

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Thursday, November 14, 2019

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

Citizens Present: Ryan Goodman, Maggie Strom, Nancy Cosgriff, Dale Mulfinger, Jason Crotty, Leslie McKenzie, Peter Foster, John Goodfellow, Dorothy Deetz, Jim Maher, Carissa Roach, Kay Hempel, Gerry Mroska, Wendy Ward, Robyn Dochterman, June Eagleton, Larry Roden, Mary Burke, Isabel Steele, Anne Reich, Laurie Gordon, Curt Moe, Larry Martin, Megan Kavanagh, John Waugh.

Approval of the Agenda –

*Anderson moved and Miller seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.*

Citizens Considerations –

Maggie Strom – Ms. Strom is a current resident of Oregon but is looking to move back to Minnesota to own a restaurant. She has a history of working for restaurants both in Minnesota and Oregon. She is looking to purchase the Chocolate Shop and is requesting a liquor license. The ordinance currently requires any applicant to live within 100 miles of Marine on St Croix for at least two years. Anderson believes the fact that Ms. Strom does not yet own the business and the Council cannot make a decision on granting a license until Ms. Strom is actually living in the City and owns the business. Clerk Peterson noted the ordinance requires the residency requirement is a two year period so if a license is granted that would either require a variance to the code or an ordinance amendment. The Council encouraged Ms. Strom to move forward with her business plan and come back to request a license at that time.

Civic Club/Restoration Society – June Eagleton presented the history of the Civic Club and its role with maintaining and managing the Stonehouse Museum. The Civic Club members are aging and can no longer maintain the Museum. A community meeting was held to come up with ideas on how to keep the museum open and running and is now looking for help from the City. Megan Kavanagh would like one or two Council members to work with the Restoration Society and Civic Club to help come up with some ideas. There is also memorial money dedicated to the museum that could be used for various items such as signage, etc. A suggestion was made to create a museum committee that can help to supervise the volunteers and help to manage the day to day responsibilities. Dorothy Deetz questioned if Washington County Historical Society might be of help. Ms. Eagleton noted they have been used in the past for resources and they may be a resource for interns but not for management. Kay Hempel noted that Linda Tibbetts might be interested. The Council will add this to the December agenda and hopes to have another interested person by that time.

Dale Mulfinger – Mr. Mulfinger’s family has been opening the Log Cabin every Sunday for the last 7 years during the summer to show case the history of the cabin. Mr. Mulfinger’s sister will be taking over moving forward.

Mary Burke – Ms. Burke, on behalf of the local businesses, would like to request approval to create an enchanted forest in the Gazebo park during small business Saturday. The trees would be staked this year to prevent tipping and only non-breakable ornaments would be used. All trees will be taken down and removed by December 31<sup>st</sup>. Anderson was concerned about how to remove the stakes as last year a sledge hammer was required to remove the stands. Anderson will work with Roden and the businesses to work out the details, but the consensus of the Council was to move forward.

Planning Commission - Chairman Mroska was in attendance to update the Council on the October meeting. There will be a public hearing in November for a variance and CUP request for Scott Iwen. There was a pre-application for a CUP for 760 Judd Street. The PUD committee is continuing to work with the Commission on moving forward.

The Council and Commission met to discuss the short term rental regulations. The hope is to have a draft ordinance ready in December and to hold a public hearing in February. The moratorium expires in January and the Council would like to extend the moratorium until after the public hearing.

The Council has received the draft Zoning ordinance changes however there are still changes to be made and the Planning Commission would like to review again prior to the Council reviewing.

*Miller moved and Roden seconded to extend the current ShortTerm Rental moratorium an additional six months, expiring June 31, 2019. Motion passed unanimously.*

Fire and Rescue – The Art Fair committee met with the Fire Chief and public safety committee members to discuss the whether or not the event should continue. Chief Malmgren will be discussing with the department members and will bring a recommendation forth at the December meeting.

Roads – Ryan Goodman reviewed the Engineering Report. Washington County is getting close to approving their capital improvement plan.

Personnel/Building Inspector - No Report

Recreation – Miller reported on a proposal for a single track mountain biking trail up in Jackson Meadow. There was discussion of putting in a test track on the maintenance shop property until the other Anson property and Gateway trail issues continue to work themselves out. Miller is looking for feedback from the Council on a potential test track. Anderson noted this plan is still in the feasibility stage and is in no way ready to move forward. The Council thought the plan is a

great idea and the consensus was to move forward with looking at a concept plan. Nancy Cosgriff, Jackson Meadow resident, questioned if members of the Jackson Meadow board might be a part of the decision making process. Anderson reiterated that there are no decisions at this time, it is strictly a feasibility discussion. When or if there is proposal, then all residents will have a chance to give input.

Finance – The Truth in Taxation meeting will be Tuesday December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30pm.

Cemetery – No Report.

Hall/Restoration – No Report.

Stormwater/Watershed - No Report.

Wastewater and Water Systems- Regular pumping is complete.

#### Citizen Committee Reports

Village Center - The last public open house was held a few weeks ago. The final framework is in almost in place. The hope is to submit the plan to MnDOT mid December for a public comment period. Then in January or February the Council will approve the plans and specs and go out for bid. The bid would hopefully be awarded in April.

Anderson would like to revisit the business sign that was proposed several years ago and re-bid that sign.

*Pardun moved and Roden seconded to approve Resolution 111419-01, approving the application for funding from the Washington County community development agency for the village center revitalization project. Motion passed unanimously.*

MarLa - Mary Burke reported the annual fundraising event was very successful. Next week local resident Peter Reich and his son will be presenting information on their personal Youtube channel.

There is a new book return next to the Kiosk and the board members will be presenting their annual report to the Washington County Board next week.

Millsite – Anne Reich reported that group is continuing to work the MHS and their funding will continue.

Green Step Cities - The committee will be meeting monthly and reviewing the best practices .

Holidays – No additional report.

School Property – Pardun has been working with Clerk Peterson to create a rental agreement for the school gym and update the current Village hall rental agreement. Both agreements will be presented for approval at the December meeting.

Pardun also noted that there is no need for the school committee to continue and so they will be disbanding. Miller noted that there is a new committee that is working on creating a new charter school and will present more information in the near future.

Communication Infrastructure – Anderson reported a proposal has been received by Powder Ridge and anticipates a second proposal next week. The committee will review the proposals next week.

Urban Forest – The trees from the gravel bed have been planted. If grant money is available then the hope would be to do the same project again next year.

Consent Calendar – *Miller moved and Anderson seconded to approve the Minutes of 10/11/19, 11/6/19, Treasurer's Report of 10/19, List of Bills for 11/14/19, Zoning Administrators Report-none, Public Works Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business –

Long/Short Term Goals – Roden questioned the Comp Plan since the plan was approved. There may be amendments however so that will stay. The school rental agreement can be removed.

Watershed Board Nominee – Leslie McKenzie has submitted an application and request to be on the Watershed Board.

*Miller moved and Roden seconded to approve the nomination of Leslie McKenzie to the Watershed District Board. Motion passed unanimously.*

Citizen of the Year Nomination – Two nominations have been received, one for the Marine Film Guild and another for Dick Johnson, as he is retiring from the Fire Department. The Council will wait to see if any additional nominations are presented and will revisit at the December meeting.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report –

Adjournment . Miller moved and Anderson seconded to adjourn at 8:37pm.

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk