

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, April 12, 2012

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

Citizens Present: Robin Brooksbank, Jack Warren, Gordon Maltby, Mirram Willett, Courtney Sprecher, Rich Burton, Mike Tibbits, Bill Ries.

Citizens Considerations –

Courtney Sprecher - Ms. Sprecher was in attendance on behalf of the Osceola Chamber of Commerce to request the Council's opinion on having the Osceola Depot Train bring citizens to Marine to view the fireworks this year. The Council remembers the train transporting people in the past and doesn't see any issues with continuing. They are also looking at providing transportation from the train drop off to the downtown area.

Robin Brooksbank – Ms. Brooksbank was in attendance on behalf of MarLa to advise the Council of a raffle fundraising effort in September. In order to proceed, MarLa needs to apply to the MN Gambling Department, which requires the City's approval and Mayor's signature. Mayor Mills agreed to sign.

Rich Burton - Mr. Burton was in attendance on behalf of the Friends of Scandia Parks and Trails Committee. With the upcoming Gateway Trail plans, the committee is looking at various bike routes throughout the City connecting Marine to Scandia. Mr. Burton submitted a proposed trail map showing various bike routes between Scandia and Marine. Most of Marine's bike trail routes are currently signed, however the trails committee would like the City to provide a sign on Oak Street and Fifth Street, and potentially a sign on the corner of Oak Street and Broadway. The Scandia Parks and Trails committee did receive a grant to help pay for the signs, so there would be no cost to the City. Mowery noted that the City has been applying for a Legacy Grant for the improvement of our bike trail, and believes adding the signage might help enhance the City's grant application. The consensus of the Council was to move ahead with ordering the signs.

Mike Tibbits – Mr. Tibbits, Marine resident, doesn't like the noon siren and believes the City should stop using the siren and instead ring the bell on the Village Hall as an alternative. Mr. Tibbits also suggested using the bell throughout the day in conjunction with the clock face on the front of the Village Hall. Marker agreed that the siren is very loud, especially when you are in the downtown area. However, due to the type and age of the siren, it needs to be exercised twice a day. Chief Denn was not in attendance to comment, however Marker will check with him to get the details. A suggestion was made to swap the siren at the maintenance shop with the downtown siren. Marker will look into.

Planning Commission – Jack Warren was in attendance to review the March meeting. The

Village Center Task Force will hold a public informational meeting on Saturday, April 14th. The public hearing for the Comprehensive Plan addendum has been scheduled for the April 24th Planning Commission meeting at 8pm. The Commission is still working on the storm water ordinance with the Watershed District. Rollin and Rebecca Alm will be at the April meeting for a public hearing for their property at 400 Judd Street.

Miller questioned what the architectural and common design standards for roads and sidewalks means as part of the Village Center plan. Warren advised the intent is to provide design continuity along Judd Street. Miller noted there are conflicts between the various documents handed out regarding the Village Center plan. Warren noted that none of the documents showing specific detailed projects will be included in the addendum. The other issue concerns funding. Most agencies providing grant money require the overall project plan to be included in the City Comprehensive Plan, which is why the Task Force committee would like to see this addendum passed so quickly.

New Commission Member – Miller moved and Marker seconded to approve Joyce Ritz as a new member of the Planning Commission for a two year term. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports –

Jackson Meadow – Marker was hoping to have heard from the Homeowners Association Attorney by now, however has not as of yet and hope to have an update for the May meeting.

Public Safety – Appreciation dinner is scheduled for Sunday, April 22nd. The new Rescue truck should be delivered this week.

Roads - Patching will begin within the next couple of weeks. Miller would like to get the Engineer's opinion on Third Street due to the request by the Task Force wanting to hold off on the repaving. Jack Warren requested the storm water issues be considered also.

Personnel/Building Inspector –No Report.

Recreation – Mayor Mills emailed William O'Brien regarding the no parking sign issue, however has not heard back.

Mowery noted that the trail information from Jason Husveth is still on track to be presented at the June meeting.

Public Works is crack filling the bike trail, and questioned whether to resurface the tennis court. There is money in reserve funds for the tennis court for maintenance.

Miller moved and Mowery seconded to move forward with resurfacing the tennis court. Motion passed unanimously.

Finance – No Report.

Hall/Restoration – The lock on the Village Hall has been changed. The tanks for the sprinkler system have been ordered.

MarLa Agreement – The Council reviewed the proposed agreement between the City and MarLa for the library space. Robin Brooksbank was in attendance to help answer questions. Miller questioned hours of operation. MarLa currently has set hours but may change those down the road. Space was another issue on concern. Currently the library is using lobby space for a book exchange and a book drop area, and there should be parameters of what is stored there. Responsibility of maintenance and replacement of space and fixtures, check list for opening and closing of the library, proposals for future improvements and library income/City expenses and type of library programs were other issues discussed. Marker agrees with the list, however isn't comfortable with monitoring the library programs. Clerk Peterson will email this list to Brooksbank to bring to the MarLa board. After they review and answer the questions, the City will forward to the City Attorney.

Cemetery – There was some vandalism to one of the City stone markers. Public works cleaned what they could, and repainted the rest.

Village Center – Task Force informational meeting on Saturday, April 14th at 9:30am.

Wastewater and Water Systems – Panel repairs have been done at the Jackson Meadow water system. The cistern is currently leaking. Crotty will be meeting with a rep from that company to review.

Miller questioned the suggestion at the March meeting for expanding the drainfield. That suggestion came from a request by Dale Stull to add his house on Judd Street to the City system.

Consent Calendar – The Council reviewed the Jackson Meadow request for trail maintenance. Part of this request is reimbursement for a chain saw. Mowery suggested the City pay the bill request. Miller disagreed, and believes that the City should not be paying for Capital funds for the Jackson Meadow trail association. Miller would also like to request the Jackson Meadow Homeowners Association provide an inventory of equipment purchased with City dollars that is being used for private use. Miller would like a new bill submitted minus the chain saw and with clarification of which trails the signs are used for. The City will invite Mr. Suby to the May meeting to discuss this bill along with expectations for reimbursement moving forward. Miller also questioned the payment to Sherrill Reid for the pickup of a feral cat. There was discussion at the December Council meeting that she would no longer pickup feral cats. The Council will hold the check for Ms. Reid and is requesting a letter from the Ms. Reid listing out her responsibilities..

Miller moved and Mowery seconded to approve the Minutes of 3/8/12, Treasurer's Report dated 3/12, the List of Bills for 4/8/12 minus the Jackson Meadow payment and Animal Control, Zoning

Administrator's Report, February/March Planning Commission Minutes and the March Maintenance Report. Motion passed unanimously.

Old/New Business – Storyhill concert on April 29th.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report –

Adjournment – *Miller moved and Marker seconded to adjourn at 8:23p.m. Motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk