom Ellig of the Historical Society to discuss the City taking over the mowing contract for the Mill Site property. The City will be paid \$500 to mow from July 1st, 2010 through June 30th, 2011. Myers figured it would take the Public Works department approximately one hour per month to maintain.

Finance – No Report.

Hall/Restoration – No Report.

Cemetery – Memorial Day went very well. Marker has drafted an article for the upcoming newsletter calling for volunteers to help with the list draft by Gary Campbell.

Riverway Rules – No Report.

Village Center – July 3rd events are on track.

Wastewater and Water Systems – No Report.

Consent Calendar – *Lammi moved and Benson seconded to approve the Minutes of 5/13/10, Treasurer's Report dated 5/10, the List of Bills for 6/10/10, Zoning Administrator's Report, Planning Commission Minutes - None, and the May Maintenance Report. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business – A request was received to declare July 17-25, 2010 St. Croix River Awareness and Cleanup Week.

Marker moved and Lammi seconded to declare July 17th -25th St. Croix River Awareness and Cleanup Week. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report – None

Adjournment –*Lammi moved and Marker seconded to adjourn at 9:01p.m. Motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk