

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
Thursday, December 12, 2019

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

Citizens Present: Ryan Goodman, Jason Crotty, Robin Brooksbank, Larry Martin, Annie Minnich, Larry/Mary Whitaker, Larry Roden, John Goodfellow, Cecily Harris, Megan Kavanaugh, Matt Miller, Scott Iwen,

Approval of the Agenda –

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

Citizens Considerations –

Robin Brooksbank was in attendance on behalf of the Marine Folk School. Ms. Brooksbank thanked the Council again for the opportunity to use the elementary school, and stated it has been very successful thus far. She is requesting the use of the gym space once a week on Thursdays from 6:00pm – 7:00pm for local families and River Grove families to use as an open gym time. This will put no additional work on City staff, and would be free to the local families. Because there will be no charge to the families, she is requesting the Council waive the rental fee for the Folk School. Anderson would like the insurance liability form to be forwarded to the City Attorney for review. Pardun would like to see the dates added to the City website.

*Anderson moved and Roden seconded to allow the Marine Folk school to hold open gym to local families and that the rental fee be waived for the event. Motion passed unanimously.*

There was a temporary liquor license applied for by the Brookside Bar and Grill for the New Year's Eve party being hosted at the Village Hall on December 31<sup>st</sup>. The State denied the application however, because a for profit establishment cannot host another for profit event outside of its premises. Andy Creager, resident, is also involved in hosting this event and had stated that any proceeds remaining after covering the initial cost of the even will be donated to the Fireworks fund. The State Alcohol and Gambling Division suggested the City apply for the liquor license as a tax exempt status and stating the event is a fundraiser for the Fireworks fund. The Brookside has agreed to carry the full liquor insurance on the event, and listing the City as an additional insured to make sure the City is free of any/all liability. The Council did not see any issues with the City applying for the permit.

*Miller moved and Roden seconded to agree the City apply for the liquor license for the New Years Eve event on December 31<sup>st</sup>, with the Brookside Bar and Grill agreeing to supply the liability insurance and listing the City as an additional insured. Motion passed unanimously.*

Council member asked for point of privilege to recognize Clerk Peterson's birthday and requested the audience sing.

Megan Kavanagh reported Linda Tibbetts has offered to be a part of the committee that is being formed to work on the staffing the Stonehouse Museum. Currently there are four members of the committee and they would like to see at least one Council member volunteer to work with them. Charlie Anderson and Gwen Roden have volunteered.

Planning Commission - There were two public hearings for Scott Iwen, 18337 St. Croix Trail N. The first for a CUP for a bathroom in an accessory building and the second for a variance for accessory building over the allowed size. The bathroom has been built already but the building permit was not flagged for a CUP.

There were also two pre-applications presented – one for Jane Kennedy for a CUP for a bathroom in an accessory building, and Larry Whitaker for a variance for solar panels.

The Council reviewed the variance request first. Mr. Iwen explained that many years ago there was an attached garage on the house that was turned into a family room. When they moved in, there was an accessory building, which they refer to as more of a barn, that was remodeled for living space. The Iwens would like to have an actual garage in addition to the existing accessory building. Anderson questioned the size of the garage being requested, as it is 24x40. Mr. Iwen said that size could be negotiable. The property sits on 6 acres. Anderson doesn't believe the variance should be approved given there was adequate space in the current accessory building to use as a garage. Pardun agreed.

*Anderson moved and Pardun seconded to deny the variance request for Mr. Iwen for Planning Case 191127-02. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Pardun moved and Miller seconded to approve the CUP request for Mr. Iwen for Planning Case 191127-01. Motion passed unanimously.*

Four planning commission members are for re-appointment. The new proposed terms are as follows: Ron Brenner will expire 12/31/2020, Gerry Mroska 12/31/2021 and Anna Hagstrom and Jennifer Henry on 12/31/2022.

*Miller moved and Anderson seconded to accept the Planning Commission terms as presented. Motion passed unanimously.*

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Fire and Rescue – Chief Malmgren submitted a report stating there was a \$4200 repair charge for a fire truck. This cost exceeded his City credit card limit, and so he paid for the expense on his personal card. Clerk Peterson noted that she spoke with the Chief and requested that in the future he either request his card limit be increased or pay for the invoice by City check to avoid

personal reimbursements for City expenses.

There is no provision in the ordinance for the Department to charge insurance companies for fire calls, only false alarms. Chief Malmgren would like to change that and amend the code. The Council consensus was to move forward with drafting amendment language for allow for the invoicing for calls.

The Department has been discussing the declining attendance of the Art Fair. The department has decided to try it one more year and bring in additional volunteers to help with new ideas.

The ice rink still is not completely frozen but public works is beginning to put light layers on to try and establish a base.

Roads – Ryan Goodman reviewed the engineering report. Anderson noted the St. Croix River has been added to the Impaired Waters list. This is not because the river is getting worse but because the standards were changed. Ryan Goodman noted this could open up more grant opportunities. John Goodfellow noted that water quality of St. Croix is actually improving.

Pardun noted there is an open house on Tuesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the Watershed portion of the downtown revitalization project.

Personnel/Building Inspector - No Report

Recreation – Miller noted they are trying to get a meeting scheduled with the DNR to discuss the upcoming projects. Anderson would like to see the Folk School work with the ice rink also.

Finance –

Pardun reported on the Truth in Taxation meeting. Wendy Ward thanked the Council for a productive meeting.

*Pardun moved and Miller seconded to set the 2020 levy at \$940,558.51 which represents a 6.26% increase over 2019. Motion passed unanimously.*

Clerk Peterson presented the proposed reserve funds for 2019. There was discussion on how to allocate the fiscal disparity funds. In past years the Council has used the money at its discretion or put in reserve funds for a specific project. There is also \$25,000 remaining in the budget allocated for the elementary school as the initial bond payment was just under \$20,000.

*Pardun moved and Miller seconded to approve the 2019 Reserve Funds as presented with the \$25,000 and fiscal disparity being allocated to the Marine Elementary enterprise fund. Motion passed unanimously.*

Cemetery – No Report.

Hall/Restoration – No Report.

Stormwater/Watershed - Pardun introduced Mike Isensee, the new administrator for the Carnelian Marine Watershed District. Mr. Isensee reviewed some of the projects for the upcoming year for Marine, including the Ravine project and the downtown revitalization project. There is a grant opportunity with the Washington County Conservation District as part of the stormwater management portion of the revitalization project. This grant will cover the plantings and establishment of those plantings. Once that is done, the City will take over ownership and maintenance. However the watershed district staff will actually do the work at the same time they are working on the stormwater basins along County Rd 4. Pardun is requesting approval of the grant with the understanding that the Watershed district will do the maintenance work.

*Pardun moved and Anderson seconded that the City approve the grant contract No.C17-6760-05 between the Carnelian Marine Watershed District with the contingency that the maintenance is covered by the District. Motion passed unanimously.*

Wastewater and Water Systems- No additional report.

#### Citizen Committee Reports

Village Center - Gwen thanked the Council for allowing the businesses to create the enchanted forest.

MarLa - Jim Maher reported two representatives from Marla presented to the County Board and received high accolades. The Jordan bequest was also approved. The documentary series have been very well attended, as have the family game nights. Marla is also hosting their 8<sup>th</sup> birthday party and Oscar party in February. The library will be replacing the tops of the buffet tables upstairs.

Millsite – No Report.

Green Step Cities - The committee is meeting monthly and there has been a subcommittee formed to discuss needs in the community. They are researching what needs to be completed to reach step 4.

Holidays – No additional report.

School Property – No additional report.

Communication Infrastructure – Anderson reported that the committee met and heard two proposals for cell tower proposals for the compost site location. He hopes to present the information to the Council in January.

Anderson received a quote of \$1200 from Studio2 for the City logo. They will be preparing and sending his proposed design ideas at the January meeting. The Council consensus was to continue to move forward.

Urban Forest – No report

Consent Calendar – *Miller moved and Anderson seconded to approve the Minutes of 11/13/19, 11/14/19, 12/3/19, Treasurer's Report of 11/19, List of Bills for 12/12/19, Zoning Administrators Report, Public Works Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes. Motion passed unanimously.*

Old/New Business –

Delinquent Utilities - Clerk Peterson submitted the list of delinquent utilities.

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

Long/Short Term Goals – Miller would like to suggest a review of Capital Improvements prior to the August budget meeting next year.

Pardun would like to schedule a workshop to discuss the citizen committees. Clerk Peterson will send out a meeting request to set a workshop date.

Citizen of the Year Nomination – Two nominations have been received. Richard Johnson is retiring from the Fire Department after 41 years. Anderson noted that Mr. Johnson does not like accolades and so the Council would like to keep the award low key.

*Miller moved and Anderson seconded to award the 2019 citizen of the year award to Richard Johnson for his 41 years of service on the Fire Department. Motion passed unanimously.*

Brookside liquor license – The annual On/Off Sale license and Sunday On Sale is up for renewal.

*Miller moved and Anderson seconded to approve the two liquor licenses for the Brookside Bar and Grill for 2020. Motion passed unanimously.*

*Miller moved and Pardun seconded to approve the 2020 cigarette license for the Marine General Store. Miller, Pardun and Anderson for. Roden abstained. Motion passed.*

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report –

Adjournment . Miller moved and Roden seconded to adjourn at 8:20pm.

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk