

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, September 9, 2021

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

Citizens Present: Larry Roden, Gerry Mroska, Dan Malmgren, Peter Foster, Dorothy Deetz, Leslie McKenzie, Sara Rottunda, Curt Moe, Nancy Cosgriff, Paul Anderson, Roger Lyle, Mary Burke, Anna Hagstrom, Jeff Comins.

Approval of the Agenda – *Nyenhuis moved and Roden seconded to approve the agenda as drafted.*

Roden - yes

Ward -yes

Pardun -yes

Nyenhuis -yes

Anderson - yes

All in favor, motion passes.

Citizens Considerations

Christine Maefsky -Ms. Maefsky could not be in attendance, however has submitted an application for a short term rental license for the remainder of 2021. There was a question of the requirement for the applicant to certify that they stay at the residence for more nights than it is rented. In the definitions it states that requirement must be within a six month timeline however in the body of the ordinance, the six month requirement was removed. Clerk Peterson checked with the City Attorney and reviewed the Minutes from workshops and the last ordinance draft had that six month requirement removed however it mistakenly ended up in the final draft. The City Attorney believes since the intent was to remove it, and because it is not listed in the body of the ordinance then the Council can approve the request as presented. If the Council chooses to amend the ordinance at a later date, it can do so.

Nyenhuis moved and Roden seconded to approve the STR license application for Christine Maefsky as presented.

Roden - yes

Ward -yes

Pardun -yes

Nyenhuis -yes

Anderson - yes

All in favor, motion passes

Anna Hagstrom – Ms. Hagstrom was in attendance previously to inquire about getting a combination on sale/ off sale liquor license for a business she is opening downtown. The background check came back okay from Washington County and she is in the process of providing the City with the necessary proof of insurance in order to meet the State requirements. Ms. Hagstrom is requesting approval from the City in order to move forward with her application.

Ward moved and Anderson seconded to approve the combination liquor license for Anna Hagstrom contingent upon the approval from the State of MN and to prorate the license fee for the remainder of 2021.

Roden – yes

Pardun – yes

Ward – yes

Nyenhuis – yes

Anderson - yes

All in favor, motion passed

Christie Forcica – The Brookside and JRod’s Automotive would like to continue with the Tuesday car shows for the remainder of September. The Council has not received any complaints and it seems to be working out well and has no problem with them continuing, with the exception of September 13th when there will road construction.

Marla – Nyenhuis moved and Roden seconded to approve the request to Washington County for the annual \$6,000 Jordan bequest.

Roden – yes

Pardun – yes

Ward – yes

Nyenhuis – yes

Anderson - yes

All in favor, motion passed

Planning Commission - Pardun reported there have been conversations between Carly Kehoe and the Commission regarding the ordinance and RFP. Ms. Kehoe is recommending not adopting the ordinance until the RFP is ready. Everything should be complete and ready to adopt by the October meeting. At that point, RFP’s will be sent out with a 30 day response period and the Council can review and approve a vendor by the December meeting. The hope is to have at least two companies submit proposals.

Chairman Mroska updated the Council on the August meeting. There was a pre-application for 360 Robert St. for a variance to build on a substandard lot. This particular situation is slightly different as there was a home on this lot previously that had burned down and the lot meets all

other building requirements.

There is a workshop scheduled for September 21st at 6:30pm to review the Zoning ordinance.

Pardun does not believe that the Council and the Planning Commission are meshing very well and would like to review and discuss the role of the Commission at a workshop. In the meantime, he would like to put a pause on new committees and PC applications until that happens. Mayor Nyenhuis doesn't see the conflict between the Commission and Council as Councilmember Pardun does and believes if a workshop is necessary, he would like to have it early October. Ward does not believe there is any conflict between the two bodies and believes there is a need for the new trail committee and does not believe that takes away from the Planning Commission. Chairman Mroska believes the role of the Commission is very important as the City does not have a planner on staff and the City has been fortunate to have some very talented people on the Commission. Anderson agreed with Councilmember Pardun that a pause is needed and also sees the need for a workshop. He very much appreciates every person serving on the Commission and believes there is a lot of depth with the current members and is afraid of losing that.

Cecily Harris has submitted an application for the Planning Commission, however the Council consensus was to table her application until further applicants come forward and the workshop has happened.

Fire and Rescue – Chief Malmgren reported the Streetdance will be held on October 2nd from 2pm – 6pm and is requesting approval of a one day liquor license.

Anderson noted that with school beginning, there are many children waiting at the bus stop and is requesting residents be aware of these kids around town. Mayor Nyenhuis questioned if there could be a request for directed patrol. Anderson thought it would be a good idea to ask, but the City is not promised anything. Roden noted that one of the bus stops is in front of the General Store and there are many parents that are there to help watch the kids.

Nyenhuis moved and Ward seconded to approve a one day liquor license for the October 2nd Streetdance.

Roden – yes

Pardun – yes

Ward – yes

Nyenhuis – yes

Anderson - yes

All in favor, motion passed

Roads – Marcus Johnson was in attendance as Ryan Goodman was unable to attend. September 13th will be the start date for the final paving along Judd Street and Parker Street. The whole process will take 1-2 days contingent upon weather. The striping will happen within 7-10 days after paving.

Washington County will be hosting a drop off site for hazardous waste materials and electronics in Forest Lake.

The Osceola bridge project will be happening in the next couple of years and more information on the schedule will be coming out to the public.

Personnel - Jason Crotty has officially ended his employment with the City. The position was posted and three candidates were interviewed. After careful consideration, a candidate was chosen and he will begin his position on September 27th.

Pardun moved and Ward seconded to approve Rob Powell as the new public works employee with a one year probationary period.

Roden – yes

Pardun – yes

Ward – yes

Nyenhuis – yes

Anderson - yes

All in favor, motion passed

Parks & Rec – Ward reported that there have been eight applications received for the trails and open space committee. Ward and Mayor Nyenhuis will interview those applicants and be ready to bring forth to Council for approval in October.

Ward suggested having an in depth conversation about priorities around parks and recreation and what the residents would like to see. There will be a brief survey in the City newsletter to obtain feedback from residents.

Millsite – No Report .

Cemetery – Mayor Nyenhuis noted there will also be something in the newsletter regarding the proposed cemetery expansion and if that is something the residents would like to see.

City Properties – Win Miller should be giving an update on whether the school application was approved at the October meeting.

Water Systems – Pardun reported he and Ward have met with the residents on the on site system to discuss the future of those systems. There is more work to do, including a few amendments to the sewer ordinance of City Code.

Ward reported there is a planting day this Saturday and they are still looking for volunteers. October 2nd there will be a tour of the new stormwater basins downtown to learn about the basins and how they work. The Watershed District is currently updating their long term plan and is looking for comments from Council and residents. Mike Isensee will be attending the October

meeting to update the Council. The City Engineer will also be reviewing and providing comments on behalf of the City.

Citizen Committee Reports–

Urban Forest – The Emerald Ash Borer grant was approved from the DNR in the amount of \$8190. Peter Foster thanked Leslie McKenzie, Kitzie Vadheim and John Goodfellow for the hard work on the grant application. The grant funds will be used to remove and replace 12 significant ash trees. The committee would like to plan a public information campaign to prepare the community for the aesthetic impact of this. The committee would like to look for ways to repurpose the wood obtained from the trees removed. The City match would be \$800 with an in kind match of \$2,200. This would cover public works time, administrative costs and consultants. The trees will begin to be marked once the grant application is officially signed.

Green Step Cities – There is a Dark Sky event next week at the elementary school. The committee would like to discuss with Council the EV Charger proposal. The first item to decide is a timeline for the installation. Funding is another item that has been discussed and the need for grants.

Holidays/Events – Roden reported that the Soiree was cancelled due to rain. She will be bringing forward a request for the enchanted forest at the October meeting.

EDA – No report.

Communication Infrastructure – No additional Report.

Consent Calendar – There are a few lift station pumps that need replacing and a pipe replacement in Butternut Falls. The current hedge at the cemetery is considered invasive, and the replacement section that was removed will be put in in the next few weeks. The City is working with Washington County public works to find a solution as this is the third time a car has driven into the hedge from County Rd 4.

*Pardun moved and Roden seconded to approve the Minutes of 8/12/21, and 8/25/21
Treasurer's Report of 8/21, List of Bills for 9/9/21, Zoning Administrators Report, Public Works
Maintenance Report and Planning Commission Minutes,*

Roden-yes

Pardun-yes

Ward-yes

Nyenhuis – yes

Anderson - yes

Motion passed unanimously:

Old/New Business –

Pardun moved and Ward seconded to set the maximum 2022 levy at \$1,071,063.71 which represents a 13.66% increase over 2021.

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

All in favor, motion passed.

Pardun moved to set the Truth in Taxation meeting on Thursday, December 2nd at 6:00pm.

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

All in favor, motion passed

Jody Nyenhuis is requesting a music permit for an event she is hosting for approximately 70 people. It will be held on Tuesday evening and the neighbors have been notified.

Pardun moved and Anderson seconded to approve the music permit request for Jody Nyenhuis for September 21st.

*Pardun – yes
Roden – yes
Ward – yes
Nyenhuis – Abstained
Anderson - yes*

All in favor, motion passed

Pardun moved and Roden seconded to move the November City Council meeting to Wednesday, November 10th 2021 at 7:00pm.

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

All in favor, motion passed

The Marine men's basketball team would like to rent the school gym on Wednesday evenings for one hour. The rental fee is \$25 per hour and the group is requesting to pay \$500 for the entire season from September through May.

Nyenhuis moved and Ward seconded to approve the rental fee of \$500 for the season and a \$125 key deposit.

Pardun – yes

Roden – yes

Ward – yes

Nyenhuis – yes

Anderson - yes

All in favor, motion passed

Long/Short Term Goals – No Update

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report – Mayor Nyenhuis noted that mud boats on the river has been on going issue and encouraged residents to contact the non emergency number for Washington County to report.

Christ Lutheran Church is hosting a 911 memorial in the Gazebo park and is requesting the park rental fee be waived.

Pardun – yes

Roden – yes

Ward – yes

Nyenhuis – yes

Anderson - yes

All in favor, motion passed

Adjournment -

Mayor Nyenhuis moved and Roden seconded to adjourn at 8:30pm.

Ward Yes

Pardun yes

Roden yes

Nyenhuis yes

Anderson yes

All in favor, motion passes.

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk