

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, May 9, 2019

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

Citizens Present: John Goodfellow, Kitsi Vadheim, Jackie Henschen, Ryan Goodman, Larry/Mary Whitaker, Peg Arnason, Charles Arnason, Megan Lapos, Ele Anderson, Greg Johnson, Sue Logan, Andy Creager, Jeanie Davis, Gerry Mroska, Anne Reich, Peter Reich, Curt Moe, Dan Malmgren, Suzanne Lindgren. Mary Vogel, Tom Omdahl, John Waugh,

Citizen Considerations –

River Grove – Hall Rental Discussion – Jackie Henschen was in attendance to represent River Grove as sitting board member to request the hall rental fee be waived for the 6th grade play. Ele Anderson, office manager for River Grove, thanked the Council for the use of the hall and stated the play is 47 years running and would like to see the tradition continued. Pardun thanked Ms. Anderson and Ms. Henschen for attending. He believes the fees should be waived for this year given the short notice, however in the future he would like to see the Administrator and Board Chair come before the Council to make this request. Anderson believes with Councilmember Pardun on this issue. Mayor Mills does not believe the fee should be waived as River Grove is not a Marine school and should be treated as any other outside entity. The hall will be used from May 10-17th, including the Council chambers and kitchen area. The Council has made reductions for other groups that use the hall for extended periods of time, and Mayor Mills is suggesting that Council do the same by cutting the fee in half. Pardun believes the school administrator and school board chair went down a bad road during a meeting with the Mayor and treated him with a lot of disrespect and therefore believes they should be the people here requesting the waiver. Pardun suggested the City charge \$350 plus a \$100 cleaning fee and a refundable \$750 damage deposit. Miller is very disappointed in the River Grove administrator and board chair for their lack of communication with the City. Megan Lapos believes the administrator and board chair did not show up for the reason of not letting the conversation go beyond the rental of the town hall. Anderson stated the City of Marine no longer has a school and River Grove now resides outside of the City and would like to send a message that the City supports the parents and students of that school and that the Council is doing that by lowering the fee as proposed. Miller also noted that the City and school committee has shown its commitment to the students and parents by the time given the last couple of years to acquire the school. Andy Creager questioned if the play creates revenue. Ms. Anderson advised the fees generated from the play pays for the Zephyr theatre for costumes, set design etc.

Pardun moved and Anderson seconded to lower the rental fee to \$350 with a \$100 cleaning fee and a \$750 damage deposit for River Grove for the 6th grade play. Motion passed unanimously.

Electric Vehicle Presentation – Katelyn Bocklund was in attendance to present information on electric vehicles and charging stations. Anne Reich invited Ms. Bocklund to present to the Council

as a consideration for adding charges stations to downtown Marine. Discussion was held regarding the types of stations and costs associated with those stations. Anderson suggestion the City could cost share the electricity charge with the businesses if a charger were to be installed that would benefit that business. The Council stated there would be no approvals needed by the City if a business were to place a charger on their property.

Planning Commission - Chairman Mroska reported the Commission is continuing to work on the Short Term Rental issue. They are working in sub committees to address individual issues. There is the possibility of a minor subdivision coming in front of the commission which could slow the process. Ron Brenner will be chairing the May meeting.

Fire and Rescue – Chief Malmgren reported the Street dance will be June 15th. A brochure has been created to help with recruitment. The ISO report came back and the department has maintained it's rating of a 5.

Miller moved and Anderson seconded to approve Edward Sanderson and Sean Samac as probationary members. Motion passed unanimously.

Miller moved and Anderson seconded to approve a one day temporary liquor license for the street dance. Motion passed unanimously.

Roads – Ryan Goodman reviewed the Engineering Report. The Met Council is reviewing the Comprehensive Plan. The committee is continuing to meet on the Judd Street project. The wastewater study in progress and the hope is to have a report by the June meeting.

Personnel/Building Inspector - No report.

Recreation – Miller reported there have been staff changes at the State Level DNR and they are now considering all the trail projects between the Gateway, William O'Brien and Anson property as one project. This will be helpful in receiving funding in the future.

Peg Arnason reported that the Stonehouse Museum is beginning to lack volunteers with the Civic Club to staff the museum and is working with the City to help find new volunteers.

John Goodfellow stated there are several River Birch that are ready to be planted and there are several locations in City Right of Way and would like to know how to move forward with the planting. Miller questioned long term maintenance and river birch in general are very messy trees. There was a question of planting trees paid for with public funds on private property. Anderson believes given the circumstances he believes if the locations make sense then he is on board. A suggestion was made to plant the trees around the Church parking lot, which the Council thought was a good idea if the church is okay. Pardun suggested Mr. Goodfellow stake the areas he would like to see the birch planted and public works can review those locations. Miller would also like to see a sign placed on the gravel bed to inform residents of what it is.

Finance – No report .

Cemetery – No Report.

Wastewater and Water Systems- No additional report.

Citizen Committee Reports

Village Center - Fitizie Heimdahl has submitted two utility box designs for around town. One is for the utility box at the Burris park and the other is for the box on the corner of County Rd 4 and Highway 95.

Anderson moved and Miller seconded to approve the submissions for the utility box projects to be located at Burris Park and County Rd 4 and Highway 95 as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

MarLa - A kids programming kick off event will be happening in June, and a professional story teller will be coming to talk about growing up in the St. Croix Valley along with a representative from the Research Station.

Hall/Restoration – The floor upstairs has been refinished and the Restoration Society is looking into having some interior painting done.

Stormwater/Watershed – The Chestnut Ravine project is moving forward.

Millsite – Anne Reich reported there was a volunteer day last week to remove some of the tree cages, and planted new shrubs. The deck overlook rebuild is complete and there are two new benches installed along the trail.

Green Step Cities - There will be volunteers at Mill Stream day and Arbor Day.

Holidays – Hollywood Pyrotechnics has agreed to contract with the City however the MN Historical Society will no longer allow the City to use the Mill Site location to shoot. The second option is using Berkey Street between Judd Street and Highway 95. Anderson and Roden are continuing to work out the details.

School Property – The City officially owns the school building. A community meeting was held to discuss potential uses for the building, however there are still a lot of leg work to do prior to that point. Pardun is shooting for a two month time period to get things worked out. The Council plans to hold a second community meeting to discuss the ideas in more detail.

Communication Infrastructure – The committee is continuing to look into different options for service, however it was confirmed that Comcast is not an option. The cell tower is on hold as Powder Ridge is waiting to hear from AT&T.

Consent Calendar – *Miller moved and Pardun seconded to approve the Minutes of 4/9/19, Treasurer’s Report of 4/19, List of Bills for 5/9/19, Zoning Administrators Report - none, Public Works Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business – The Urban Forest committee is looking for a third committee member.

Long/Short Term Goals –

Mayor Notes/Clerk’s Report – No Report.

Adjournment *Miller moved and Anderson seconded to adjourn at 8:33pm. Motion passed unanimously.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk