

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS, MN
ANOKA COUNTY

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

October 7, 2013

1. **Call to Order:** The regular City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Jerry Tveit at 6:01 pm.
2. **Roll Call:** Present were Mayor Jerry Tveit, Council members Mike Haggard, Amy Lazere, Tim Brown and Chris McClish. Also present were City Engineer Jared Voge (Bolton & Menk), Police Chief Jeff Harapat, Public Works Director Paul Teicher, Finance Director Darcy Mulvihill, City Administrator Matt Hysten and City Clerk Barb Held.
3. **Adopt Agenda:** MOTION BY LAZERE SECOND McCLISH TO ADOPT THE OCTOBER 7, 2013 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA. Motion carried 5-0.
4. **Consent Agenda:** MOTION BY BROWN SECOND McCLISH TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 7, 2013, CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA AS A –FAS FOLLOWS:
 - a. Approve the City Council Minutes of September 16, 2013.
 - b. Receive and File the Unapproved URRWMO minutes of 9/10/13 and approved minutes of 7/9/13.
 - c. Approve the Dance Permit for Patriot Lanes and Lounge for June 6,7,8, 2014 – Pioneer Days.
 - d. Approve Pay Estimate No. 1 for Rum River Bluffs-Phase 2 to LaTour Construction, Inc. of Maple Lake MN for \$221,162.09.
 - e. Pay Estimate No. 1 for Public Works & Public Safety Building Turn Lane Construction to Northland Paving of Lakeville, MN for \$49,071.76.
 - f. Payment of Claims \$549,805.16 (Check #66216-66299).Motion carried 5-0.
5. **Meeting Open to the Public:** Gary Smith, 22708 Rum River Blvd wanted to extend thanks for you (city council) intervening in my custody suit. I am also here regarding building inspections and my water bill. I am shut off, why do I keep getting a bill. Also, I am here for the use of my temporary housing. I thought I was in a community that I was going to be treated fair. I continue to drive to Anoka County Courthouse and I am asking one thing, to end it now. The administrative citation you gave me is wrong. Your building inspector was the one that told me to get the RV.
6. **Petitions, Requests, Applications:**
 - a. **Anoka County Highway Department/WSB & Associates: Bridge Street Roundabouts:** Doug Fischer Anoka County Engineer and Curt Kobilarcsik, Anoka County Engineering Program Manager was before the City Council to introduce them to the roundabout project, give them a brief overview and the process that we will be following. Anoka County received Federal Funding in 2011 and are looking at 2015 construction for the two roundabouts on County Road 24 (Bridge Street) in St. Francis. Maps were provided to show the location of the two roundabouts and how the traffic is expected to flow. Anoka County received about \$1.3 million in federal funding. They

indicated this is a very complicated area and would like to make it safer and more operational. Along with the project, we will be closing the Kerry Street entrance on to Bridge Street and redoing some of the access to the school. The east roundabout would give access to the school and to Kerry Street. Fisher stated this corridor has been on our radar for some time. This corridor was previously submitted for Federal Funding with signal lights with more of a traditional intersection. We were denied funding with that design. It was resubmitted with roundabouts and Federal Funding was received. This funding is to ease the financial burdens on both the County and City. This is the very first drawing. We still have issues to work out. We will meet with the school, effected businesses/homeowners and the business community. We are just in the beginning stages. In the past, Anoka County has taken a conservative approach to roundabouts. Blaine and Columbus are also getting a roundabout in Anoka County. We are trying to find the right solution in the right area. These are single lane roundabouts. You are seeing more and more around the state. Currently Bridge Street sees about 8,500 in traffic counts and we are projecting 15,000 in the future, so we are looking at a safety concern. Anoka County hired the engineer firm of WSB & Associates and will use their expertise in this project. We will be meeting with the businesses and resident who access off onto Bridge Street. The school district is a concern too with all the traffic they generate. The pedestrian traffic is also a concern. We added a trail on the north side of Bridge Street. Important question is what is going to happen during construction? We will be working on that. Fisher and Kobilarcsik asked if there were any questions for Anoka County. Haggard asked about the pedestrian crossings. Traditionally at the crossing but will be working with the consultants. Tveit said typically pedestrians don't walk down to the intersections to cross. Fisher said we had the same conversation in my office. Maybe we build a trail/sidewalk on the other side of Bridge Street too. Yes, we know that will be part of the conversation in this project because this needs to be resolved. Tveit said I have not heard a whole lot of positives on roundabouts. What do we tell them? Fisher said three to four years ago I too was in that camp. It is a learning process. County roads have a major function of getting all types of traffic through. We realize people do have questions and that is why we are going to have the public open houses and try to answers their questions and concerns. Tveit said he would like to see proper lighting. Recently we began the design, will be meeting monthly with staff, introduce it to the public at the open house on November 6 and continue to meet with staff. We will take in all of the comments and have another open house later on. We will have a joint powers agreement on this project. Then we will be obtaining road right of ways, submit plans to MnDOT and the Federal government with construction in 2015. Haggard said I was stuck in a stop sign in a roundabout. Doug Fisher said I think some people confuse certain intersections with roundabouts. The multi-lane roundabouts have been getting bad publicity. We need to design them so they flow and are functionable. The City of Ramsey just put in a couple roundabouts. Part of our Highway 10 interchange in Ramsey will be flow together. They are proven effective in the right area. Brown said what if the people just don't want them. Brown asked about larger vehicles. Fisher said then there would be no project but then nothing happens. Ultimately, the City council has to approve any project we do. We have to design our county roads for semi traffic. We would also like to set up a Chamber breakfast to introduce this to them.

7. **Ordinances & Resolution:**

8. **Reports of Consultants & Staff Members:**

a. **Engineer:**

b. **Attorney:**

c. **Staff:**

Building Official:

Fire Dept.:

Public Works:

Liquor Store:

Police Dept.:

City Administrator: Reward for Damage to City Property: Recently, we have encountered some serious damage to our city parks and facilities. Copper theft has left Community Park without lights in shelters and without power to “peds” that supply power for Pioneer Day activities and Movies in the Park. Since last Thursday, we received a more firm price on the repair to the park. This damage is about \$9,650. The fountain in Woodbury Park was also damaged and cannot be repaired, resulting in a new acquisition because the previous company is no longer in business. Our old East Shop was broken into and the copper wiring was removed and the estimated damage at \$975. Our City Attorney provided us the following statute allowing the Council to set a reward.

MN State Statute 471.631 REWARDS FOR INFORMATION ABOUT FELONS:

A home rule charter or statutory city may offer and pay a reward or fund the payment of a reward offered by a nonprofit organization in an amount it deems appropriate for information leading to the apprehension and charging or conviction of a person alleged to have committed a felony within the city's limits. Chief Harapat gave his reasoning for providing an award. Tveit said I would be in favor of a reward. I would like to catch the kids that damage our parks. McClish agreed with Mayor Tveit to offer an award. McClish asked about alarms. Chief Harapat stated they did think about cameras. Brown said he would agree with awards on certain cases. Did you check with the scrap yards? Chief Harapat said we have had some success with some places but how do you identify copper wiring and tubing. Tveit asked what type of reward are you thinking of. McClish recommend to let the staff determine the amount of reward. **MOTION BY HAGGARD SECOND LAZERE ALLOWING STAFF TO SET UP TO \$500 IN REWARD MONEY WHEN THERE IS DAMAGE TO CITY PROPERTY.** Motion carried 5-0.

Royal Oaks Park Land Update: This past week we were informed by a neighbor of the parkland and stated this “park” lot is full of stumps. This occurred when the development was constructed by contractors disposing of the stumps they cleared before constructing homes. We have not completed any test holes to see if this is accurate. Right now with that knowledge, it may not be a marketable lot. Voge said a stumped filled lot, we would not recommend building a house on. Hylen asked do you want us to investigate this. Brown asked if we could give it to Habitat to Humanity. Haggard said shouldn't there be a big sink whole by now. Brown said I do not want to stick any money in it. McClish said sell it as is. Tveit said let's go forward and sell it for whatever we can get out of it.

Rental Housing Ordinance: Staff has been working on the cost of the implementation of the rental housing ordinance.

O'Reilly Automotive Stores Development Agreement was sign last week. Staff is still trying to work with neighboring land owner for an easement to be able to line up Aztec Street.

2014 Fee Schedule: Please submit any suggestions as soon as possible so we can have the ordinance ready for the November 4 City Council meeting. Finance Director is looking at different rate increase models so we do not run into any cash shortfalls. Haggard ask about rates and Hysten explained about how we are a standalone facility having to meet the same regulations as larger cities. Haggard said he is going to get rates from surrounding communities. Hysten said staff could get that information together too.

9. **Reports from Council Members:** McClish reminded the City Council he will not be at the next City Council meeting.

10. **Report from Mayor:** Mayor stated my apologies for not being able to attend the last city council meeting. Tveit attended the Woodbury Park commemoration on September 29.

11. **Old Business:**

12. **New Business:** McClish received some calls on parking issues on 235th when there are soccer and football games. The cars are now parking on both sides of the street and only one car can get through.

13. **Adjournment:** The Regular City Council meeting adjourned at 7: 20 pm.