

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, July 14, 2011

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

Citizens Present: Robin Brooksbank, Sue Logan, Connie Helke, David Denn, Joyce Leslie, Reggie Bengtson.

Citizens Considerations –

Reggie Bengtson - Mr. Bengtson lives on Quant Avenue, and believes the runoff coming from his neighbor to the west is causing major water issues on his property. Jason Crotty has looked at the property along with the City Building Inspector and believes the culvert under the driveway and ditches are adequate. Mr. Bengtson also does not believe there is a crown on the road, and would like the road bed to be raised at least 5 inches like it had been in the past. Crotty will go out and shoot the elevation of the road to check and make sure the crown is where it should be. Mr. Bengtson would also like the brush on the corner of Quant and County Road 4 cut back.

Marine Library Association – Robin Brooksbank was in attendance on behalf of the Marine Library Association (MarLa). Brooksbank noted that the group was incorporated in May and is currently waiting on their 501.3C designation. A written summary was given to the Council regarding their recommendations for the joint library venture with Washington County. MarLa is suggesting the City enter into a joint powers agreement with Washington County with terms outlined in the written summary. One major sticking point for the Association is the issue of installing lockers as part of the venture. The library board is currently proposing the locker installation be part of the negotiations, whereas the MarLa is recommending there be no lockers for the first year, with a re-evaluation the following year if necessary. Benson noted that past discussions with the County Board have indicated that they are very interested in pursuing the lockers, and questioned if the County were to use those as an ultimatum for moving forward, would the MarLa walk away from the proposal all together? Brooksbank stated that was a definite possibility. Benson reiterated that ultimately any agreement with the County is between the City and the County and that all responsibility generated from that agreement will be the City's responsibility. Brooksbank believes by changing the hours the library is open, the lockers will not be necessary. Currently, the County is agreeing to pay for not only the lockers, but the also the design and construction of a shelter to surround the lockers. Brooksbank stated that is the County agrees to forgo the lockers for one year, and MarLa's plan does not work after one year, they would be willing to pay for the locker installation and shelter out the Jordan bequest. Benson and Mayor Mills will be meeting with the library board next week to discuss the options.

Planning Commission – No June meeting. T-Mobile has submitted a revised lease agreement to the City Attorney for review.

Committee Reports –

Jackson Meadow – Marker has been working with the City Engineer and City Attorney on putting together a cost proposal for the wastewater turnover. That proposal has been submitted to Harold Teasdale and he will review with the Homeowners Association to decide whether or not to move forward.

Mayor Mills questioned whether the City has an up to date map of the Jackson Meadow trail system. It seems there have been many trails added since the last map was updated, and the City has taken to mowing all of those trails which takes a tremendous amount of time. The other issue is whether the City actually has easements to the trails added. The City will first need to determine which trails are City owned and which are private trails and then pursue getting the necessary easements for those newly added trails.

Public Safety – Chief Denn was unable to attend, however has submitted a written update to the Council (attached).

Discussion was held regarding the art fair and its progress thus far. The jury committee has met once and reviewed approximately 60 applications, of which roughly 20 were accepted. They will try to meet again the first week of August. One issue discussed was the lack of food vendor applications. The applications received so far all require electrical connections, which the City cannot provide. A suggestion was made to eliminate the outside food vendors, and instead request the local businesses to pay the \$190 fee in order to sell their food instead.

Roads – Miller updated the Council on the new federal mandate for all cities to adopt a new Retro reflectivity policy for all road signage. The City is required to have the policy adopted by January of 2012, the first round of signs updated by 2015 and the remaining by 2018. The estimated cost of the new signage will be around \$6,000; however this can be budgeted over the next couple of years.

Marker moved and Benson seconded to adopt Resolution No. 071411-01, a resolution adopting a Retro reflectivity policy for the City of Marine on St. Croix. Motion passed unanimously.

Personnel/Building Inspector – Benson met with City staff and discussed time allocation versus work load and job descriptions.

Recreation – Mowery attended the St. Croix River Partnership boat ride. The discussion was based primarily on shoreland vegetation and invasive species, i.e the Asian Carp.

Jason Crotty reported that the Wilke Street access is being dammed up which is re-routing the stream. The City will install signs along that access to try and deter whoever is doing the work. Mayor Mills noted that the bridges on the Cedar Street trail should be wider. Jason Crotty indicated there may be an opportunity this fall to make that an Eagle Scout project.

Finance – Clerk Peterson reminded everyone that budget time is fast approaching and requested all Council members have their wish list items ready for the August meeting.

Hall/Restoration – The Village Hall Historic Structure report is complete. Mayor Mills and Jason Crotty are looking into ways to update the heating and cooling system in the back office. The hall's well went out temporarily, and as a result the City learned that the well is shared by the Village Scoop building.

Cemetery – Marker and Mayor Mills plan to walk the 40 acres at the maintenance shop to look for a potential cemetery location.

Village Center – Benson reported that the Marine post office will be moving its routes and delivery operation to the Scandia office. Currently all employees will be retained and all post office boxes, delivery service, etc will remain the same, however the post master is the only employee who will remain in at the Marine office. The City will be notified if anything else changes.

Village Center Concept Plans – Benson reported that the task force had a stakeholder meeting with the local business owners to review the concept plan. The plan is to incorporate the suggested changes then present those changes to the Planning Commission. Currently all plans are conceptual, and in the near future the group would like to schedule an informational meeting for the Council to review the plans. Clerk Peterson suggested that the Council attend the Planning Commission meeting in which the concept changes are presented.

Benson invited the Council and City staff to a shrimp boil on Monday, July 25th. This is something he hosts as a thank you to the Holiday committee every year.

Wastewater and Water Systems – Jason Crotty reported there have been a few force main issues and a pump controller was replaced at the Stugas.

Consent Calendar – *Miller moved and Benson seconded to approve the Minutes of 6/9/11, Treasurer's Report dated 6/11, the List of Bills for 7/14/11, Zoning Administrator's Report, Planning Commission Minutes and the June Maintenance Report. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business – Clerk Peterson has received two draft copies of dangerous dog ordinances and will have the City Attorney review to create a draft ordinance for presentation at the August meeting.

Ryan Stempski has left TKDA. There is no word yet as to whom his replacement will be.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report – No Report.

Adjournment – *Marker moved and Benson seconded to adjourn at 9:06pm. Motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk