

## **CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

Thursday, September 8, 2022

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

Citizens Present: Glen Mills, Larry Roden, Chris Patterson, Nancy Lindblom, Jim Maher, Nealy Corcoran, Dana Vannen, Kitzi Vadheim, Dorothy Deetz, Robin Brooksbank, Ryan Goodman, Roger Lyle, Tod Mestad, Gayle Knutson, Christian Brekke, Forrest Tibbetts, Lana Olin, Jason Crotty, Mary Walquist.

Approval of the Agenda – Clerk Peterson requested to remove Christine Maefsky from Citizens considerations as she has a conflict and is unable to attend the meeting. She also requested the addition of an ordinance amendment to Chapter 30 of the City Code.

*Anderson moved and Roden seconded to approve the agenda as amended. All in favor, motion passed.*

Sewer Vacation Public Hearing – Mayor Nyenhuis opened the public hearing at 7:02pm. Christian Brekke, resident, requested the Council wait until the posted time of 7:05pm to begin. At 7:05pm, Pardun advised this issue has been in the works for approximately two years, however was put on hold when Covid hit. Pardun gave background on the individual septic systems. There are currently 13 individual septic systems who had the opportunity to buy into the 201 system and have the City own and maintain their system. As the City began to look into these 13 systems, it became apparent that these individual systems are very expensive for the City to own and maintain, and it is also very unusual for a City to own an individual system. The City essentially had three options: give the system back to the homeowner as is, create a separate utility district for those 13 homeowners or sunset the turnover for when the system either fails or the home sells or transfers ownership. After many discussions, the City opted for the sunset option. Once the drainfield fails or the ownership transfers, the City will have a licensed septic company and inspector come and do a full inspection of the system. If there are repairs necessary, the City will pay for whatever needs to be done to bring the system into compliance.

Christian Brekke, one of those 13 homeowners, questioned how long they will be able to continue paying the quarterly fee and have the City maintain the system. Pardun stated they would continue to maintain their system until the drainfield fails or the house is sold.

Scott Lindblom, son of Nancy Lindblom, questioned if those homeowners will receive a document outlining what this agreement with the City. Clerk Peterson stated they will receive a document that will require the homeowners notarized signature which they will receive a copy of, and the document will also be recorded with Washington County and should show up with a title search of the property.

*Pardun moved and Anderson seconded to adopt Resolutions 220908-01 through 220908-13 vacating individual sewage treatment systems as legally described. All in favor, motion passed.*

Citizens Considerations –

Jim Maher – Mr. Maher gave an update on the library events. They will be holding their 10<sup>th</sup> birthday party in October. The MOA is set to be renewed in December, and the library is set to have discussions on how they can help benefit in any way possible and look forward to those discussions. Marla is also requesting the annual \$6,000 Jordan bequest from Washington County.

*Roden moved and Pardun seconded authorize the \$6,000 annual Jordan bequest contribution from Washington County. All in favor, motion passed.*

The library will also be hosting a program on EV chargers and questioned the possibility of closing off parking spots in order to have approximately 8 electric cars on display. Anderson questioned if this may fall under the event permit process. Anderson will work with the library to see if a permit would be required.

Planning Commission - Chairman Spisak submitted a written report.

Public Safety – The SCBA equipment was ordered, as was equipment for the UTV. Anderson noted the increase in the proposed 2023 budget for compensation. This increase will be based on call attendance and is equivalent to \$15 per hour.

Roads – Ryan Goodman reviewed his engineers report. MnDOT is making progress on the Highway 243 bridge project to Osceola. There is a household hazardous waste event in Forest Lake that is open to the public.

Personnel - No report.

Parks & Rec – No report.

Cemetery – No report .

Water Systems – No report.

City Properties – The Marine Village School had their ribbon cutting, which was highly attended.

Holidays/Events – Roden advised the community picnic was cancelled due to rain. Anderson has been talking to Paul Creager and they are going to try and do a movie in the park this fall. The enchanting forest will partner with Christ Lutheran Church as part of their 150 Anniversary.

EDA – No report.

Citizen Committee Reports–

Green Step Cities – Roden reported that Councilmember Ward attended a meeting and Leslie McKenzie has stepped down. Mayor Nyenhuis would like to have a discussion on this in October.

Trails, Open Space – No report.

Forest Advisory – The inoculation timeline was moved up substantially and therefore would not be able to happen this fall. Rainbow has agreed to continue the price quote into the spring, so the City will move forward with the original plan.

Consent Calendar – *Pardun moved and Roden seconded to approve the Minutes of 8/11/22, 8/23/22, Treasurer’s Report of 8/22, List of Bills for 9/8/22, Zoning Administrators Report, Public Works Maintenance Report, Planning Commission Minutes, stand exemption request for William O’Brien and Charlie Anderson, and approval of the 2022 General Election judges June Eagleton, Gail Coolidge, Diane Mills, Annie Moore, Lorelee DiLorenzo, Kathy Marker and Joel Stedman.*

Anderson abstained.

Old/New Business – *Nyenhuis moved and Pardun seconded to set the maximum proposed 2023 levy at \$991,790.98, which represents a 5.56% increase over 2022. All in favor, motion passed.*

Fee Schedule Adoption – Anderson has worked with City Staff to put together a proposed fee schedule. Some of the fees are increases and some of the fees are new.

Dorothy Deetz believes the boat moorage fee increase from \$100 to \$200 is too much and she does not think residents will pay that amount. Mayor Nyenhuis believes this is a City owned resource that does require staff time to monitor how many boats are parked on those streets without permits. The City also has a waiting list for moorage spots, so there is a demand.

Dana Vannen, resident, would like the Council to make sure the fee is proportionate to the staff time. She began to question which scenarios would require an event permit and how those fees would apply. Anderson noted this discussion is for the fee schedule agenda item and not the event ordinance. Mayor Nyenhuis noted the ordinance has been passed and it is the fee schedule on the table. Anderson also pointed out that the boat moorage ordinance and fee was approved in 2008 with little or no increase since.

*Anderson moved to approve the fee schedule as presented. All in favor, motion passed.*

Downtown Signage – Anderson noted the downtown signage proposal was presented many years ago and he would like to see the sign actually go up. Robin Brooksbank, resident, was on the City Council at the time this sign was proposed originally and at that time suggested the sign state “food, gas, etc” rather than actual business names in order to avoid the potential for frequent change over. Anderson would like to see plaquards with tenant names on the sign in order to alleviate the individual signs currently placed in the right of way by the businesses. There was also a question of placement due to the DOT ROW. The City is still working on that issue of placement.

Election Canvassing Meeting Date – Clerk Peterson stated the time period for the City to canvass the November General Election results fall outside of the regular November Council meeting date, and therefore the City will need to set a special meeting date for this purpose

between the dates of November 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> . The meeting would only take a few minutes and could be first thing in the morning. After some discussion, the Council chose to set that meeting date for Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00am.

STR Ordinance Amendment – Anderson read the amendment to the ordinance and noted that the previous ordinance 164 is repealed.

*Nyenhuis moved and Roden seconded to adopt Ordinance 2022-165, amending Chapter 30 short term rental ordinance to establish violations applicable to occupants and transient guests of unlicensed short-term rental. All in favor, motion passed.*

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report – The school forest held a clean-up day prior to the school opening. There will another clean-up day this Sunday. Pete Marker built several benches with will also be installed on Sunday.

Adjournment - *Nyenhuis moved and Anderson seconded to adjourn at 8:00pm. All in favor, motion passed.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk