

CITY OF MARINE ON ST. CROIX CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Thursday, March 9, 2023

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

Citizens : Scott Spisak, Glen Mills, John Goodfellow, Kitzie Vadheim, Jim Maher, Dana Vannen, Fitzie Heimdahl, Robin Brooksbank, Ryan Goodman, Mary Burke, Curt Moe, Dave Sours.

Approval of the Agenda – Ward requested to add the maintenance agreement with the Watershed District under Parks and Recreation.

Nyenhuis moved and Miller seconded to approve the agenda as amended. All in favor, motion passed.

Citizens Considerations –

Fitzie Heimdahl – Mr. Heimdahl presented an update on the utility box project. There will be three new boxes completed this year. This will conclude all of the boxes approved by Council and available in town. Anderson requested pictures sent to the City office for inclusion in the next newsletter.

Planning Commission - Chairman Spisak reported on the February meeting. A draft of the ordinance amendments have been sent to the DNR for review and a response is expected in the next few weeks. The final review was done of the 5G guidelines and the Council should see those documents within the next month or so. The Commission is working with the consultant on how to address Burris Park and the cemetery as non-permitted uses.

Public Safety – There were 7 calls in the last month. The road and driveway conditions in May Township were very treacherous.

Anderson requested authorization to look into pricing to replace the siren at the fire hall. The Council consensus was to move forward.

Anderson and Nyenhuis will be collecting citizen input and moving forward on reviewing the STR ordinance. He also has been in contact with the City Engineer to see about updating the speed signs on the north and south end of town on Highway 95.

Miller stated the Brookside has been very busy and believes there will be parking issues again this summer and would like the Council to be proactive in a solution.

Dana Vannen, resident, questioned when citizen feedback should be received on the STR ordinance. The City will put that information in the next newsletter.

Roads – Pardun reported there have been many residents that have complained about the jake breaking coming south on Highway 95. The City can easily amend the City ordinance to make excessive vehicle noise a violation. The issue of course is enforcement, however if the regulation is signed, it has been shown to reduce the amount noise generated. Ward thanked Council member Pardun for bringing this forward. Her concern is that the last subdivision discusses excessive noise

from brakes and she would like to see something included for after market items on cars and motorcycles. She questioned the enforcement and believes the ordinance needs sharpening. Pardun noted that the brakes are called out separately from mufflers and/or exhaust. Anderson believes this is a great first step and there could be an additional amendment down the road if needed. If this passes, the City Engineer will work with MnDOT on requesting signs for Highway 95.

Pardun moved and Anderson seconded to adopt Resolution 20230309-01 amending Chapter 13. Subd. 4 regarding traffic. All in favor, motion passed.

Ryan Goodman reported the quote packages were sent out and should be presented to Council at the April meeting.

Personnel – No report.

Parks & Rec – Ward reported there will be two new stormwater basins being installed on Oak and Second Street and the Watershed is requesting a maintenance agreement between the Watershed and City. Ward will present more information to the Council regarding the locations at the April meeting.

Ward moved and Anderson seconded to approve the maintenance agreement between the City of Marine and Carnelian Marine Watershed District for the stormwater facilities at Oak Street and Second Street as presented.

Anderson reported the ice rink is closed for the season due to unfavorable weather causing bad ice conditions but it was very successful while it was open. There are many issues with the rink due to the gravel bed and he believes there needs to be an upgrade. He will be contacting the Lions to see about possible fundraising.

Miller reported the amount of dog feces in the City parks has gotten significantly worse. There was a suggestion to place a post with disposal bags in the parks next to the garbage can to see if it may help. A post and sign would be approximately \$130 and it will be installed in the spring in Gazebo park.

Dana Vannen, resident, suggested having residents sponsor a post and also volunteer to maintain the post and cleaning. The Council appreciates that idea. Miller also questioned the idea of a dog park. The Council will discuss that idea at a later date.

Cemetery – No report.

Water/Wastewater Systems – No report.

City Properties – Miller and Pardun have met with Jim Maher to discuss the library MOU and a final draft has been presented to the Council. The document clarifies the sharing of cleaning costs for the bathrooms and also transfers the responsibility for the utility bill for gas to the library. Maher also reported he has had conversations with Fran Miron of the Washington County board to discuss the possibility of moving the Jordan bequest funds into the St. Croix Valley foundation account owned by Marla.

Anderson stated the franchise agreement with Midco is due for renewal and he and the City Attorney will be discussing the potential for expansion as part of the new agreement. Anderson wanted residents to know that if they currently do not have Midco that there are areas in town that can have the lines brought to their residence at no charge. This is not the case for all areas of Marine however.

Anderson and Pardun are in negotiations with the Vinco and the City Attorney for the cell tower lease agreement.

Miller reported there are approximately 65 students enrolled in the charter school for the 2023-2024 school year. Miller is also in discussions with Xcel on EV chargers, however no information will be brought forward until after the State legislature meets.

Miller moved and Pardun seconded to accept the Memorandum of Understanding with the Marine library Association as drafted. All in favor, motion passed.

Holidays/Events – Volunteer fair will be held in April. Volunteer opportunities will be posted in the upcoming newsletter.

EDA – No report.

Citizen Committee Reports–

Forest Advisory – There will be information at the April meeting regarding the plantings around downtown and the vision for the future.

Consent Calendar – Nyenhuis moved and Ward seconded to approve the Minutes of 2/9/23, Treasurer's Report of 2/23, List of Bills for 3/9/23, Zoning Administrators Report, Public Works Maintenance Report, Planning Commission Minutes and Resolution No. 2023-02. All in favor, motion passed.

Old/New Business – Anderson would like the Council to consider an amendment to the liquor ordinance per a request by Anna's Bistro who would like to have a Sunday on Sale license. Discussion was held as to whether a public hearing should be held and the consensus was the because this would be adding an additional license, the public should be notified and offered a chance to give feedback.

Anderson moved to set a public hearing for the April 13th Council meeting at 7:00pm to discuss an amendment to the current liquor ordinance for the purpose of considering a second discretionary license. All in favor motion passed.

Anderson discussed the Village Center sign and whether one is needed and if there is an appropriate location for the sign. He would like to see the Council make a decision as to how to address this. Ward reported MnDOT has a Landscape Design team that has offered the City their services for designing a sign for this purpose as well if it falls within their right of way. Pardun would like to hear from MnDOT knowing there are setbacks and if the sign is placed too

far back, it no longer serves a purpose. Anderson would like to see this added to the April agenda.

The Board of Review meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 4th at 9:00am. Currently Pardun and Ward will be unable to attend. Clerk Peterson noted a quorum is required for the meeting.

Mayor Notes/Clerk's Report –

Adjournment - *Anderson moved and Miller seconded to adjourn at 8:10pm. All in favor, motion passed.*

Minutes taken by Lynette Peterson, City Clerk