

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Thursday, March 8, 2018

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

Citizens Present: Gwen/Larry Roden, John Goodfellow, Dan Malmgren, Kiersten Young, Ryan Goodman, Tom Omdahl, Fitzie Heimdahl, Charlie Anderson, Andy/Kim Creager, David Stephans, Susan Ferron, Mike Tibbetts, Christian Minnich, Megan Kavanagh, Wendy Ward, Win Miller.

Andy Creager – Mr. Creager was in attendance to present a donation from the proceeds of the New Year's Eve party. The amount of the donation was \$950 towards the Fireworks Fund. The Council thanked Mr. Creager for the generous donation.

Bill Smitten/Harold Teasdale – Development Proposal - Mr. Smitten was in attendance to discuss a potential development opportunity to be placed on a 16 acre parcel just to the south of William O'Brien State Park. The idea is to develop townhomes for aging residents. Harold Teasdale would be the developer for the project and is looking for direction from the Council as to whether they would support the idea. Willenbring questioned if the development would be considered affordable housing. Mr. Smitten advised the window for a sale price would probably fall between \$350,000 and \$450,000. There are options as to whether the entire development would be focused on seniors or if there would be a mix of demographics and age. The site would be able to handle its own septic system and water system. The timeline for an agreement between the seller and the buyer is the end of April. The Council had questions as to the density requirements and whether the demographics for this type of development is there. Willenbring believes the timeframe may be unrealistic however the idea falls within the comprehensive plan discussions. The Council would like to see some type of conceptual plan prior to making any decisions moving forward. Several residents in the audience believe price point is a big obstacle and with the potential of the charter school coming back to town, there should be housing focused on bringing in younger families. The next step would be to bring a plan to the Planning Commission.

Fitzie Heimdahl - Mr. Heimdahl was in attendance to present a proposal to add art murals to the City utility boxes. The theme of the murals would be the St. Croix river. Fitzie is looking for support from the Council to move forward with the project. A grant would be applied for to cover the cost of this project, and depending on the grant size there could be up to 10 location sites. Mowery would like the Council to discuss the project prior to making any decisions. The grant deadline is April 15<sup>th</sup> so Fitzie would like to hear from the Council prior to then. Win Miller believes this type of project may possibly invite graffiti. Fitzie advised the mural is made of a wrap material that is easily washable.

John Goodfellow – Mr. Goodfellow presented a draft tree ordinance needed to become a Tree City USA participant. The Council would like the City Attorney to review the draft ordinance and would time to review themselves. The current tree ordinance references requirements by the MN Department of Agriculture, which the Council would like a copy of for reference. Win Miller had

a few concerns with parts of the ordinance that would require private residents to maintain their trees to a certain standard and if not done, then the resident would be fined, and also the section that incorporates Federal regulates.

The gravel bed is ready to go this spring in Jackson Meadow, and those trees planted this spring will be ready to plant in the fall.

Charlie Anderson – Cemetery Restoration Project – Charlie Anderson was in attendance to present a proposal for a cemetery restoration project. He would like to continue and recognize the work Gary Campbell did for many years as a City volunteer. The project would include bringing in a group called Northern Bedrock, who specialize in the restoration of cemetery stones and monuments. This project would be supported by the Marine Restoration Society, who would fund the majority of the project. The committee would be cognizant of which monuments would be restored. River Grove elementary would also like to have a program at the cemetery to teach the children about the history of Marine and the cemetery, along with potentially planting new trees in the cemetery as part of the Urban Forest Task Force plans. Pardun is very supportive of the project idea, and questioned what the Restoration Society would need from the City to help with the project. The Restoration Society is waiting for feedback from the Council before moving forward. Once they get the go ahead, they will meet to discuss funding and come back with a number to the City.

Planning Commission - Gwen Roden was in attendance to report on the February meeting. Christ Lutheran Church presented their updated lighting plan. The Commission has recommended approval the updated plan contingent upon receipt of an updated landscape plan.

*Willenbring moved and Miller seconded to approve the updated lighting plan presented by Christ Lutheran Church contingent upon receipt of and final approval by the City Engineer. Motion passed unanimously.*

Fire and Rescue – Chief Malmgren reported on a Joint Powers agreement opportunity with Washington County to host the City’s Continuity of Operations and Emergency Operations Plans. The Council will review further and act at the April meeting.

Roads - Ryan Goodman reviewed the engineering report. Washington County would like a punch list for the County Rd 4 project prior to April 2<sup>nd</sup>. The City did not receive funding from the MnDOT grant, however Marine is on the list for the next round of funding.

Personnel/Building Inspector - There has been a draft Dog Ordinance amendment to allow the City to pass along the new Animal Control officer fees to the resident whose animal is brought to impound. Miller reported Washington County is considering creating an animal control program using a Community Service Officer. This would be something that would happen in 2019.

*Pardun moved and Willenbring seconded to approve Resolution 180218-01, Ordinance No. 150 amending Chapter 5 of the City Code regarding dogs and other animals. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Pardun moved and Willenbring seconded to approve Brit Harmon as the new animal control officer. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Pardun moved and Willenbring seconded to approve the Impound agreement with Otter Lake Animal Shelter as drafted, Motion passed unanimously.*

Recreation – No Report.

Finance – No Report

Cemetery – No additional Report

Wastewater and Water Systems – The main master meter in the Jackson Meadow pumphouse failed and there will be hour metered installed instead.

Citizen Committee Reports

Village Center Task Force – No meeting.

MarLa - Tom Omdahl reported there has been a change in the Marla board, of which several are new. The AV equipment has been delivered, and it will be delivered a week from this Saturday. They would like to hang the projector up by the lights in the ceiling as a permanent fixture. There are several upcoming programs scheduled and those continue to be very well attended.

Hall/Restoration – Pardun has been in contact with Atkins Associates to discuss repairs on the north and south foundations along with paint. The price to prepare this report would be \$1200, and once it's done the City can get bids on getting the work done. The Council consensus was to move forward.

Stormwater/Watershed – BWSR will be doing a pilot project with several counties on funding opportunities, and Pardun attended the informational meeting to find out the details. The projects will revolve around clean water and Pardun will work with the Watershed District on the City's project which will focus on the water flow down Highway 95 into the downtown area.

Millsite – No report.

Green Step Cities - No Report

Holidays – Still looking for July 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> volunteers.

School Property – Pardun reported that he and Miller met with Kristen Hoheisel regarding the next steps. He believes it was a positive meeting. The property is officially for sale however the City would be exempt to the broker fees.

Consent Calendar – Miller moved and Pardun seconded to approve the Minutes of 2/8/18, Treasurer’s Report of 2/18, List of Bills for 3/8/18, Zoning Administrators Report, Public Works Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes . Motion passed unanimously.

Old/New Business – Miller advised the Jim Rolig, long time member of the Fire Department and City Employee, passed away this week.

Long/Short Term Goals – No Changes.

Mayor Notes/Clerk’s Report – No Report.

Acting Mayor Mowery closed the Public meeting at 8:35pm

Acting Mayor Mowery re-opened the public meeting at 9:42pm

Adjournment – Willenbring moved and Miller seconded to adjourn at 9:43pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk