

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Thursday, December 13, 2018

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mills at 7:00pm. Willenbring, Pardun, Mowery and Miller present. Mayor Mills called for a moment of silence to honor long time resident Jack Warren who recently passed away.

Citizens Present: Dan Malmgren, Jason Crotty, Kitzie Vandheim, John Goodfellow, Scott Spisak, Jim Shaver, Dave Snyder, Larry/Gwen Roden, Larry/Mary Whitaker, Anne Reich, Lorealee DiLorenzo, Cecily Harris, Jim Maher, Gayle Knutson, Beth Honetschlager, Mike Tibbetts.

Citizen Considerations – Cecily Harris just recently purchased 710 Broadway which includes property on both the north and south side of the Mill Ponds. There are 3 acres of property on the south side of Broadway Street that she would like to sell to a public agency, more specifically the City of Marine, and would like to potentially see a conservation easement placed over the property. Willenbring questioned the condition of the dam. Ms. Harris does not have any information on the dam or the ponds. Willenbring has concerns about potential liability on the dam infrastructure. Jim Shaver, Carnelian Marine Watershed District, stated the Watershed Board has a letter of endorsement supporting the idea of the City of Marine purchasing that property. Willenbring questioned if the Watershed could purchase that property. Mr. Shaver noted the Watershed declined both the option of purchasing or having the property gifted to them as they feel the City is the natural entity to own the property. Willenbring recommended having study of dam done prior to any consideration of moving forward. Mayor Mills advised the Council to make a list of items they would like to see addressed and bring to the January meeting.

Planning Commission - Scott Spisak was in attendance to update the Council on the November meeting. The Balego subdivision is moving forward, with a public hearing scheduled for January 29th.

The Commission has been working on the Short-Term Rental issue and there is some concern of a number of properties that are currently for sale that might potentially be used for this purpose specifically and would like the Council to consider adopting a moratorium on STRs.

Willenbring moved and Mowery seconded to set a public hearing for the January 10th City Council meeting at 7:00pm to consider a moratorium for short term rentals. Motion passed unanimously.

There are two vacancies on the Commission since the passing of Jack Warren and Gwen Roden moving to the City Council. The Commission would like to accept applications until the middle of January with appointment at the February meeting.

Willenbring moved and Miller seconded to reappoint Kristina Smitten to the Planning Commission for a three-year term. Motion passed unanimously.

Fire and Rescue – Chief Malmgren presented a proposed agreement from Washington County to

allow access to the Emergency Services applications. After careful consideration, Chief Malmgren does not believe it is in the City's best interest to enter into the proposed service agreement with Washington County.

Willenbring moved and Mowery seconded to not enter into an agreement with Washington County on the proposed service agreement. Motion passed unanimously.

Willenbring moved and Mowery seconded to re-appoint Dan Malmgren as Chief for an additional two years. Motion passed unanimously.

Roads - Ryan Goodman reviewed his Engineering Report.

Personnel/Building Inspector - No Report.

Recreation – Looking for warming house attendants.

Finance – *Pardun moved to set the 2019 levy at \$885,334.92 with represents a -0.0396% decrease from 2018. Motion passed unanimously.*

Cemetery – No Report.

Wastewater and Water Systems- Pumping is complete and the land applying is working well.

Citizen Committee Reports

Village Center - Miller noted the trees in the park from the businesses look great.

Marla - Miller reported he met with the library board and reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding. One addition that will be made is the addition of specifying what areas the library has use of. Miller requested the Council review the document and would like to see Council action in January.

Loralee DiLorenzo update the Council on the upcoming programming. There have been game nights, documentary series and story time for kids. The annual birthday party will be held on January 17th to which the Council is invited.

Hall/Restoration – Miller noted the hall usage agreement item is still on the agenda for future consideration.

Stormwater/Watershed – No Report

Millsite – Anne Reich was in attendance to update the Council on the Millsite. The ash trees have been removed by Sentence to Serve. Two benches have been purchased from Mike Tibbets to be placed by the overlook. The committee has discussed dedicating one of the benches to Jack

Warren but they would like to discuss with the family prior to anything official happening. Willenbring would like the City to consider renaming the Gazebo Park after Jack Warren.

Green Step Cities - No Report

Holidays – No Report.

School Property – Pardun reported there was a walk through of the school this afternoon. As part of the City owning the school, there needs to be an EDA formed. Dave Snyder, City Attorney, reviewed the process of creating an EDA. The City Council would act as the Board and functions of the board would be limited. The hope would be to hold a public hearing at the January meeting. Willenbring questioned if the Board would need to be populated with members outside of Council members. Mr. Snyder advised this would be a policy issue for the Council to decide on.

Miller moved and Pardun seconded to set a public hearing for the purpose of discussing the creation of an EDA for the January 10, 2019 meeting at 7:30pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Pardun reported a very preliminary proposal has been received from AT&T regarding the possibility of placing a cell tower in Marine. The proposed location is the Marine Elementary school. Pardun advised them this would be a lengthy process, which can not begin until after the City official owns the school property. Charlie Anderson noted there are residents with expertise in this area that would be willing to help research additional options.

Consent Calendar – Willenbring moved and Miller seconded to approve the Minutes of 11/08/18, 12/4/18, Treasurer’s Report of 11/18, List of Bills for 12/13/18, Zoning Administrators Report, Public Works Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Old/New Business – None

Long/Short Term Goals – Mowery suggested considering Charles Arnason as the next Life Time Achievement award.

Miller moved and Willenbring seconded to approve the certification of delinquent utilities to Washington County. Motion passed unanimously.

Miller moved and Willenbring seconded to approve the 2019 liquor licenses for the Brookside Bar and Grill and St Croix Chocolate Shop. Motion passed unanimously.

Milled moved and Pardun seconded to approve the 2019 cigarette license for the Marine General Store. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Notes/Clerk’s Report – Clerk Peterson thanked Dan Willenbring and Chris Mowery for

their service on Council. Willenbring thanked the citizens for their volunteerism and for the opportunity to serve. Mowery wished the incoming Council good luck and noted that he has enjoyed his time on Council.

Adjournment – Willenbring moved and Mowery seconded to adjourn at 8:05pm. Motion passed unanimously.

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk