

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, April 8, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nyenhuis at 7:00pm. Nyenhuis (remote), Pardun, Ward (Remote), Anderson (Remote) Roden Present

Citizens Present: Scott Spisak, John Goodfellow, Jennifer Johnson, Mary Whitaker, Jeff Comins, Jason Crotty, Juanita Ikuta, Nancy Cosgriff, Chris Strand, Anne Reich, Diane Mills, Peter Foster, Dorothy Deetz, Eric Larsen, Juli Hagstrom, Ryan Goodman, Paul Anderson, Mark and Patti Kraske, Mary Burke

Approval of the Agenda – Anderson moved and Ward seconded to approve the agenda with the amendment to add Win Miller to Citizens Considerations.

Roden - yes

Anderson - yes

Ward -yes

Pardun -yes

Nyenhuis -yes

All in favor, motion passes.

Citizens Considerations –

Mary Petersen – Lot line adjustment request. Back in October of 2020 a lot line adjustment was approved for Ms. Petersen. There is currently a purchase agreement on the 12 acre parcel adjacent to 980 Rosabell and in order to improve the driveway access to that parcel, they are requesting to make a second lot line adjustment.

Ward moved to approve the lot line adjustment request for Mary Petersen, 980 Rosabell Street, as drafted by the Survey by Landmark Surveying dated March 21, 2021.

Roden - yes

Anderson - yes

Ward -yes

Pardun -yes

Nyenhuis -yes

All in favor, motion passes

John Goodfellow – Wetland and Tree Preservation Proposal – Mr. Goodfellow noted that there are different requirements for single family residences versus subdivisions in the City’s ordinances in terms of Natural Resource Preservation. He is questioning if the Council is okay with reduced regulations for wetlands and is suggesting the Council refer this to the Planning Commission for review. Roden believes that the Planning Commission has denied several requests due to Wetland issues and believes that there are protections in place. Ward commends Mr. Goodfellow for

bringing this issue up and believes that if there is a missing link then the Planning Commission should review the issue. Pardun believes the Commission just did a full review of the Zoning Code and did not find any issues with this item. Pardun also noted that many of these lots are small in size and that the Watershed rules covers this issue. Anderson does not want to add any items to the Planning Commission's plate at this time. Pardun noted that the Council will be reviewing the Zoning ordinance changes in the near future and he is open to addressing this issue at that time. Mayor Nyenhuis appreciates Mr. Goodfellow's efforts but agrees that this is not something the Council should put on the Commission's plate at this time but should keep in the back of the Council's minds. Further discussion was held on the wording of the motion and whether the Council is comfortable with a hard stop to this request. Anderson would like to strike the denial portion of the motion in order to keep the item on the back burner.

Pardun moved and Roden seconded that current City Zoning regulations along with Wetland Conservation District regulations and Watershed District rules substantially cover the needs to protect the City's natural resources and that the City deny Mr. Goodfellow's request. After further discussion, Pardun amended his motion as follows:

Pardun moved and Roden seconded that current City Zoning regulations along with Wetland Conservation District regulations and Watershed District rules substantially cover the needs to protect the City's natural resources.

*Roden - yes
Anderson - yes
Ward -nay
Pardun -yes
Nyenhuis -yes*

Motion passes.

Win Miller – The Marine Village School application has been approved and accepted by the authorizer and are now in the process of submitting to the Department of Education. There has been a request to show additional support of the school by families with younger children and so the committee will be sending letters and making phone calls to the surrounding communities. Mr. Miller is looking for volunteers to help with this effort.

Planning Commission - The Commission is continuing to work on the wireless ordinance. There was a public hearing for 983 Rosabell Street, Eric Larsen, for a bathroom in an accessory building. The recommendation was for the Council to approve the request. Anderson wanted to reiterate the importance of the current ordinances and to remind the Council of the need to meet and discuss the recommended zoning changes. Anderson would also like to discuss with the Commission if consultants should be hired in the future to assist with some of these bigger issues and would like to discuss at the workshop. Clerk Peterson will work on setting up a workshop to discuss the recommended zoning changes for sometime in July when the wireless communications ordinance is complete.

Nyenhuis moved and Roden seconded to approve the Conditional Use Permit request for 983 Rosabell Street, Eric Larsen, for a bathroom in an accessory building as recommended by the Planning Commission.

Roden - yes

Anderson - yes

Ward - yes

Pardun -yes

Nyenhuis -yes

All in favor, motion passes.

Fire and Rescue – Anderson reviewed the context of the mutual aid agreement that was passed earlier this year and how it relates to many of the wildfires around the state and the need for additional help from surrounding departments. Anderson also noted that there was a significant car accident that impacted one of the department members and there is a caring bridge site. The streetdance is rescheduled for October and the band is secured.

Roads – Ryan Goodman reviewed the engineering report. The downtown street project is set to begin Monday, April 12th. The first phase will be the removal of the sidewalks. They are tracking the Stimulus funding and the hope is further information will be given to Cities by May. Mayor Nyenhuis noted that the funding has a very limited scope and the City will continue to wait for updates. Ward thanked the engineer, Pardun and Roden for putting together these project meetings to keep people in the loop. Ward questioned if the Council may be able to hold a workshop to discuss the Capital Improvement plan. Pardun noted that the plan was just completed and would like to set a workshop date for the end of April or beginning of May. Anderson questioned the status of the dumpster screening. Pardun spoke with Matt Miller of the Brookside and Mr. Miller has agree to pay for an enclosure. Pardun would like to follow the model used at the Boomsite location but using Cedar rather than steel. Pardun is hoping to have pricing ready for the May meeting. Ward questioned the porta potty location and Mayor Nyenhuis questioned if the proposed enclosure would fit with the aesthetics of the town. Pardun noted the current plan is not set in stone and the Council can certainly discuss the style moving forward and also whether grants are available to help with the cost. Roden noted that those grants were not available through the BIZ recycle program was because the location of the dumpsters is on City property and there really is not room on the Brookside property to place those dumpsters. Mayor Nyenhuis also reported that the asphalt plants are not yet open and therefore pot holes around town have not been fixed. Nyenhuis noted there has been questions from residents as to whether the City would consider striping no parking in front of the Pumper building during the road project. Pardun will look into.

Personnel - Pardun reported that he is continuing to meet with Public Works on the situation of Jason Crotty working part time. Things are continuing to go well and the work is getting done. Pardun will meet with them in May to check in again.

Parks & Rec – Anderson would like to see a Millstream master plan and whether there should be

zoning regulations for parks. The MnDOT landscape grant is moving ahead. A letter will be needed from the City supporting the project. Anderson is also looking at ways to work with other organizations on enforcing wake restrictions on the river.

Millsite – Anne Reich submitted Minutes from their last meeting. No additional report.

Cemetery – A handicap accessible porta potty was ordered for the cemetery.

City Properties– Pardun reported that the HVAC controllers at the elementary school need replacing. Four have been replaced using the CARES funding, however there are several more that need to be replaced in the amount of \$60,400. Pardun would like to suggest the new Covid funding be considered to pay for that replacement.

Water Systems – The sump pump inspections are almost complete. A workshop will be held in early June on the septic system changes.

Citizen Committee Reports –

Urban Forest – Peter Foster submitted a proclamation for the Arbor Day, which will be held on April 30th. The tamarack trees are on order for the gravel bed along with white pine seedlings to pass out for Arbor day.

Green Step Cities – No Report.

Holidays/Events – Roden reported she would like to see the Memorial Day service held in the cemetery as is has been in the past. She believes with social distancing, the event could be held safely. Mr. Brooksbank and Mr. Mills have agreed to organize the event. Roden also believes the Judd Street road project will be almost complete by July 4th and would like to see the parade take place on Judd Street as it has in the past. Anderson would like to see a public safety plan for Covid created prior to the event. Roden suggested beginning the parade south of Berkey in order to spread people out further.

EDA – No Update.

Communication Infrastructure – Anderson believes the joint workshop went really well. The assistant clerk is looking into online payments for permits and potentially a credit card processor for the hall. Anderson is beginning to look at the Village Center signage.

Consent Calendar –

Roden moved and Pardun seconded to approve the Minutes of 3/11/21, 3/16/21, 4/8/21 Treasurer's Report of 3/21, List of Bills for 4/8/21, Zoning Administrators Report-None, Public Works Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes.

Roden-yes

Anderson-yes

Pardun-yes
Ward-yes
Nyenhuis – yes
Motion passed unanimously

Old/New Business –

Civic Club/Museum Update – Mayor Nyenhuis reported there are new hours for the Stonehouse Museum – 1-4pm on Saturday and Sunday and they are still looking for volunteers. The Civic Club is looking to replace the sign on Highway 95 of which Nyenhuis is helping with a new design. He will bring the design template forward at the May meeting.

The Lower St. Croix Partnership Team is looking for a representative from the City to attend their meetings. Anyone interested should contact the City office.

Long/Short Term Goals – A recommendation was made to add the Marine Elementary school on the list. Ward would like to add a workshop to the beginning of each year to address each item. Anderson would like to add the school as an agenda item also. After further discussion, the school will be added as a standing citizens consideration. The zoning ordinance amendments will be reviewed at a workshop in July with a public hearing in the fall.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report – None

Adjournment - Mayor Nyenhuis moved and Roden seconded to adjourn at 8:33pm.

Ward Yes
Roden Yes
Pardun yes
Anderson yes
Nyenhuis yes

All in favor, motion passes.

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk