

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, May 12, 2016

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

Citizens Present: Gerry Mrosła, Ryan Goodman, Anne Reich, Sue Logan, John Goodfellow, Charles Arnason, Jason Crotty, Bill Ries, Curt Moe, Tod Drescher.

Citizens Considerations ó

John Goodfellow ó Mr. Goodfellow was in attendance to update the Council on the Emerald Ash Borer. The most current infestation has been identified in Chisago County and is just a matter of time before we see this in Marine. Mr. Goodfellow would like to see the Monfort Dunn ash tree in the park treated soon as a proactive measure. Miller questioned if the treatment of these ash trees is a perpetual thing, and the answer is yes. Mr. Goodfellow suggested that because of this, the Council consider only treating the significant ash trees in town, and prepare a replacement plan for the ash that become infected and die. He believes the EAB will be in Marine within 3 years, and but cannot determine exactly when. There is a less expensive treatment for these trees that is soil applied, however this option is not favorable to the environment which is why the injection is the suggested treatment. The cost would be \$11.00 per inch if only a couple of trees are treated, and is reduced to \$7.00 per inch if the City chooses to treat 16 trees or more. No decision was made at this time.

Planning Commission ó Chairman Mrosła updated the Council on the April meeting. The code review is getting closer to being complete and the Commission will begin meeting twice a month to get that wrapped up. There is a potential buyer for the last vacant lot for sale in the Tanglewood subdivision, however there is issues with the topography. Most of the property has slope over 12%, which is unbuildable per the Zoning code and would require a variance. The Commission is meeting with him to see if they can work with the plan to minimize the slope disturbance within the building envelope.

Public Safety ó Willenbring read Chief Dennø's monthly report. Firemanø's Streetdance is coming up on June 18th. Still no update on the CAD system and the new firefighters have completed FF1 and Hazmat and are now working on completing FF2.

Willenbring moved and Miller seconded to approve a one day liquor license for the Streetdance on June 18th. Motion passed unanimously.

Roads - Ryan Goodman presented quotes for the crack filing and seal coating. Allied Blacktop was the low bidder at \$36,933.

Willenbring moved and Pardun seconded to approve the bid by Allied Blacktop in the amount of \$36,933. Motion passed unanimously.

Next County Rd 4 meeting will be next Wednesday, May 18th.

Personnel/Building Inspector - No Report.

Recreation ó Curt Moe was in attendance to update the Council on the Millsite property. The committee was scheduled to gravel the trails from behind the General Store to the Millsite, however the Watershed District and Conservation District stopped the project due to that area being considered a wetland. The gravel would be considered fill and therefore subject to conditions by both entities. The agencies will meet to discuss what can happen in that area and let the trails committee know the results. Curt Moe will be stepping down as the trail committee chair after many years of volunteering. Mowery thanked Curt Moe for spearheading the committee in the beginning and securing the grant funding through the MN Historical Society.

Gateway Trail Update ó Miller walked the Jackson Meadow/City trail system with managers of the DNR to see where the best location might be for the Gateway trail system. There are a few ideas to potentially place the trail on the local trail system, which is a concern of the City. This idea is something that would be discussed further down the road. The current plan to cross the railroad track is to build a tunnel under the tracks, which would be a very large expense. The DNR is looking for City support in order to use that as leverage with the property owners who have not yet given easements.

Jackson Meadow Trail Update - Mowery and Miller are working to walk all of the public trails, and while on the City trails there were trail signs discovered that were incomplete and also, located below these signs, are donation boxes that were not placed there by the City. Mowery is very upset that things are being done on these trails, that are owned by the City, by private individuals. Countless hours were put in to creating an accurate trail map by a professional and believes this is a huge step backwards. Gerry Mrosla noted that these items were never brought to the Jackson Meadow Board for approval, so it was clearly done by a few private individuals. Gerry will try to find out who may be responsible for putting these things up so the City can address the issue. Willenbring questioned if those collection boxes may have been put up on the cross country ski trails to help with the grooming, which still does not justify the action.

Finance ó No Report

Cemetery ó Preparing for Memorial Day. Cameras are currently not working as the public works is waiting for a new hard drive system. Gerry Mrosla noted the due to the vandalism in Jackson Meadow, a security company was brought in to give a quote on a camera system that would take a clear picture of a license plate and transmit the image to the sheriffs department. The system would cost around \$10,000 and Gerry questioned whether the City would ever consider contributing to the cost. The Council has some concerns with using a camera on city streets, and no decision was made.

Wastewater and Water Systems ó There were some issues discovered during the televising process that public works is resolving.

Citizen Committee Reports

Village Center Task Force ó Willenbring updated the Council on the projects the Task Force are working on. The grant request will be submitted within the next several weeks. A drawing was submitted to the Council for a proposed dumpster enclosure on Third Street. A few concerns were how to work out billing for consolidation of dumpsters, etc. There are also concerns that the construction plans are coordinated with any future street reconstruction of Third Street. No official approval was given at this time.

The Task Force is looking at the reconveyance issue which Mary Vogel will be helping to look into possible Grant funding. Pardun is also working on the reconveyance through the stormwater project. Miller would like there to be one Council contact on this issue and would like that person to be Pardun as he has been working on this issue for a long period of time.

The task force is also looking at signage for various areas around the Village Center. The next meeting will be Wednesday, May 27th.

MarLa - Sue Logan was in attendance to give an update on the library events. The summer kids programming is being rolled out shortly. There are three programs coming up as part of the adult programming.

Hall/Restoration ó The Restoration Society is looking to get bids on repair work on the outside of the Village Hall.

Stormwater/Watershed ó Pardun reported there has been no official meeting, and the committee is still working on the rain garden project. The hope is to have the entire project done by September.

Millsite ó No additional Report.

Green Step Cities - Anne Reich continues to input information on the completed projects, which has now pushed the City into a Step 2 City. The City will receive this award sometime this summer.

Holidays ó The Osceola Train will drop off and pick up passengers at the church for the July 3rd Fireworks. There are funds left over from the 175th celebration that will again cover the cost of having planters around the downtown area and Janice White will again maintain these planters.

School Property ó As a result of the moratorium passed on the school property, a committee was formed to help figure out what can/should happen to that property. The committee will consist of Lon Pardun, Bill Miller, Gerry Mroska, Scott Spisak and Robin Brooksbank and will officially be called the Marine Elementary School Property Advisory Committee. Miller presented a mission statement for the committee. Willenbring would like amend the mission statement to include documentation of any recommendations the committee brings forth. The committee has requested the City Attorney attend the next committee meeting to discuss legal options for the

City. The Council had no issues with this being done. Willenbring would support having City staff take Minutes at these meetings to help alleviate the responsibility put on the committee members.

Miller moved Mowery seconded to approve creation, members and mission statement of the Marine Elementary School property advisory committee. Motion passed unanimously.

Mowery requested adding Jackson Meadow back on to the agenda as a committee report. Gerry Mroska has offered to be the Citizen liaison between Jackson Meadow and the Council. Miller doesn't want to separate Jackson Meadow from the City, he would like to see it be addressed as one entity. Mroska could be the liaison on behalf of the Jackson Meadow Board and if there are any issues, it could be brought up under Citizen considerations. The Council will think about it and discuss at a later date.

Consent Calendar ó *Miller moved and Pardun seconded to approve the Minutes of 4/14/16, Treasurer's Report of 4/16, List of Bills for 5/12/16, Zoning Administrators Report, Public Works Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business ó HRA Resolution ó This item was discussed last month. The Council chose not to address this resolution.

Long/Short Term Goals ó Miller requested to add Gateway Trail under recreation.

Tort Liability Waiver ó *Miller moved and Pardun seconded to not waive the tort liability limits for the City insurance. Motion passed unanimously.*

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report ó No Report.

Adjournment ó Miller moved and Mowery seconded to adjourn at 8:52pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk