

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, November 14, 2013

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

Citizens Present: Gerry Mroska, Ryan Goodman, Jack Warren, Tom Omdahl, David Denn, Kevin Nyenhuis, Jennefer Klennert, Jason Husveth, Jim Anderson.

Mayor Mills opened the public hearing at 7:04pm for the purpose of reviewing the proposed local stormwater management plan. Jack Warren reviewed the history of the need for the plan as part of the Watershed District Rules. The proposed plan addresses the special set of rules for the Urban Districts and the Village Center. The plan also includes a “neighborhood plan” which will group those high density zones together in order to implement stormwater BMP’s throughout those districts as a community program. The benefits of this plan will be lower costs and more flexibility to homeowners, and is a better approach to address stormwater quantity and quality impacts. The funding would come from permit fees and potential grants, and the fees involved would depend on the amount of building activity within those affected zones. The next step for the plan will be to submit this plan to the Watershed District, surrounding communities and the Met Council for approval. Once that happens, the City can begin to dial in on the specific procedures for implementation. Warren would like to add, under page 2, Village Center Addenda as a part of the section labeled “Consistency with the City of Marine on St. Croix Comprehensive Plan”.

Pardun questioned why the Village Center Task Force is included under page 10 and why the Village Center Addenda is included at all in relationship to the overall plan. Warren stated that the Task Force piece probably does not need to be included, however the addenda portion is a piece describing character of the overall plan. Pardun believes that adding the Village Center Task Force and the addenda piece puts all the focus on the downtown area and he feels minimizes the full scope of the project, which includes the other zoning districts. Willenbring agreed that the Task Force piece can be taken out, but believes the addenda piece should stay in.

Willenbring moved and Lusher seconded to accept the City of Marine Local Surface Water Management Plan as amended. Motion passed unanimously.

Warren updated that the BOWSER grant application for Legacy dollars has fierce competition, and the City should hear the results in January.

Warren also reported that the City has two weeks to comment on the Washington County Groundwater Plan. Warren has some concerns, and questioned whether the Council would like to comment on the plan and who would be designated to submit those comments. The City Engineer has reviewed the plan also, advised the biggest area affected is the White Bear Lake and Hugo areas. The Marine area is promising and our levels are not currently even on the radar for issues. Ryan thinks the County plan is very minimal compared to many other studies out

there, and believes there will be other studies coming forth that will supersede the County plan. Given that information, the Council did not see a need to comment on the plan at this time.

Mayor Mills closed the public hearing at 7:59pm.

Citizens Considerations –

Jennefer Klennert was in attendance from Advanced Disposal to advise the Council that a new mini garbage truck has been acquired to be used in Marine. It is currently in the process of being licensed, but will be available in the next couple of weeks. At this point, the collection day for this truck will continue to be Tuesday pick ups for those select areas. Jennefer advised the goal is to eventually get the pick-ups all back on the same day, which they are hoping will happen sometime in the spring.

Kevin Nyenhuis – Mr. Nyenhuis was in attendance to request a park rental fee waiver for both weekends. The dates this year will be December 13-15 and December 20 -22.

Mowery moved and Willenbring seconded to waive the park rental fee for the Kerschmarket for the noted weekends. Motion passed unanimously.

Mowery moved to instate a variance for the selling of wine and having a bonfire on City property for the Kerschmarket event. Motion passed unanimously.

Jason Husveth – Mr. Husveth was in attendance to present the updated trail map for all trails within the City, and also a specific map with the Jackson Meadow trails. The map size is 8 ½ by 14, and will be available as a pdf document to put on the City website. Mr. Husveth would like the Council and anyone else they see fit to review, and let him know of any changes.

Planning Commission – Gerry Mroska updated the Council on the October meeting. Gerry complimented Jack Warren and Kristina Smitten for all of their hard work on the Surface Water Management plan. Still working on the code updates.

Committee Reports –

Public Safety – Chief Denn reported the department is waiting for the weather to change in order to flood the rink. All the trucks have been serviced and repaired.

Antique Pumper Update – Janice Warren was in attendance to report that the Civic Club would like to construct a building on the same property as the Stonehouse Museum to house the pumper. Mayor Mills noted that the pumper will need some restoration and the building should be climate controlled in order to house and maintain the pumper. The committee will be putting together a proposal to get plans and specs for the project, then figure out funding. The Council would like this done as soon as possible.

Roads - Ryan Goodman reviewed the Engineering Report. Washington County's Capital Improvement plan is currently out for review, and it noted that the construction costs for the County Rd 4 repairs is estimated at 3.2 million dollars. The County has a cost participation policy, which would require local funding participation towards the project. The current estimate for the City's responsibility is \$450,000 for the 2015 and 2016 budget cycle.

Personnel/Building Inspector - No Report.

Recreation – Mayor Mills mentioned that Jackson Meadow held the CycloCross race last Saturday, and it was done without City permission. A few concerns were that City trails were closed, it was held on the day of shotgun season opener and there was no proof of insurance. Mayor Mills will send a letter to the Homeowners Association's letting them know they need City approval in order for this to take place.

Finance – Reminder of the Truth in Taxation meeting on December 4th at 6:00pm.

Hall/Restoration - Jack Warren suggested the City or Restoration Society consider giving tours of the hall to get some community involvement in the building.

Cemetery – Ryan Goodman, City Engineer, has been working on the proposed cemetery expansion. The proposal estimate for the total concept plan would be \$9,800. The cemetery currently has just over \$9,000 in reserve funds for fencing, which was done with vegetation. The Council could choose to reallocate those funds to cover the cost of the proposal.

Pardun moved to reallocate the cemetery fencing and retaining wall to the cemetery expansion costs, and to direct Bolton Menk to move forward with the proposed concept plan. Motion passed unanimously.

MarLa - No Report.

Village Center – Willenbring reported that the Mill Site committee met with Karin Housley and gave her a tour of the Mill Site in an effort to get this Mill Site project included in the upcoming legislative bonding bill. Willenbring has submitted comments for the Tourism publication, and once he receives the final draft he will send out for Council review.

Stormwater/Watershed – No Report.

Wastewater and Water Systems – The rate committee met to discuss the proposed water rates.

Pardun understands that the residents want to control their costs, however doesn't understand why if Jackson Meadow turned over a user based system to the City to run, then why is the City negotiating on the rates when there is no benefit to the City. Ryan Goodman agreed with Pardun

and believes the City needs to make sure there is a plan for replacement costs and that those timelines are not being pushed out too far due to underfunding. Mowery questioned whether the City should require that contribution from the Homeowners Association for a long period of time than just one year. The Jackson Meadow proposal numbers will be used for the Truth in Taxation meeting and the Council will vote on the final proposal at that time.

Consent Calendar – *Lusher moved and Mowery seconded to approve the Minutes of 10/10/13, Treasurers Report of 10/13, List of Bills for 11/14/13, Zoning Administrators Report, Public Works Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business – Toni Poletes requested the Council considered letting them pay the residential rate for a hall rental next year.

Willenbring moved and Pardun seconded that the Council approve the request from Toni Poletes to pay the residential rate for the hall rental. Motion passed unanimously.

Long/Short Term Goals – No changes.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report –

Adjournment – *Willenbring moved and Pardun seconded to adjourn at 9:32p.m. Motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk