

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, May 12, 2011

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

Citizens Present: Dale Stull, Bill Miller, David Denn.

Public Hearing – Liquor License Request Olivier Vrambout - Mayor Mills called the Public Hearing to order at 7:01pm for the purpose of discussing a request by Olivier Vrambout to obtain an On Sale/Off Sale liquor license. Mr. Vrambout owns the Bikery Du Nord, and currently holds an On Sale Wine License. He would like to expand his business by holding cooking classes and then having the option of those customers purchasing bottles of wine. Clerk Peterson will check on whether there is a requirement for a separate entrance required for off sale. Marker is concerned that this is a big license to grant, with allowances for many more options than what is proposed, and would prefer to not see a “liquor store” ending up there. This license is renewed annually, and therefore the Council has the ability to review the use prior to renewing each year.

Benson moved and Marker seconded to grant the On Sale/Off Sale license to Olivier Vrambout for the Bikery Du Nord. Motion passed unanimously.

Citizens Considerations -

Gary Campbell and Ron Johnson – Mr. Campbell introduced Mr. Johnson as an officer from the Rutherford Cemetery Association. Mr. Johnson advised the Rutherford Cemetery just recently installed a columbarium, and brought with brochures showing various examples and prices. The particular columbarium installed by Rutherford is a gazebo style with four sections. Each section contains 28 niches, and each niche holds two interments. The price per niche is \$1500, then \$250 for the second interment. Mr. Johnson advised the cost for the footings for all four sections was approximately \$5,000 and \$10,000 for the building. He suggested the Council find a design they like, then take a tour of the manufacturing facility prior to making a decision.

Planning Commission – The Commission continues to review the various zoning districts. The State legislature has passed a new law defining variance and variance procedures. The Commission will review the new verbiage and include an amendment to our codes to comply.

Committee Reports –

Jackson Meadow – Marker reviewed the request for the City to take over the Wastewater system, and the short term denial upon receipt of the evaluation from the City Engineer. The evaluation has been completed, however Marker will wait to represent the findings until the June meeting so the Council and City Attorney can review the document.

Public Safety – Chief Denn reported there have been a few issues with vehicle and equipment breakdown's which have required some expense repairs.

There will be a house burn for training purposes with Pine Technical college on June 11th.

The Fireman's Ball is scheduled for Saturday, June 18th.

Roads– Public Works will be starting hot patching next week.

Personnel/Building Inspector – Mike Lammi has submitted his letter of resignation due to a change in his work schedule. Bill Miller has stated he would be interested in filling the vacancy, however the Council thought it would be best to post the opening first, then review any letters of interest at the June meeting.

Marker moved and Benson seconded to approve Resolution No. 051211-01, Accepting Resignation and Declaring a Vacancy of a City Council Member for the City of Marine on St. Croix. Motion passed unanimously.

Benson moved and Marker seconded to post the Council vacancy and make a decision at the June meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Recreation –Mowery met with the Mill Site committee and reported that the first round of tree plantings were done last weekend. They will be promoting the Mill Site cleanup during Millstream Days.

Everett Myers was in attendance on behalf of the trail committee to propose a pedestrian trail beginning on Matsumoto's property on Broadway Street, and continuing through the Maintenance Shop property to William O'Brien State Park. Myers stated he spoke with Steve Anderson from William O'Brien and they are supportive of a trail connection into the park, however they would need to get formal approval from the DNR. Jason Crotty was concerned about additional maintenance, as they already maintain all of the Jackson Meadow trails, and just recently picked up the Mill Site maintenance. Myers stated the trail committee would handle the initial clearing, and the City would only have to do minimal work with grading. Mayor Mills noted that there is the potential for the T-Mobile tower to be placed on that property, along with the cemetery expansion. Myers did not think this trail would interfere with either of those. The Council seemed open to the idea, however would like to walk the property prior to making any formal approvals.

St. Croix Paddle Event – Benson reported that there will be a "Paddle the St. Croix" event in July, where approximately 200 people will be canoeing the entire length of the St. Croix river. At one point, they will be stopping over in Marine and camping at William O'Brien. The Restoration Society will be putting together some events, and Benson questioned whether the City would be willing to contribute by paying for local transportation to and from the Park to the downtown area. The Council thought that would be a great idea.

Finance – No Report.

Hall/Restoration – There is a revised joint powers agreement between the City and County regarding the library. The County would like to see lockers installed in Marine, which the Friends of the Library committee is not in favor of. Benson believes the Friends of the Library committee should keep an open mind and be willing to work with the County on that issue. He reiterated that Pat Conley is a big advocate of the Marine library and very much would like to see this partnership work.

Cemetery – Marker would like to hear public comment regarding the interest in a columbarium prior to making any decisions in the future.

Village Center – The first round of the stormwater evaluation has been completed, however there is no report as of yet. The Village Center committee continues to meet and is close to have a rough draft of their downtown plan.

Wastewater and Water Systems – Jason Crotty reported the MPCA has implemented a second license requirement for our system, which will require additional training and preventative maintenance inspections.

Consent Calendar – *Marker moved and Benson seconded to approve the Minutes of 4/14/11, Treasurer's Report dated 4/11, the List of Bills for 5/12/11, Zoning Administrator's Report (None), Planning Commission Minutes and the April Maintenance Report. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business – The Tolling and Standstill agreement for the Mattson sewer issue has been signed by both parties.

Human Foosball Donation Request – The Marine School Association is requesting a donation for a human foosball court currently being built at Marine Elementary School. Clerk Peterson advised there is approximately \$600 in reserve funds set aside for the school playground, which could be re-allocated should the Council decide to donate. After some discussion, the consensus was to donate \$200 of the playground money.

Marker moved and Mowery seconded to reallocate \$200 of the playground reserve funds for the human foosball court. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report – Clerk Peterson reported that Washington County is pursuing the dangerous dog declaration for one of the dogs belonging to Kim Jordahl, however there is some confusion as to whether a potentially dangerous dog declaration has already been given. Mike Welch, prosecuting attorney for both Scandia and Forest Lake, has been assigned to this case and

is working with the City regarding a potential hearing date for Ms. Jordahl. It seems that a City representative will be required to attend this hearing, and in this case it will be Jason Crotty. Clerk Peterson requested a Council member also attend this hearing on behalf of the City. Both Mayor Mills and Benson offered to attend. Clerk Peterson will keep the Council updated on the situation as more information is available.

Adjournment – *Benson moved and Marker seconded to adjourn at 8:34pm. Motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk