

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, April 11, 2019

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

Citizens Present: Cecily Harris, John Goodfellow, Mary Burke, John Waugh, Anne Reich, Mike Tibbets, Charles Arnason, Ryan Goodman, Dan Malmgren, Nancy Cosgriff, Jennifer Henry, Dorothy Deetz, Tom Omdahl, Tom Warth, Ryan Marcel

Citizen Considerations –

Cecily Harris - Ms. Harris is the owner of 710 Broadway and attended a previous meeting to request the City consider purchasing a portion of her property on the south side of County Rd 4. The City paid to have an appraisal done, which came in at \$32,900. Ms. Harris is requesting the full appraisal price for the property. Anderson believes this particular piece of property, having a trout pond, waterfall and is next to the Red Bridge, would be a good invest for the City and would like to see the City own it. However, he does not believe the City should pay the asking price of \$32,900. Mike Tibbets, resident, believes if the City owns it, he would like to see the City potentially remove the dam for environmental reasons. John Goodfellow, resident, spoke with the Watershed District and Millstream Association and believes that property would be a priority project for the Watershed District and there may be funds available to help purchase the property. Pardun believes there can be funds available, however is concerned about the price and also the precedent being set for the City to purchase property. He also believes that this would be appropriate for the Watershed to purchase. The City purchased the property along Judd Street from MnDOT for \$19,000 and using that for the Art Fair each year brings in \$20,000 income. There is no benefit like that with this property. Ms. Harris stated that now that the weather is getting warmer, there are more people using that property. She also stated the Red Bridge footings are on her property and the City uses the dry hydrant for fire protection, so she believes it would be a benefit to the City. Anderson is not comfortable with the price proposed, but would like to see where possible negotiations may go. Pardun stated there is no negotiations as Ms. Harris is asking full price and would like to see a vote. Anderson would like to see this pushed to the May meeting. Nancy Cosgriff, resident, would like to see the property acquired. The Council opted to not vote on the issue at this time.

Pardun also stated Ms. Harris is requesting a copy of the appraisal. The City Attorney has said the appraisal is not public data, however the Council could choose to allow Ms. Harris a copy if desired.

Pardun moved and Anderson seconded to allow Ms. Harris to have a copy of the appraisal. Motion passed unanimously.

Planning Commission - The Commission continues to work on the short term rental issue. John Goodfellow would like to make sure that there is a grandfather clause for the current STR's when

the new regulations are adopted.

Fire and Rescue – The appreciation dinner is set for Sunday, April 28th at Dunrovin.

Anderson addressed the graffiti issue on the County Rd 4 tunnel. The County spends approximately \$600 each time the tunnel needs to be painted. He would like to public to know that the City does not condone the destruction of private property.

Roads – There is a walkthrough scheduled with TA Schifsky next Friday morning to discuss the issues from the road project. Mike Tibbetts would like to see Rose Street shouldered with something other than top soil and grass seed.

The first meeting was held on the Judd Street project. Nancy Cosgriff questioned when there will be public input on the project. Pardun noted the committee is discussing the project standards together that need to happen to meet the grant parameters. Once this is done, the City will present those standards at a public meeting.

Personnel/Building Inspector - No report.

Recreation – Anderson reported the committee is working on getting maps for the Anson property.

Finance – No report .

Cemetery – Jennifer Henry was in attendance on behalf of the Restoration Society to discuss the cemetery project. They are partnering with American Bedrock on the stone restoration. The cost will be \$5,000 of which there will be fundraising and grant requests to help cover those costs. The hope is to restore up to 50 stones during this project. Anderson would like to see some of the teens and pre-teens involved in this project.

Wastewater and Water Systems- No Report.

Citizen Committee Reports

Village Center - No Report

MarLa - Mary Burke was in attendance to report on the library events. Tomorrow is family game night and Greg Lecker will be the guest speaker on Saturday. The library is participating in a collaboration meeting in Scandia to discuss what is everyone's role in the community.

Hall/Restoration – Mayor Mills was reviewing the hall rental agreement and noticed that Grove school is not listed on the agreement as having the fee waived. Pardun believes they are still called the Marine area community school and that the Council should revisit the issue however telling the school one month prior to the event that they need to pay a rental fee is a little harsh. Anderson believes the school should have to come before Council to ask for the rental fee to

waived. Clerk Peterson will contact them and request they attend the May Council meeting.

Stormwater/Watershed – Pardun reported the ravine project is moving forward. The Watershed District will be meeting with the residents who put in the raingardens to discuss maintenance.

Millsite – Anne Reich reported the Elm tree was pruned. Shrubs have been ordered to be planted in the spring.

Green Step Cities -. The committee met in March with 10 residents in attendance. The group is eager to help the City with the downtown revitalization project. Ms. Reich attended an electric vehicle conference and would like to have a speaker attend the May meeting to discuss electric car chargers.

Holidays –Northern Lighters Pyrotechnics has notified the City they will no longer .. Mike Tibbetts knows a person who owns property across the river in Wisconsin that may be an option. Ryan Marcel lives right next to Burriss Park has offered up the back of his property. Dorothy Deetz will contact the Osceola Train and the security company to let them know of the situation.

School Property – Public meeting on April 27th at 10:30am.

Communication Infrastructure – Anderson reported the committee held their first meeting to discuss a baseline assessment on the vendors and what they can do. Cell Towers were discussed and the school site is not feasible, however they are looking at the compost. The current Midco contract is set to expire in 2021, and would like to have the City Attorney review and clean up and then work with Midco on the specifics.

Consent Calendar – *Pardun moved and Roden seconded to approve the Minutes of 3/11/19, Treasurer’s Report of 3/19, List of Bills for 4/11/19, Zoning Administrators Report - none, Public Works Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business –

Transparency Initiative Discussion – Anderson thanked City staff for adding the council packet and agenda to the website. He would like to table the issue of creating a City facebook page, however would like to work with City staff on updating the City website.

Long/Short Term Goals –

Mayor Notes/Clerk’s Report – No Report.

Mayor Mills closed the public meeting to enter into executive session at 8:25pm.

Mayor Mills re-opened the public meeting at 8:47pm.

Adjournment . Roden moved and Anderson seconded to adjourn at 8:48pm.

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk