

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, April 13, 2017

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

Citizens Present: Ryan Goodman, Jason Crotty, June Eagleton, JoAnna Faulkofske, Bill Smitten, Harold Teasdale, Andy Powell, Kent Skaar, Brandon Helm, Gwen Roden, Larry Roden, Dan Malmgren, Mary Skamser, Jim Maher, Jim/Lee Kent, Jessica Anderson, Dandy Hagman, Charles Arnason, Curt Moe, Molly Martin.

Citizens Considerations ó

JoAnna Faulkofske ó Ms. Faulkofske was in attendance on behalf of the Osceola excursion train and would like to bring in approximately 400 people for the July 3rd fireworks. They will be dropped off at the church and the busses will park at the school until after the event. There will be another \$200 donation and they will also be back the following morning to help clean up. Pardun noted that County Rd 4 will be under construction, but the plan is to have one passing lane open.

June Eagleton ó Ms. Eagleton was in attendance on behalf of the Civic Club to request some maintenance projects for the Stonehouse Museum. The fascia needs replacing and there needs to be painting done on the doors, trim and shutters. There have been two painting bids received and one bid for the repairs. The painting bids came in around \$6700 and the repair bid came in around \$1600. There is currently \$2900 in the Treasurer's report allocated for the museum. Clerk Peterson will work on scheduling a meeting to discuss consolidating funds, so the Council is confident there is money to complete the project.

Miller moved and Mowery seconded to approve the maintenance project proposal not to exceed \$8500. Motion passed unanimously.

Bill Smitten ó Mr. Smitten was in attendance on behalf of the Jackson Meadow Homeowners Association to request approval to perform a running fire in a section of the Hollow. Miller noted that section of the Hollow is included in the Gateway Trail proposal, so he would like to keep that in mind for the future.

Mr. Smitten reported that the security cameras at the entry of the Jackson Meadow development have been installed, and have been completely funded by the HOA. There has been discussion with the City in the past that there might be some funding assistance by the City and Mr. Smitten would like the City to consider either a donation towards the cost or future maintenance. Miller questioned if the cameras are located in city right away. They are located approximately 10 ft off of the road. Willenbring is concerned about the legality of the data and would like the City attorney to comment as these are private cameras located on public property.

Marine General Store Dumpster Enclosure Proposal ó Gwen Roden was in attendance on behalf of the Marine General Store to request an encroachment agreement for a proposed dumpster enclosure. A new survey has been done, which shows the loading dock which was built in 2009. This new survey shows the steps for loading dock were built into City right away without permission and the roofline extends 1.2 ft into the street which will also need encroachment agreements.

Pardun questioned the hardship for using the city right of way when there is area in the back of the store, and if this is granted for the General Store then there will be a precedent set for the Brookside and the Lumberyard shops. Gwen noted that the garbage trucks were not able to access behind the building due to the lift station. Pardun noted that the lift station has since been moved, so that is not an issue anymore. Mowery questioned if that would prohibit emergency vehicles from accessing behind the store. Willenbring noted that Third Street will be reconstructed next year and so any concerns the Council has with the Lumberyard Shop area and the General Store could be addressed at the at time. The Council consensus was to move forward with having the City Attorney draft the necessary encroachment agreements for approval at the May meeting.

Brandon Helm ó Gateway Trail Proposal ó Brandon Helm and Kent Skaar were in attendance to discuss a proposed Joint Powers Agreement for the Gateway Trail between the State of Minnesota and City of Marine. Mr. Skaar explained the reason a joint powers agreement exists is to make sure the state does not take over the property, and that it remain in the hands of the City and property owners however the State would take over complete maintenance of the trail. The State currently has agreements in place for large parcels in Scandia and through William O'Brien State Park, so the area through Marine is a very important component for connecting these trail sections.

Miller noted that the many uses of the trail will be walking, biking and skiing. Mr. Skaar also noted that this is one of the few State trails that is strictly non-motorized, which the exception of disability vehicles and emergency vehicles. Mayor Mills concern is that this trail will be explicitly maintained by the State, and so what happens when the maintenance is not being performed in a timely manner much like the trails in William O'Brien. Mr. Skaar noted that the maintenance will not be handled by Parks and Trails, as it is at William O'Brien. This will be done by the State, which has a different funding source than the State Parks. Willenbring is concerned that this agreement locks the City into the agreement for a period of 35 years. Mr. Skaar noted that no construction would begin on the trail until the City and the residents are in agreement of the full plan.

Andy Powell, Jackson Meadow resident, is very excited at the prospect of the Gateway Trail connecting through Marine, and also excited for the Jackson Meadow trails to be able to connect to William O'Brien. Willenbring would like to add a clause in Section 8 allowing the City to cancel anytime up to the time the final designs and specifications are submitted. Mr. Skaar will provide the City with draft language prior to the May meeting.

A question was raised as to whether the trail through Marine would be built without a connection to Pine Point park. Mr. Skaar stated that definitely the plan would be to build the section through Marine and into Scandia without a full connection to Pine Point. Mowery questioned the progress between Marine and Pine Point Park. Brandon Helm noted there was a large amount of property acquired by Wilder Forest, however the remaining property is a slow process.

There will be an information booth at the upcoming Millstream Days for residents.

Planning Commission ó

Public Safety ó Clerk Peterson reported the Relief Association will now be officially taking over the fundraising for the Streetdance and the Art Fair. As a result, the Art Fair account with the City should be officially closed and the remaining funds turned over to the Relief Association.

Chief Malmgren noted the Appreciation dinner will be April 23rd at Dunrovin. Busy the last few weeks with fire calls.

Willenbring moved and Pardun seconded to approve the closing of the Marine Art Fair checking account and turn over the remaining proceeds from 2016 to the Relief Association. Motion passed unanimously.

Roads -

Engineering Report ó Road restrictions are coming off this coming Friday. The bids are coming in for the County Rd 4 project, and it looks like they are coming in lower than expected.

Work will begin on the retaining wall along Highway 95 in the upcoming months, and it should be an approximately 20 day project.

The first pop up meeting for the Comprehensive Plan will take place at Millstream Days in May.

Highway 95 Reconveyance ó Pardun presented a survey map showing various areas downtown for which are owned by either MnDOT or private parties. After many discussions and a recent survey of that area done by the City, Pardun and the City Engineer recently met with MnDOT and received a proposal to purchase the property owned by MnDOT and the rights to purchase the privately owned property for approximately \$19,000.

Bids were received and opened for the 2017 Street Improvements and the lowest bid came from TA Schifsky in the amount of \$172,770.35. The necessary permits have been secured, so once the bid has been approved construction can begin.

Pardun moved to accept the bid from TA Schifsky for the 2017 Street project in the amount of \$172,770.35. Motion passed unanimously.

Personnel/Building Inspector - No Report

Recreation ó Miller noted he and Bill Simpson, resident, are now part of the citizen group for the park.

Mowery received an email from a resident from May Township wondering if he can put Geo Caches on some of the Marine trails or the purpose of teaching kids how to use compasses and GPS. The Council did not have any issues with the request.

Finance ó No Report

Cemetery ó Two oak trees were removed.

Wastewater and Water Systems ó Repairs done on the lift station. There have been complaints from a couple of Jackson Meadow residents regarding the corrosiveness of the water. Crotty is working on getting the water sampled.

Citizen Committee Reports

Village Center Task Force ó Still looking for a date to meet to review the Historic signage proposal. Clerk Peterson will resend a meeting request to try and set up a date.

Gwen Roden and Jack Warren met to review the project list. They looked at the erosion issue on the bank behind the Village Hall and the Scoop building. Their assessment is something should be done soon.

MarLa - Molly Martin updated the Council on the library. There have been refresher courses held in the Council chambers, so they are thankful for that use. There are several upcoming talks and an event on Friday, April 21st. The summer children's program is kicking off on June 10th. Miller would like the library to coordinate the new carpet selection with the Restoration Society.

Hall/Restoration ó Mayor Mills attended a Restoration meeting last week. The Progressive Dinner will be held the first Saturday in June.

Stormwater/Watershed ó Pardun reported on the grant application for work to be done on the ditch across from Chestnut Street, for which the Watershed was not successful. Still waiting on the bids to come in for the raingarden project.

Millsite ó No Report.

Green Step Cities - No Report.

Holidays ó Kipps Investigations is no longer doing security so he will provide the City with

some referrals for the fireworks.

School Property ó Pardun reported the Learning Session with the School Board was successful and has agreed to assist with information for an appraisal and for the potential purchase of the school.

Consent Calendar ó *Miller moved and Mowery seconded to approve the Minutes of 2/9/17, Treasurer's Report of 2/17, List of Bills for 3/9/17, Zoning Administrators Report-none, Public Works Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business ó

Xcel Energy LED lights ó The City has been in discussions with Xcel regarding the new LED lights, as there have been many complaints from residents regarding the lights being directed into adjacent homes. Xcel has been given a list of the trouble areas and will be making the necessary adjustments. There has also been a question of whether the streetlights are needed and if there are some that can be removed. Pardun likes that the lights are being redirected and believes we should have Xcel attend a meeting if the residents continue to complain. He also believes that as the City does street projects, we can evaluate the lights as we go. Gwen Roden, resident, believes most of the lights are at road junctions and are important for motorists.

Marine Logo submissions ó There have been several submissions and Bill would like to have the Council look at the submissions but is not asking for any consensus tonight.

Long/Short Term Goals ó No Report.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report ó Washington County is looking for items to place in their time capsule, however the deadline is April 30th.

Citizen of the Year ó The Council decided to use a closed ballot procedure to select the citizen of the year. The current names nominated by the City Council are Dorothy Deetz, David Denn and John Goodfellow.

After tallying the ballots, Dorothy Deetz was selected as the 2016 Citizen of the Year. Willenbring would like to keep a running tally of people nominated.

Adjournment ó Pardun moved and Miller seconded to adjourn at 9:17pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk