

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, August 9, 2012

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

Citizens Present: Dale Stull, Bill Ries, Jim Studenski, Mary Skamser, Wayne Boener, Jack Warren, Gerry Mrolsa, Susan Ferron.

Citizens Considerations –

Wayne Boener – William O’Brien State Park - Mr. Boener updated the Council on upcoming events for William O’Brien. The Deer hunt moved to second week in November and the boat landing will be repaved sometime between September and October. The Park is also looking at dredging Lake Alice and adding another fishing pier. MnDOT is getting ready to turn the Minnow Ponds over to the park for management purposes. Part of this project will require a prescribed burn throughout that area sometime late May of 2013.

Lynn Benson – Ms. Benson is looking to rent the hall for a children’s musical August 20th through 24th. The performance was originally going to be held at the church, however it was decided that the Village Hall would be a more appropriate venue. Currently there is nothing in the rental contract which addresses weekly rental. Ms. Benson was comfortable paying the \$400 resident fee plus donating a percentage of the proceeds. The Council thought that arrangement would be acceptable.

Mowery moved and Marker seconded to charge Lynn Benson a one-time fee of \$400 plus 10% of the proceeds for August 20th through August 24th. Motion passed unanimously.

Planning Commission – Jack Warren introduced Gerry Mrolsa as the new Chairman of the Planning Commission.

Warren reviewed the July meeting. The Commission will be recommending acceptance of the Watershed rules to the Council. There are a couple of sections the Commission are not comfortable with, however there is nothing allowing a partial acceptance, therefore the City will need to accept the rules as a whole, but will work with the Watershed District to amend those sections after the fact. The acceptance needs to happen by September 12th, which is one day prior to the scheduled Council meeting. Clerk Peterson suggested scheduling a special meeting in conjunction with an upcoming budget meeting to get that done. Clerk Peterson also advised there were no comments from any outside agencies regarding the Village Center Addendum, so it will now be sent to the Metropolitan Council for review and acceptance.

Marker moved and Miller seconded to accept Gerry Mrlosa as the new Planning Commission Chair. Motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports –

Jackson Meadow – No Report

Public Safety – Marker has submitted a formal request on behalf of the Art Fair committee in response to Councilman Benson’s concern about the amount of staff time spent on the Art Fair. Benson has seen the request and commented through email. Miller received an email from formal Councilman Mike Lammi explaining how the City became involved in taking over the Art Fair. Discussion was held last month about whether or not the City had formally taken over the Art Fair, and Marker believes the City has. The consensus of the Council was that the additional formality of defining the roles of City Staff is extensive and unneeded. Mayor Mills read excerpts from two past Council Minutes which refers to this event as having been taken over by the City, and the Council believes that the event is too close to not allow City staff to continue to assist the committee. Mowery believes the amount of time being spent by City staff this year is down significantly from the first year the City was involved, and also believes that the dollars raised from this event is too significant to the City budget to give up. The Council also does not believe there should be a disconnect between the City and the Public Safety Department, as it is a City owned department and should be considered one in the same.

Marker moved and Mowery seconded to accept the formal request submitted by the Marine Art Fair committee for City staff assistance. Motion passed unanimously.

Chief Denn noted Big Walter Smith passed away last month.

Roads - The report on the soil borings from Linden Street has been received by the City Engineer. The City would like to move forward with the Maple/Third Street and Judd Street projects in the spring. Miller would like the Village Center Task Force to review these projects prior to construction. Due to time constraints, he would like the opinion of the Task Force by December or January. Jack Warren is concerned that this will require a storm water review, and the City does not have the storm water plan in place yet. Warren suggested talking to Dan Willenbring to get his opinion, as he has extensive knowledge with onsite developments and could be very helpful with this project. The City Engineer believes as long as the City keeps up with maintenance, there is no immediate need to get the Third/Maple Street project done right now. The consensus of the Council was to move this project to the Task Force to look for ideas and potential cost estimates.

Seal coating has been pushed out until mid August.

Personnel/Building Inspector - RFP’s have been sent out for garbage services and Engineering services. Proposals are due August 16th, and City staff hopes to review and give recommendations at the September Council meeting.

Animal Control Discussion - A complaint letter was received from Peter and Erica Oesterreich

regarding the City's animal control officer. Ms. Reid was unable to attend tonight's meeting, and has requested the Council table the discussion until the September meeting. Clerk Peterson has spoken with the Woodbury Humane Society and they are requesting the City terminate the contract with them due to communication issues. Clerk Peterson will forward the information to the personnel chair for a recommendation at the September meeting.

Recreation – Miller is requesting a budget to be submitted from the National Holiday's committee for fireworks. The Council does not believe the City should be paying hundreds of dollars for outside advertising for a community event. Clerk Peterson will contact the committee and request a preliminary budget for 2013 upcoming budget meetings.

Mowery noted the trail maps will be coming soon.

Finance – Upcoming budget meetings will be held on Wednesday, August 29th at 6:30 pm, September 6th at 7pm and Thursday, September 13th at 6:30pm if needed. The Council also scheduled the joint Planning Commission meeting to discuss the Watershed Rules for 6:00pm on September 6th prior to the budget meeting.

Draft audit received – all is well.

Hall/Restoration - Sentry System is recommending the phone lines be tested, which may be causing issues with the alarm system.

The joint powers agreement between the City and MarLa is complete and approved.

Cemetery – No Report.

Village Center – No Report.

Wastewater and Water Systems – There have been issues with the pump at Hoke's. A new pump has been ordered which should fix the problem. Mayor Mills is also reviewing the commercial ERU list and is looking at changing a few of the businesses.

Consent Calendar – *Miller moved and Mowery seconded to approve the Minutes of 7/12/12, Treasurers Report of 7/12, List of Bills, Zoning Administrators Report and Planning Commission Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business - Matt Miller has submitted the parking proposal for the car show happening August 18th. Parking will be blocked off from 2:20pm to 8:00pm. Council thought it looked fine.

Miller questioned having MnDOT clear some of the branches by the crosswalk. There are also citizen concerns with traffic not stopping for the crosswalks and would like extra police patrol on the weekends.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report – A letter was received from Linda Tibbetts regarding the damage and trash left in the ditch by the cable company. Mayor Mills suggested calling Midcontinent and letting them know it is their subcontractor and ask them to take care of it.

Mayor Mills received a letter stating that Washington County has won a partnership award for their work with Marine on the library.

Adjournment – *Marker moved and Miller seconded to adjourn at 8:28p.m. Motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk