

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, November 12, 2015

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

Citizens Present: Jason Crotty, Ryan Goodman, Gerry Mroska, Fred Hundt, Brad Hegwer, Michael Mackner, Matt Miller, Kyle Tennis, Ann Myers, Gail Coolidge, Kevin Nyenhuis.

Citizens Considerations ó

Michael Mackner ó Mr. Mackner was in attendance to update the Council on the progress of the Soo Line Railroad Depot issue. There continues to be no movement with getting a depot brought back to Marine, so Mr. Mackner is instead proposing a mural of the Soo Line Railroad pulling away from the depot painted on the back wall of the new Fire pumper building. Mr. Mackner believes this would be one way to help bring that part of Marine's history to the downtown area for people to see. Bill Miller questioned whether a formal plan is in place for decorating that building. Matt Miller noted that some of the discussions have suggested maybe having that building house many different aspects of Marine history. Willenbring has a concern that this building was built specifically to house the Fire pumper, and that the City has currently has the Stonehouse Museum for those other historic item. No decision was made.

Kevin Nyenhuis ó Mr. Nyenhuis reported that the committee has met to discuss the proposed Kerstmart. Currently there is no plan for mulled wine, so there would be no liquor license required but the group would like to have a bonfire in the park and also have some type of ice sculpture event. Mr. Nyenhuis would also like to put up a banner advertising this event as the second weekend in December every year. The plan is to be open on Friday night, but the food and bonfire events will be Saturday and Sunday. Willenbring questioned if there was a plan for removal of the buildings. Nyenhuis noted the set up would take place the weekend prior and take down would be the Monday or Tuesday following the event. Mr. Nyenhuis is requesting the event fee be waived for the entire weekend. The deposit would still need to be paid, and a porta potty will also be required as part of the park permit.

Miller moved and Mowery seconded to waive the park rental fee for the weekend of December 11 – 13 for the Kerstmart. Motion passed unanimously.

Matt Miller ó Mr. Miller was in attendance to request the hall rental fee be waived for an event on December 5th. The hall was originally rented by Kyle Tennis for a CD release party, however due to one of the Brookside employees having some recent medical issues, Mr. Tennis would like to turn this event into a fundraiser for this employee and therefore would like the rental fee waived.

Mowery moved and Miller seconded to waive the hall rental fee but not the \$100 cleaning fee for the event on December 5th. Motion passed unanimously.

Ann Myers ó Mrs. Myers, President of the Restoration Society, was in attendance to advise the Council that Fred Hundt and Cindy Jepsen are wanting to donate their upright piano to the City Hall to replace the existing piano. Mayor Mills questioned if there is any historic value of the piano currently upstairs, given it has been at the Village Hall for at least 50 years. If the City were to take the new piano, then the current piano would have to be declared surplus and the City could take sealed bids. Mr. Hundt noted they are moving and would need their piano out within two weeks. The Restoration Society would cover the cost of moving and the tuning of the new piano. Discussion was held on whether the new piano would require annual maintenance and should it be covered to prevent damage during rentals. Mrs. Myers believes the Restoration Society could pay for a cover.

Miller moved and Mowery seconded to accept the donation of a piano from Fred Hundt and the Restoration Society's willingness to help with the cost as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Willenbring amended the motion to include that the City include money in the budget every year to make sure the piano stays tuned and maintained. Amendment passed unanimously.

Garbage RFP Proposal ó Clerk Peterson reported that there was only one proposal received from the garbage RFPø sent out for the new contract, and that proposal was from Advanced Disposal. Brad Hegwer was in attendance on behalf Advance Disposal to discuss the RFP and answer any questions. Miller questioned if there were any additional costs that were not included in the proposal, like a fuel surcharge fee. Mr. Hegwer stated if the City is not currently being charged an additional fuel surcharge fee, then there will not be that fee in the new contract. Willenbring questioned the potential of having a compactor in town. Mr. Hegwer noted compactorø can cost anywhere from \$10,000 - \$30,000 and that cost would be built into the contract. There are also a large number of OSHA requirements that go along with having a compactor, which would require each person having contact with the compactor to have specific training. Willenbring questioned if there are any other communities that have a compactor. Mr. Hegwer noted he has not seen this done in a municipal setting. Clerk Peterson noted a concern of no longer having a contact person to direct issues or questions too. Mr. Hegwer stated the City can call him directly with any issues, or also the route manager. Pardun reported that he spoke with several other garbage companies that were on the RFP proposal list, and the main reason for those companies not bidding is the lack of a smaller truck and it would not make financial sense for these companies to purchase a \$30,000 vehicle for a three year contract. Pardunø concern is that in three years when this contract is up, the City will be in the same situation and he believes the Council needs to have a discussion at some point to address this issue.

Miller moved and Willebring seconded to accept the proposal from Advanced Disposal for garbage services with a contract period of January 2016 – December 2018. Motion passed unanimously.

Planning Commission ó Chairman Mroska updated the Council on the October meeting. There will be a public hearing at the November meeting for a Conditional Use Permit for a bathroom in

an accessory building. The code review is complete, and the Commission is now reviewing the definition section.

Public Safety ó Chief Denn spoke with the Operations Manager from Xcel Energy to discuss the outage issues from this past summer and had a site visit with a representative from Xcel. Legally there is nothing Xcel can do about the tree issue along Old Guslander, which is what is causing many of the outages. The township is keeping the road maintained, but there is no way to force the residents to cut the trees down along the road right of way. Mowery questioned if there was a way to contact those residents and discuss the issue of public safety and try to get them to cooperate. Chief Denn advised many of those residents either have generators or leave when there are power issues and aren't necessarily concerned with the impact on the rest of immediate area. Mowery believes Chief Denn did his due diligence by researching the issue.

There have been several repair issues on the vehicles. There were 11 people who have graduated the First Responder class and 7 people currently taking the Firefighter 1 class.

Roads - Willenbring reported that he, Pardun, Jason Crotty and Ryan Goodman met to review the CIP and the philosophy behind it. The group decided they would like approval from the Council to have more soil borings done on various places around town to help with making decisions on future road projects. Willenbring also requested the Council move forward with paying Braun for the borings done on Judd Street. In addition, there will be one additional charge for approximately \$700 and Willenbring would like the Council to pre-approve that invoice. Willenbring also presented a Resolution supporting a variance for the County Rd 4 project to lower the speed limit.

Jason Crotty noted that the snow plow on the one ton has been replaced and he is requesting the Council declare the old plow surplus.

Willenbring moved and Pardun seconded to approve Resolution No. 151112-01, requesting a variance from standard for State Aid Operation for Project No SAP 082-604-012. Motion passed unanimously.

Willenbring moved and Pardun seconded to approve an upcoming invoice from Braun Intertec not to exceed \$700 as part of the boring project along with the original invoice from Braun Intertec as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Willenbring amended the motion to include the original invoice from Braun Intertec in the amount of \$3229.50. in the November list of bills. Miller seconded the amendment and the motion passed unanimously.

Ryan Goodman reviewed the monthly Engineering report. As part of the discussion

Pardun moved and Willenbring seconded to authorize Bolton Menk to accept a bid on behalf of the City of Marine for the soil borings not to exceed \$15,000. Motion passed unanimously.

Pardun moved and Miller seconded to declare the snow plow as surplus. Motion passed unanimously.

Personnel/Building Inspector - No Report

Recreation ó No Report.

Finance ó Truth in Taxation meeting will be December 8th at 6:00pm.

Cemetery ó No Report.

Wastewater and Water Systems ó The pump in the lift station behind the General Store has been replaced.

Citizen Committee Reports

Village Center Task Force ó No Report.

MarLa - No Report

Hall/Restoration ó The lights in the Council chambers were replaced with LED lights and Mayor Mills requested the lights upstairs be replaced also.

Miller requested a hall rental waiver for the Stockings Were Hung concert on December 18th.

Miller moved and Pardun seconded to waive the hall rental fee for the Stockings Were Hung concert on December 18th. Motion passed unanimously.

Stormwater/Watershed ó Pardun reported there will be a meeting on December 1st with the residents who are interested in the rain garden project.

Millsite ó Mowery reported that there has been some clearing and proposed trails are marked. The bridge project will also begin soon.

Green Step Cities ó No Report.

Holidays ó No Report.

Consent Calendar ó *Miller moved Willenbring and seconded to approve the Minutes of 10/8/15, Treasurers Report of 10/15, List of Bills for 11/12/15, Zoning Administrators Report, Public Works Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business ó None.

Long/Short Term Goals ó Miller noted that the Restoration Society and Marla are looking at replacing the sound system and lighting, and would like that added to the list. Miller is also looking at a City wide WiFi system through a grant, so there would be no initial cost to the City. Then the residents would have the option to have a box in their homes to access the WiFi and would pay a monthly access fee.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report ó None

Adjournment ó *Willenbring moved and Miller seconded to adjourn at 9:04pm. Motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk