

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

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mills at 7:02pm. Willenbring, Mowery and Miller present. Pardun absent

Citizens Present: Dan Malmgren, Jason Crotty, Tom Warth, Ryan Goodman, Jim Maher, Tom Omdahl, Scott Spisak, Gerry Mroska, Mary Burke, Ryan Marsel, Charlie Anderson, Gwen Roden, Sue Logan, Gail Knutson, Robin Dochterman, Mary Whitaker, Dorothy Deetz, Wendy Ward, Larry Whitaker, Anne Reich, Suzanne Lindgren, Emily Anderson, Mary Jo Vandell.

Citizen Considerations – Emily Anderson and Mary Jo Van Dell are both local business owners and are hoping to host a local business event December 1 and 2nd. They would like to have a Christmas tree and a fire ring on the City Street where the lift station used to be on Third Street. The fire would be contained in a bowl and would be from 5pm – 7pm. The Christmas tree would be removed after the event. The consensus of the Council was to move forward within the time frame presented.

Robin Dochterman – Robin owns the Chocolate Shop she and other small business in town would like to organize an event on small business Saturday. The event would be the putting up and decorating of up to 30 Christmas trees in the Gazebo park and they are requesting Council approval to move forward. The trees would stay up through December to help and draw in tourists and promote business. Each business would sponsor a tree and decorate according to what their business is. Miller questioned how the trees would be disposed of. Robin questioned if the City would be willing to dispose of them, but if not they will find a way to dispose of them no later than January 1st.

Miller moved and Mowery seconded to approve the request by the small businesses to place up to 30 trees in the Gazebo park and waive the park rental fee. Motion passed unanimously.

Tom Omdahl – Marla chair request – Jim Maher presented a request to Council to purchase new cloth padded chairs and racks for the upstairs of the hall and Council chambers. The Restoration Society has approved the proposed chairs also. Marla believes these chairs will help enhance the hall. If the Council approves the request, there is a question of what to do with the current chairs that are upstairs. Scott Spisak questioned if the City could use those at the school. The Council thought that would be a good idea, however where would be they be stored in the meantime. Jason Crotty suggested storing the chairs and racks in the shed in the cemetery. Miller questioned who would own the chairs once they are purchased. Tom Omdahl believes Marla would donate them to the city, however will need official approval from the board.

Willenbring moved and Miller seconded to accept a donation of new chairs to replace the current chairs from Marla and that the City agree to store the old chairs. Motion passed unanimously.

Memorandum of Agreement - the current agreement expires December 31 and a draft amended agreement has been proposed. The Council will review the proposed changes and discuss with Marla prior to adoption.

Jim Maher reported that Mary Burke attended the Washington County Board meeting to request the annual Jordan bequest funds. The board members praised the Marine Library Association for the work over the last 7 years and voiced their appreciation.

The library is creating a teen program and also continues with their family game night.

Planning Commission - Chairman Mrsola updated the Council on the minor subdivision request for the property on Highway 95. The commission members have suggested putting the public hearing off until January and will work with the City Engineer on the specifics of the driveways. The Commission will also be beginning to work on the short term rental issue.

Fire and Rescue – A by law amendment for the Relief Association was presented to allow for members to gain active service credit their first year in monthly increments.

Willenbring moved and Mowery seconded to approve the proposed bylaw amendment as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

Roads - Ryan Goodman reviewed his engineering report. There is a third contractors request to TA Schifsky in the amount of \$57,101.07.

Willenbring moved and Miller seconded to approve the contractor payment request in the amount of \$57,101.07. Motion passed unanimously.

Washington County is accepting comments on their CIP. Ryan Goodman suggested working with the County on the regional trail program. Goodman will draft a letter to the County and will reference the joint powers agreement with the DNR for the Gateway Trail.

Willenbring thanked Ryan for helping the City get approved for the MnDOT grant in the amount of \$750,000 for the downtown improvement project. The entire Council voiced their appreciation for his work on obtaining the grant.

Personnel/Building Inspector - No Report.

Recreation – Mowery questioned what will happen with the ice rink. The City operated the rink as usual last year and plans to run it again this year.

Finance – The Truth in Taxation meeting will be held on December 4th at 6:30pm.

Cemetery – No Report.

Wastewater and Water Systems- Flows are up due to the rain.

Citizen Committee Reports

Village Center - No Report

MarLa - No additional report.

Hall/Restoration – Clerk Peterson suggested the Council consider creating guidelines for the hall usage. Miller suggested adding to the long/short term goals list.

Stormwater/Watershed – No Report

Millsite – Anne Reich presented the completed management plan for the Mill Site. One of the recommendations is to begin the removal of the Ash trees due to the EAB infestation. The committee is working on getting bids to begin this project.

Green Step Cities - There have been several local government workshops offered for the green step program that Anne Reich has been attending. She also attended a workshop on EV charging stations and has worked with the General Store on applying for a grant to install a charging station on their property.

Holidays – No Report.

School Property – Miller questioned approval to spend up to \$45,000 for costs incurred with the school purchase. This would cover costs for attorney's fee, title and closing, environmental survey and ALTA survey.

Willenbring moved and Miller seconded to approve a request to spend money on cost associated with the purchase of the school not to exceed \$45,000. Motion passed unanimously.

Consent Calendar – *Miller moved and Mowery seconded to approve the Minutes of 10/11/18, Treasurer's Report of 11/18, List of Bills for 11/08/18, Zoning Administrators Report, Public Works Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business – Pardun is working with the church on the lighting issue. A black shield was used on the lights and seemed to help with the issue so the church will work with the neighbors on this resolution. The engineer for the church will also be forwarding a landscape plan to the City.

Election Canvass Results – *Miller moved and Mowery seconded to certify the official results for the local election. Motion passed unanimously.*

Long/Short Term Goals – Addition of hall usage guidelines.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report – None

Adjournment – Miller moved and Mowery seconded to adjourn at 8:51pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk