

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, June 14, 2012

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

Citizens Present: Mary Skamser, Larry/Mary Whitaker, Tod Drescher, Dorothy Deetz, Karen/Andy Kramer, Charles Arnason, Anne Reich, Page Holmquist, Jeannie Davis, Dan Willenbring, Gwen Roden, Dale Stull, Curt Moe, Greg Johnson, Kristina Smitten, Philip Bock.

Citizens Considerations – Dorothy Deetz was in attendance to update the Council on the July 3rd activities. The Osceola train will be bringing in approximately 400 people for the fireworks. The holiday committee has a proposed bus route to bring those people into town without disrupting the downtown area. The security company will help bring them into the downtown area. Dorothy will meet with the representative from the Osceola Chamber of Commerce on the details. Larry Whitaker questioned placing no parking signs along Judd Street the night of the fireworks. The City Council thought that would be fine.

Mill Site Update – Public Works has spread new lime rock on the trails, and Dan Froiland has replaced the fence. Prairie Restoration is working on getting new native vegetation along the bank.

Trail Update – Jason Husveth is still working on the trail mapping. Chris is still hoping to have it ready for the June newsletter

Village Center Task Force – Dan Willenbring looked into a Legacy grant from the Minnesota Historical Society, however the City is not yet in a position to be eligible. The hope is to apply for the 2014 round of applications. EPA still has not made a decision on those grant applications. The Task Force is looking to meet with the Restoration Society on creating a base package for grants.

Planning Commission – Jack Warren updated the Council on the May meeting. Mike Zajac is looking at starting a canoe/kayak rental business in the Village Center. The Commission considered this as a service business, which is not defined in the Zoning Ordinance. After looking at a legal definition of a rental business, it was found as falling under the service business category. The Commission was satisfied that the proposed business fell within the required guidelines and no action would be required by the City. Benson noted there could be potential issues in the future with a commercial rental business using City right away. Zajac is putting together a map with the public rights of way, including William O'Brien, Log House Landing and Osceola landing to help distribute the canoe traffic.

Surface Water Management Plan – Jack Warren, Gwen Roden, Kristina Smitten and Wendy Adams met to review the Watershed District rules. There are many area of the rules that seem to be very disconnected from what could work in Marine. Warren suggested the Council and

Commission meet to review the rules and identify a strategy to what should be excepted out of their plan. September 13th is the timeline for the City to have its rules adopted. Warren is proposing June 26th for the joint meeting.

Village Center Addendum – The Planning Commission held the public hearings in April and May. The end result was a modification of the January draft by adding a map and additional wording allowing plan level changes based upon engineering reviews. Jack Warren broke down the levels of the Comprehensive Plan. These levels are the Comp Plan at the top, Policies, Plan Items and Implementation. The Commission dealt with the policies and plan items. The policy plan was the general ideas of for the Village Center plan, and was well received. The plan items focused more on the specifics on the policy items and potential funding. This seems to be where comes into play. The City Attorney reviewed the wording of the addendum, and his suggestion was to change the mandatory terms to more generalized terms. It was also suggested that if the plan include the directive language, then the City should first evaluate the fiscal and engineering feasibility of the proposed improvements. Warren noted that the City does not have a planning or engineering staff in house, and therefore making that suggestion a fiscally difficult one. Miller questioned if the task force plans on prioritizing projects based on funds available, or if a capital improvement plan would need to be done regardless. Willenbring stated the task force will create a “road map” of the overall projects and what the most urgent needs are. Marker likes the specific language and believes it gives the document strength. He believes the language added by the Commission is sufficient to address the City Attorney’s concerns. Miller doesn’t like the word etcetera at the end of the language. Marker suggested adding the word “and” after best practices making the sentence read as “Therefore it is expected that engineering reviews closer to the time of implementation may suggest plan level changes based on improvements in technology, best practices and more cost effective solutions.” Mayor Mills likes the City Attorney’s suggestions. Benson noted that all proposed projects will need to come to Council for approval anyway, so nothing in this addendum is set in stone. Miller is concerned that future Councils understand that changes can be made and these plans are not mandated. Marker doesn’t believe the language mandates anything.

Benson moved and Marker seconded to accept the Planning Commission’s recommendation to adopt the Addenda to the 2008 Comprehensive Plan draft dated 6/14/2012 as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports –

Jackson Meadow – A request was made by Harold Teasdale to release the \$27,000 Letter of Credit No. 402, which addressed the longevity and maintenance of the reverse crown roads in Jackson Meadow. The City Engineer reviewed the request and has recommendation the release.

Marker moved and Miller seconded to approve Resolution No. 061412-01, releasing the letter of credit regarding the longevity and maintenance of the reverse crown roads in Jackson Meadow. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Safety – Streetdance is this coming Saturday.

Two donations were received for the Department in the amount of \$500 apiece.

Runs have been high so far this summer.

Marker moved and Mowery seconded two donations in the amount of \$500 a piece from Mary Allan. Motion passed unanimously.

Paul Kinsey, Judd Street resident, questioned if there is anything the City can do about the number of motorcycles coming into town on the residential side streets. Miller advised the City battled this issue several years ago and unfortunately found out there really is no recourse. Chief Denn suggested the City consider making Judd Street a one way from Berkey south. It seems that most of the motorcycles are coming across to Judd Street from County Road 7. Mayor Mills suggested placing a “local traffic only” sign on Judd Street. Public Works will check with MnDOT on what we can do with the end of Judd Street.

Roads - Miller complimented the public works department on the cleanup after the semi truck accident.

Soil borings will be done on Linden Street as the first step of removing the asphalt on the north side of Judd Street.

Seal coating tomorrow.

Personnel/Building Inspector – No Report.

Recreation – No Report.

Finance – No Report.

Hall/Restoration – Sprinkler tanks have been delivered and should be functional by next Friday.

Cemetery – No Report.

Village Center – No Report.

Wastewater and Water Systems – Contract pumping is in process.

Consent Calendar – Miller moved and Mowery seconded approve the Minutes of 5/10/12, Treasurers Report of 5/12, List of Bills with the addition of Helke’s tree service, one for \$1200

and the other for \$2050, Zoning Administrators Report and Planning Commission Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Old/New Business

Long/Short term goal review – Okay to remove the Village Center.

Mayor Notes/Clerk’s Report – Council candidate filing opens July 31st.

Local Board of Review training will be September 19th at 6pm.

Adjournment – *Marker moved and Benson seconded to adjourn at 9:25p.m. Motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk