

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

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

MAY 18, 2015

1. **Call to Order:** The regular City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Steve Kane at 6:00 pm.
2. **Roll Call:** Present were Mayor Steve Kane, Council members Richard Orpen, Tim Brown and Chris McClish. Rich Skordahl excused. Also present were City Attorney Scott Lepak (Barna, Guzy & Steffen), City Engineers Jared Voge and Paul Saffert (Bolton & Menk), Fire Chief Dean Kapler, Police Chief Jeff Harapat, Public Works Director Paul Teicher, Finance Director Darcy Mulvihill, City Administrator Joe Kohlmann and City Clerk Barb Held.

Mayor Kane stated if my phone rings tonight, I will be excusing myself from the meeting to take it. My mother-in-law is dying.

3. **Adopt Agenda:** Kane asked to move 6c to before 5. MOTION BY BROWN SECOND McCLISH TO ADOPT THE MAY 18, 2015 CITY COUNCIL AGENDA AS AMENDED. Motion carried 4-0.
4. **Consent Agenda:** MOTION BY ORPEN SECOND BROWN TO APPROVE THE MAY 18, 2015, CITY COUNCIL CONSENT AGENDA AS A-B AS FOLLOWS:
 - a. City Council Minutes – May 4, 2015
 - b. URRWMO Minutes: March 3, 2015, Draft April 5, 2015 and the 2016 Final Approved Budget.
 - c. Hire Two Part time Liquor Store Applicants; Angela Westbrook and Christienne Beebe.
 - d. Hire Temporary (Six months) Full Time Police Officer Eric Algiers pending background and testing
 - e. Extend the Contract for Services (Vehicle Maintenance) with ISD #15
 - f. TNT Fireworks Permit in County Market Parking Lot: June 20-July 7, 2015
 - c. Approve the Payment of Claims for \$281,333.41 (ACH 114E-115E and Checks 069025-69092)Motion carried 4-0.
6. **c. Water/Wastewater Rate Increase Informational Presentation:** Paul Saffert Bolton & Menk, designer of the Wastewater Treatment Facility gave a power point presentation. Saffert's presentation included the project history and background, discharge issues, alternative discharge locations, MPCA effluent limits, alternatives evaluated, risks of

“do nothing”, selected process, wastewater reuse, funding sources, comparable utility rates, project benefits.

Kane stated we will open up for public comment. Keep it professional and we will limit you to three minutes.

Joseph Muehlbauer, 3459 -228th Avenue NW, I’m kind of curious as to—I’ve lived here seven years now and that chart you had in the presentation is really convenient of the surrounding cities because I’ve got Anoka, Blaine, Coon Rapids, and we’re already over double what they pay and somehow we’re supposed to go to triple and a city a third of the size of those cities—or a third the size of Coon Rapids pays three times as much. I don’t know how you can justify that. Also, I spoke to several citizens today handing these out, finding out that basically that they talked to the pollution commission, they said our water is fine. If the engineer may have failed and didn’t build it right the first time, I don’t know what to say about that. To me, these costs are completely insane. They’re going to drive businesses, they’re going to drive citizens, we aren’t going to have any future growth and all I can say is that I’m asking for the citizens to stand up against this because this is completely unjustifiable and I don’t know how you guys even vote on something like this. The water rates already are way over the cost of the surrounding cities, not Delano—that’s nowhere near here. Basically I’m asking for us to stand up if we’ve got to take further action, attorney generals, whoever we’ve got to call, we’re going to figure it out and get something done about it and I’d be happy to be one of the people leading the charge if anyone wants to join me. I mean, that’s where I’m at. This is just insane so that’s all I’ve got.

Kane asked Finance Director Darcy Mulvihill, can you address the rates here verses the rates south in cities like Coon Rapids, Anoka?

Mulvihill stated, we have a very small system and have approximately 1500 connections. Some of the cities that he listed were Coon Rapids and Blaine. Those cities are systems so much larger population base to spread their costs over. I’ve been told by Paul that a wastewater treatment plant costs about the same here as it does in a bigger city.

Kane stated isn’t also true that cities like Coon Rapids are on the metropolitan council system which is lowering the cost.

Muehlbauer asked don’t we want to pipe into those?

Saffert stated I can just respond to that quickly. We asked to, we wanted to, and they won’t take us. They have a line through the north of Ramsey, north of Andover and that line is a hard and fast line. If you want to call Met Council Environmental Services, they may not respond to your either, they didn’t respond to us at all.

Kane asked Saffert if he would respond to the comment that someone called the MPCA and they said our water is fine..

Saffert said I can't because I don't know what "fine" means, it can mean a lot of things.

Steve Feldman, 22766 Poppy Street NW, I sent some questions in to Barb about this. First of all, when I got the brochure, I thought I saw 4.5 and 8.5% but I thought my glasses might be wrong but as I looked at it, 45 and 85 just about dropped me in my chair. You know, the building permits, new permits built from 2010 to 2015 total 61 new house constructions in this city. Your population is at 7300 as of 2013, you only added on 107 more from 2010 to 2013. Cities of Zimmerman 5200, Isanti 5300, Oak Grove 8,100, Cambridge 8,200, East Bethel 11,000, and Ham Lake 15,000, Andover 31,000, Blaine 60,000, Maple Grove 65,000. When you take a debt like this and put it on a larger population, we can all swallow it a lot easier than what we're doing right now. You've got 1500 core residents that you're putting a 16 to 19 million dollar debt on over 20 years, that comes out to probably about \$533 and \$633 more a year on top of what we already pay and that's without watering lawns or anything. If you think this is going to make your city grow, I will tell you—it won't. As a general contractor by trade, I can tell you that people look at schools, they look at taxes, they look at utilities, shopping or retail and trails. That's what brings people in the cities. You're going to out price your city and it'll be a ghost town at the rate you're going right now. This is just obscene, what's going on here. Even minimal wage is phased in over 3 or 4 years at the federal level. I've never seen anything like this. Even CenterPoint or Connexus don't do hikes like this. You need to phase it in or build up a nest egg before you come and put your cart before the ox. This is just way out of hand. You're going to burden this city so much, people will end up moving out. First thing, when realtors find out about this people aren't going to be buying in this city. It's just too much of a burden at one time. You're not the only bill we pay, unfortunately. If you were the only bill that'd be great. Even our rubbish is separate from our utilities as far as water and sewer so to me, like I say, you need to get down and answer some questions like I've passed on about double A rating or triple A rating, I think you're doubling—something about double A verses triple A. There's no municipal tax exempt bonds, like when Andover did their city center they sold bonds, that helped them build the project. They started at 9 million, I think they went up to 16 to 19 million for that project. As it turns out, it could have been a white elephant, the city uses it so it turned out pretty good. But East Bethel, they did septic—they forced people to go to city sewer and water for businesses to build that never came. You're going to add a projection by Met Council in 2030 to 12,800 people. There is 7300, that's only 5300 more in 15 years. If you don't get your projections, we're going to end up with a white elephant and a big sewer and water system, that's great for a few citizens that are going to be breaking their back to pay for it. It is just wrong. You need to back up, you need to get a committee and think about this. I hope you think before you do this. I really do. Thank you.

Robert Bauer, 23246 Kerry Street, I'm here to oppose the water and sewer rate increases. I believe the city council and the mayor should eliminate raising the water and sewer rates at this time. The city just updated its system in December of 2008. The current plan to improve the sewer treatment involved a grant. How much are those grants? Why is the City Council hiding behind how much this is going to be funded? Why are the water rates going up and the city doesn't need water? You're talking about sewer. The new system the city wants to install to bring in big business, and you're doing it on the backs of the middle-class tax payers. How can you charge before you know exactly how much you need? Sounds like a slush fund to me. If the city council and the mayor are so confident, add this to the ballot. Let the residents vote for it. Right now I vote no. Thank you for your time.

Melissa Enzler, Anytime Fitness, Anytime Fitness, 23212 St. Francis Blvd. I am here just on behalf of the businesses, as you all know I've spoken many times about the temporary sign ordinance and us having a hard time getting customers to come into our businesses, if we continue to have increases like this it just—we're going to have to raise ur prices. We already have a tough time because we are a bedroom community, as I have spoken about, people are doing their shopping, they are doing all of their stuff before they get back to St. Francis. It's a very challenging thing for us businesses to get people to tell we're even here, let alone—obviously because of my talks about advertising and our limited availability to do that—and now you put something like this on us besides, it's not just the residents that are going to be hurt by this. The businesses pay a ton of money in taxes. I don't know if half of these people realize how much the businesses pay in taxes, but you start adding this on, I mean—the restaurants, I'm going to be hit bad enough with just the toilets and showers. Now add the restaurants, add the car wash, you know, it's just going to be insane if we continue to raise our prices on customers we're having a hard time getting anyway, it just—like everybody has said, you're pricing people right out of this town. They're going to shop in Coon Rapids, they're going to shop in Maple Grove on their way home; they're not going to stop here. They are not going to come here. I am a business that has a vacant space next to me. We have other ones in the city center, unfortunately, and as businesses, we get people that stop in. They do their due diligence, they are not going to talk with their realtor and maybe the city and a few other business entities, but they're going to stop and talk to the other businesses and when they come in our doors and say hey, what's it like here? What are the taxes like? What's the city like? How do they support the businesses? What are we going to tell them? That's the same thing with the residents when they said that about the realtors. Realtors find out about this, yeah, they're not going to have people come here. I know businesses aren't coming here. I mean, we're not building for a reason. People hear about the taxes. I've known two different people who talked about putting a laundromat in here, dry cleaning/laundromat, they won't do it because our SAC and WAC charges are just way too high. They wouldn't be able to afford—set their prices to be able to make it. And people wouldn't be able to pay it. They're still going to do everything on their way home because it's cheaper. So you've got to consider it as a whole—the businesses as well. You can't be tough on everybody.

Jeanna Anderson, 22763 Rum River Blvd, as you all know, we're still paying for the assessment on that street that I believe Bolton and Menk was in charge of. We've got ten years on that. That's also been over double of the water bill. Of course no one's happy about the water bill, I also wonder about if there's been any slush fund set aside for the improvement of the current water treatment facility with the current rates we're paying. If it hasn't, why has there been no plan for that? Those are my only questions.

Sue Nutter, 22920 Rum River Blvd, Are all the councilmembers paying for the water and sewer? Are you (council) all on water and sewer? Yes, yes, yes, no.
Okay. Who put the remark in the flyer that came out that it's more expensive to buy water at the grocery store than to buy city water? Who did that? I mean, really, seriously, who goes and buys water to take a shower at the grocery store? Is this a realistic growth projection or what?

Crowd talking and Kane gaveled the audience.

I mean, what do you think? I'm really getting ready to move out of here because this is terrible. I have a neighbor, Shirley (Sundeen) she's on a fixed income. We're already paying for this Rum River Blvd, as he said to us, we've got ten years to pay for it. So we're paying for that, now you're going to up her water? She can't do it. She's lived here all her life and you're chasing her away now. You guys have got to stop and think about it. There are no mansions in St. Francis, there are no rich people, and there isn't much for businesses and what does open closes up the next day. It's terrible. Think about it. You are representing us. Think about us, what we're going to go through. Please.

Pete Karpe, 24069 Rum River Blvd, former councilmember, mayor pro tem, I had a different approach to our city when I served. We had taken land that has gone off the tax rolls, we have a lot of land as far as the city goes that has between 4-plexes, between residence that we have demolished and we have not built back the base of taxable income. My concern is more or less what we did in Athens Township spending over two million dollars on land for a wastewater treatment facility. These people are paying for land that's not being used. It's not even looked at in the future for being used and yet this group made that decision that two million dollars of these people's money on that project that will not go. I suggest that we try to take some of the land that we do have, take that farm and get rid of it. Give these people back their money.

Chris Sime, 22918 Silverod Street, the question I have is, how were the rate increases determined? Is there any information? It was 19 million dollars, 16 to 19 million dollars' worth of funding, Mr. Saffert I think early on in your comments you said 5,000 hook ups?

Saffert stated 5,000 residents and that's about 1,500 hook ups.

Sime said 1500, Okay. No disrespect, but I don't think there's a lot of trust in most the residents when we hear, oh just take our word for it, this is how much it's going to cost and this is what it will be. We need to see some numbers. Some hard numbers, some real numbers. How does this loan become amortized over the 20 years? What's your monthly payment on this debt service that you're going to have? How does that equate to the 47 or 53 dollars additional that I'm going to pay. How did that figure come up? Again, I think there's a lot of skepticism in the people behind me here as far as the leadership goes and the city council and mayor's office and people aren't just going to take your word for it. I need some more detailed information – specific detailed information – as to how our money's being spent.

Muehlbauer stated send it to us so we know. We want proof of what you guys are spending.

Steve Feldman, 22766 Poppy Street, I didn't get any notice besides the brochure so I'm wondering, was there any notice between 2013 and 2015 besides what these people know or I don't know? Because I've talked to residents that have lived here longer than I have and no one saw anything besides this notice right here. Just to let you know, also, I scanned this document and I emailed and sent the email to the mayor and off to the attorney general of the State of Minnesota and let them know. I'm waiting for a response from them. Maybe not do the whole thing—phase it in or whatever will make the MPCA happy or whatever, but we need to think, you're going to make this town a ghost town. A City of Progress, Pride and Possibilities, I don't see that right now. Thank you.

Lisa Wicklund, 22984 Kiowa Street, just wanted to make a quick statement. After hearing about this, I did contact the MPCA and spoke with the supervisor and he said he was quite impressed with our facility and said that we've only had a couple small infractions and he said that it will need to be addressed but it doesn't need to be addressed now and that the City of St. Francis approached them, they didn't tell us.

Joseph Muehlbauer 3459 234th Avenue NW, the only other thing I seen is I went on the ballot media site that talks about how we can get a new election. The only way to do that is to prove malfeasance, nonfeasance or if they commit a crime. Basically, I believe it's nonfeasance as a failure to do their duties as their duties are to represent us. Nonfeasance, we need to start getting a petition together and there's a lot of other steps we need to take but –

Ed Eckstrom 2930 239th Avenue. I do realize this is public comment option or opportunity for us, but there have been a number of questions that have been posed. I'm curious how we get answers to any of the questions that we're raising. How do we get feedback from you? Questions that need answered, and how do we get answers to those questions? There have been a number of questions answered and when are you going to answer them.

Saffert said my plan was to have you guys ask the questions. I'm taking notes and I will address them in one lump. If you prefer to—it's up to the mayor on how he wants me to address this.

Kane said that's fine.

Eckstrom asked can I just finish up here? I appreciate all of your efforts and understand your here working for the city, on behalf of the city but my question is to you, the city council. My questions are to you. How do we get direct answers from you and your direct opinions and how do you intend to vote based on our questions and the answers to them. So, if you could figure out that that'd be super.

Bob King, County Market, 23122 St. Francis Blvd. I just want to start with the third bullet point and I have a question. The project history, it says it is on-going. It was first addressed to the city, it says here June 2013. When did the violations start coming in, I'm ignorant, when did it become an issue?

Saffert stated it's been ongoing since basically 2006. It's been one or two violations throughout the years.

King said that's a very important matter, I realize. But since that time, this city has taken on big projects and they save the biggest for the last. I'm talking about the public works building, roundabouts that – those are big numbers. But this is the most important issue that should have been addressed and why wasn't it? I realize it's an ongoing turnover on the council and a new city administrator so the chairs are always there but the occupant is different so that's what I'd like to understand. Do I have to pose that questions as a letter to the city or who? Kane said Mr. Kohlmann will write it down. Why this is the biggest project saved for the last. This is ridiculous. Thank you all for coming. You really need to show up more often. There's a lot of things happening, new projects down at the public works building and if there's a need, great, but I just know that the city knew what the price tag was back then. Roundabouts, thanks to Joe's attendance at the city chamber of commerce lunch, pleasure to meet him; he told us the update on that. They're going to prep this summer and continue it but you all kind of are under the assumption that it had gone away. There's a big price tag there. Can any of you tell us what that price tags going to be? I know it's several hundred thousand dollars. Will it approach a million dollars once they add the utilities under the roundabout? I'm getting off track, I see you've got your finger on the trigger, this is a water project not a roundabout project.

Jill Frost, 3060 234th Lane NW. I want to piggy back on one of the other gentleman's thing as far as how we're going to get answers because when that poster came out, I emailed you the mayor, right away that day. I still have not received a response yet and it states in The Courier or in the paper, contact your mayor if you have a problem. I did that.

I just want to know why I haven't received a response yet. And I'm sure there's probably other people. Where do we go to get the answers?

Paul Sullivan, 4430 234th, Woodhaven Manufactured Homes, I've got a direct question here for Paul. How many hookups do you say we have right now?

Saffert said 1500 roughly.

Sullivan asked how many will we have after this 20 million dollar project?

Saffert said the total serving population will be 8630 is what we're trying for and so that's—and I haven't done the conversion for population growth.

Sullivan said no, I don't want to know about population because that's as far as you don't know how many people are in the house. How many more hookups are there going to be than we have now?

Saffert said I believe about 1200 more if I'm doing the math in my head correctly.

Sullivan asked what would it cost to improve the system we have now to get that many hookups and get all the standards that everybody knows about that since the 1960's they've been, you know, phosphorus, ammonia, pretty common all the things you've said. But you painted a picture for all these people. A typical sales pitch. You know, I've been in sales all my life and first you presented to them, you gave us a little bit of a thing then you told us the history and then you create a sense of urgency, if you don't do this by this date we're out of luck and then you talk about algi blooms and you know, we're not talking about a bunch of INAUDIBLE out here. What would it cost compared to 20 million dollars to improve INAUDIBLE than what we have? Or what we're projected to have.

Saffert said the discharge—the system that you have, the reason it's struggling is it doesn't just—it isn't designed to handle ammonia—

Sullivan asked does it all just need to be destroyed.

Saffert stated the effluent requirements are getting lower and so the limits are more stringent and your existing facility won't do it in the future.

Sullivan stated you know, you gave us a good point though during your presentation. You said well unless there's a moratorium on new housing. Now wouldn't it make sense to have a moratorium on new housing until we got the plant that exists up to date, or you know, at least up to standards because you said the plant's not going to go online until the end of 16 or the beginning of 17 or something, right? Wouldn't it make sense to do a moratorium on new housing and keep it at the level it is now and try to improve it so when we get to that

date and then you know, what you're saying is we're going to INAUDIBLE 48:35 for the next three years and then we're going to do something and then we're going to be funded. But that's all you—you're creating a sense of urgency. You're telling us like you've got to get a burglar alarm system or else they're going to break into your house and kill all your kids. You know, I just object to being—and tired of being manipulated people like that. You know, it was supposed to be a presentation, not a sales pitch.

Saffert stated it wasn't designed to be a sales pitch. It was to lay out the facts.

Sullivan asked Saffert how long have you been working on this project?

Saffert stated I've been working on this specific project since the beginning in 2013.

Sullivan said so since 2013 until now there hasn't been any thought about how to pay for it? And you knew about the problem in 2013?

Saffert stated we presented all the way through the project funding opportunities and that's what we're pursuing. We need as-bid costs in order to secure that fund.

Sullivan said to the public, you did?

Saffert said yes, we had meetings here; there was a bunch of people.

Jerry Tosel, 3440 227th Avenue NW. My house, my backyard is on the Rum River, on the park trail. My house is currently for sale for the second time. It was on sale last summer. I got feedback. My house is \$300,000, in case anybody is interested. Today I get a call from my realtor and he suggested that I drop my price at least another \$10-15,000 based on what's taken place here in the City of St. Francis. That's real. I'm 75 years old. I'm getting ready to go to a condo. You just reached in my pocket and took \$10-15,000 and some day, every one of you will be in that same position. You'll want to sell your house. Now you've got the new development that I'm supposed to be competing with, and then you've got the golf course. By the way, are they getting an increase in their water rates along with us? I'm sure they are. But I suggest that maybe their houses will start dropping in prices too. That's all I have to say.

Chris Sime, 22918 Silverod Street, what is the timeline for—I've seen what's happened since the conversation started—has this project been put forth now? Is it happening, has it been voted on, is it going to be voted on. I don't know what a lot of other people don't know. What the timeline for voting or pushing this project forward is.

Kane stated this is open for you to speak to the Council.

Sime said okay, so no vote has been taken, right? No vote has been taken.

Councilmember McClish said the Council's actually going to final vote tonight.

Sime asked for a 30-60 day moratorium or delay in voting on this be put forth and then somebody second that motion and we hold this thing off for 60 days because there's a ton of questions out there that nobody has real answers too, and plus honestly 11 days ago the flyer came out. There isn't enough time to get the collective group of heads together here to put forth an organized list of questions. Everybody's got the same question maybe 15 different ways. Give us 30 days to get our heads together, organize our questions, we'll present that to the City Council in a professional, organized, respectful manner and then we would like truthful, thorough, and honest answers to those questions and we'll limit it to six or seven questions but the key ones, but to vote on it tonight with 11 days' notice when this has been going on for two years for the most part and again, you know what, the public needs to have some culpability, we need to pay more attention, but to drop this 11 days before the vote is unconscionable. Delay this vote and that motion be seconded. Thank you.

Paul Sullivan, 4430 234th Woodhaven Manufactured Home Park, we got a notice of it, it was just an itty bitty thing, you know, off to the side and nobody—I talked to over 30 families in the rain yesterday trying to—not one out of 30 knew anything about it. Every person I've talked to doesn't have any idea of this meeting or this immense project that's going on. And nobody had any idea about the rate increases. And at the bottom of the thing it says it's reflected in your July bill. That's what it says on the notice and we're in Woodhaven, which is a huge amount on a fixed income. You know, they think they're going to retire there. Well, they already said that in July—it will reflect on your July billing it says. I don't understand how it can be billed in July when it's not going to be built until 2017 since the city didn't save any money at all since 2013 for this project.

Pete Karpe, 24069 Rum River Blvd. Gentlemen, you have before you a number of people here that are very concerned. We had meetings regarding the roundabouts, you had people that showed up that were against the roundabout and yet you voted how you did in the end. I'm asking tonight that you take consideration of something of the people, by the people, and for the people before you make your decisions. Two of you aren't even on—I don't know- how many of you are on water and sewer? Are you on? So you've got a majority of the people that aren't even on the water and sewer. They're representing the city. All I'm saying is that please listen to your peers, they vote you in to represent us, we vote you in to do the right things, and that's what I'm asking you to do here. Hold off, let people get some questions; this is not a do or die type of a thing. Thank you.

Angie Bray, 22901 Rum River Blvd, thank you for having this meeting but we didn't know you were going to have to vote on this. It would have been fabulous for us to know that you were going to vote tonight. I think that's kind of disrespectful to the entire community to say we're having this meeting, oh, but we're going to vote also. It is something that I would like to ask you guys to put off. I agree with probably everybody here behind me saying please put it off, answer our questions, let us do research and find out what—how we

should move forward. Lisa (Wicklund) commented that there weren't as many infections as Paul said. Do we have documentation of those? If so, I would like them. I think everyone would. Also, I'd like to know who manages our water department. Paul Teicher, Public Works Director said I do. Also, I would like to know what dates the City Council met regarding this water treatment facility that many of us didn't know there were meetings about. If this has been going on for a year and a half, I would be willing to bet a lot of people here would have known there was something going on. So I would appreciate if we could have those dates too so we can look back and – it's good for all of us to have that documentation to let us know what we missed out on and moving forward then maybe we all need to be a little more active. So thank you and I would like you guys to consider how we feel, like we talked about Shirley (Sundeen), she's on a fixed income. There's a lot of single families in this city that are single parents, be it moms or dads, trying to make ends meet. This for me would be a huge increase in my water and it would put a lot of other things in my budget tight. So, consider all of the other people that are single with kids and single without kids as well. We have a lot of elderly residents here and I've lived here my whole life and really don't want to leave, but as taxes go up it might be hard to stay. Thank you.

Matthew Lusian 23130 Guarani Street, Steve, you live four or five houses down from me, I'm sure you have looked up and down the street and saw that the lawns with water prices are already, nobody waters. Me, you, and maybe one other person keep their yard looking halfway decent. It costs—just to keep my grass alive in the summertime—about \$300 a month, which is ridiculous. A 45% just to keep my yard presentable, it's going to be nearly \$500 a month. I have two small kids, I mean, what do you want this town to turn into?

Doug Lennartson 23355 Jonquil Street, I've been a resident here for 15 years, I've been with the American Legion for the last 14 years and currently for the last 2 years a first vice commander. I want to thank you for sending out the brochure and I would invite the Council to come up to the legion some time and listen to the gossip, if you want to call it, of the people that come to the legion. How many people come to our legion from surrounding communities but they don't want to live here for other reasons that were noted by other residents tonight. I think it's getting too bad when you don't notify the people. Being the first vice, I try to communicate with the post membership of about 170 people as much as I can to notify them of upcoming events and other things that are going on. That isn't happening in this city. The Courier newspaper, nobody reads it anymore. You're saying about sending emails back to the people. For those people that did send emails, I congratulate them, but there are a lot of older people in this community that don't even know what a computer looks like so sending an email back or by the city web pages, that's not right. Because nobody—they don't get it. Just like other people that don't read the newspapers. So, I guess one thing I want to note tonight, are you going to have a vote on this, or are you going to stay the vote before we leave this room? That's all I have to say.

Kris Lazerte, 2954 235th Avenue NW. I guess my big question would be, obviously the thought and planning that's been going on for years, it was mentioned cities with higher populations, it costs about the same but yet they pay less so to me it would make sense that there also be thought put into what are we doing to draw more residents to St. Francis? What are we doing to draw more businesses? Tax breaks for businesses, anything to help spread out the cost?

Tony Walters, 3725 River Drive, I have a question for you guys (audience)are you going to vote for an incumbent.

Nick Miller, I live at 2334 Jonquil Street NW. My question is, if you guys have been looking at this project since 2013 you said, right? Why has there not been something done to offset the cost? Because the way this looks, you send a brochure and you're telling us that our bill is going to get raised in two months, but you've had two years to look at it. It feels like we're being ambushed because you've had two years to figure it out, no way to offset the cost and instead you're going to settle us with a 20 year bill or grant to pay on and you give us 6 weeks, 8 week, and 3 hours because you're going to vote in about 3 hours or less? That's wrong. That's completely wrong. You ambushed the entire community. It's wrong, that's all I'm saying.

Robert Brown 23321 Ivywood Street, 23321 Ivywood. What you guys don't see, there's a hundred people back there, I had a problem, I couldn't hear what was going on. I understand we probably need this and it is under par. We need to find a different way to pay for it. The increase of 45% and 85% doesn't add up to me . I understand the bid came in overbid will this increase the cost. I like it here and don't want to move.

Clint Zane, 23347 Jonquil Street, You know, just real quick, I didn't hear most of your presentation so I'm uninformed on it, that's just what I've heard since I've moved forward here. Someone was disputing that maybe there's some solution here that needs to be addressed with the water and the testing and that and you know, it sounds like you've done some due diligence over the last year and a half to figure out how we can address that. You know, I think that it's the suddenness and the lack of respect for the rest of the community on the situation that's driving the mood of this room. I moved here in '03 to raise a family, built a home, and you know, I agree with the guy that talked about the watering of the lawns, \$300 a month as it is to just keep your lawn looking decent and then you talk about the business owner, we were talking about how she's going to have to raise prices of the business that's already struggling, I believe it's not in a growth mode to begin with and I think that as a city we need to project things that promote growth and I think that we come in and we dump all of this money and hinder our businesses and grow all the weeds in the lawns so nobody else wants to move in here and build, all of a sudden you've got a community that's sucking air. I heard the word ghost town earlier, that does come to mind. I'm a builder and I'm very familiar with what people are looking at. People driving through neighborhoods that look a wreck, they don't want to live there. Then you've got small business owners that have invested their life, they're raising their kids, just as myself out

here. You know, we're doing what we can to get through the recession as it is and then things just start to look good, then you dump a bomb like this on people. You know, long story short, I think it's been said, this is something that it's not to be decided on tonight. I mean, you guys can't. I mean, really, how can you consciously make a decision on this without investigating the viewing of the community? Looks like you've done a little bit of research, I understand it takes quite a bit of time to put together numbers on a project like this and it is very important, our water's very important, it's our lifeline. I don't think anybody's denying that, but I think in all fairness that everybody that lives here, we all should have a voice in that. If you guys all just sit down and make a decision overnight, it's going to implode our monthly budget. You know, these gals are on a fixed income here. What's going to happen to you?

Paul Sullivan, I'd just want to say one thing. You know, I don't know all the politics that go on in St. Francis and what you people have done and not done and you know, I imagine all of you right now are in a bad mood because you've been attacked. And when somebody's attacked, when you force somebody into a corner he's going to fight back so your way to fight back is you have the vote tonight no matter what anybody says. If no other reason, there should be a 30 day or 60 day stay on this so people can get a level head about this. You know, you're going to have the vote tonight and all of you have been attacked and I have no idea what the reasons are or the history, but anyway, I thought I'd just say that and one question I've got, I'd like to address to you mayor, what would you say to somebody you had-- if you told them to do something and they came in and said oh they won't return my call, and then you ask them again a couple months later and they said oh, they won't return my call. And then you know, a year later, they won't return my call. Paul was saying they won't return his call. Is there a city attorney? Isn't there somebody that can step up and use a little force or something? Get answers?

Louis Lamannis, 23238 Kerry Street, NW. You've heard enough from us this evening. I think most of what we're looking for is options and we didn't hear anything about options. We just heard it's work, we have to replace it, we're done, and I feel that the decision has already been made. I moved into to the St. Francis area from Oak Grove in 2006 and my water bill was \$35-50 with five people living in my home. The water bill went up, it doubled, it went from \$90-110. Again, I've got five people who live in the house, I didn't water my yard, we cut back, we understand some of these advances and increases have to be addressed. On the other side, you're looking at this big increase—what's going to happen in the next couple years when you need more money for more repairs or maintenance on this facility you're already getting ready to build in here? It's going to be another \$50-60. Right now my water bill will outpace over my electric bill like everybody else in here. It doesn't make sense. I never in a million years thought water would be more expensive than electricity. The dollars don't make sense. When we first got the pamphlet and we read it, it looked like we were doing part of the work for East Bethel, we're doing St. Francis, we're doing wherever. We don't have a whole lot of knowledge that you folks do, having two year to research this and go through it but the amount of money and not having the options,

it looks like we're going to take the dollars and maybe utilize something else that we're not aware of or we're not privy to. We're just looking for some options. I feel, and probably everybody else feels, it's kind of a slam dunk deal, we're going to walk out of here, you're going to vote, it's going to be a done deal, the problem is, last person out, shut the lights off. Thank you, we are looking for options. We have not heard any options. We have five people in my house and have cut back. What happens in the next couple years when you need to upgrade the facility. The dollars don't make sense. We don't have a lot of the knowledge that you do. Looks like you are fixing something different. Last person out shut the lights off.

Melissa Enzler, Bob King (County Market) brought up a really good point, I understand this meeting and this particular discussion is on the water, however, we need to look at things holistically. We need to look at the fact that we're still paying for city works, we're about to be paying for roundabouts, which people did not want, businesses did not want, it's going to hurt the businesses, nobody listened to us on that matter. Again, everybody agrees that we can't have bad water, everyone agrees with that and we just have to find a way around it but you – I just wonder what you expect of all of us. I mean, as the gentleman talked about the American Legion and the chatter that goes on there. I invite any of you to come into my business and especially in the morning when all the seniors are in there, the fixed-income seniors that cannot afford, and they have a free membership, they're not paying for their membership, that's how they can be there, but if they had to pay for yet another increase, it just—those people are going to be gone. I hear it all of the time, just like the American Legion hears it all the time. You have to look at everything, not just this water situation, you need to look at all the other stuff we're paying for and the things down the road you want us to pay for and it just can't happen. I mean, honestly. I own another territory, I could leave St. Francis, you know, I'm not leaving you, but we have options to go someplace else and if you want us to stay here, you have to make it more inviting for the people and the businesses to stay here. It breaks my heart when I listen to some of the gym talk about their financial situation and then I hear something like this come around and honestly, the other thing we hear is why show up to a meeting? They're going to do whatever they want. And the roundabouts and the city works are two big things that are talked about. We didn't want it and you still did it. The people are busy, they have children, they have activities, it's hard for them to come to these meetings if they don't feel like their voice is heard. And sadly, I don't live in St. Francis, I pay taxes here because I have a business here of course, and I can't run, I can't vote on who's on our Council. I can't run for our Council. A lot of the business owners are in that position. They can't run, otherwise we would have another voice on the Council, I think. And discussing things like this. So please, when you're looking at voting on this, look at everything else. Look at all the other taxations that are on us when you're going to make this decision.

Angie Bray, I would like to ask you that they did not call back. Please do not settle. Regarding what Melissa said, I would like to ask you guys if you do indeed vote tonight to consider not accepting the fact that we could not reach the Met Council. I'm a

spokesperson, I call people, I co-call retail stores all the time. I don't settle for they didn't call me back, I can't reach them. If I want to reach them I will find a way to do it and that's exactly what the city should do with trying to reach the Met Council. If we really wanted to go through them, we need to find a way. So I would ask that you guys not settle for we can't reach them.

Paul Saffert, Anoka Blaine and Coon Rapids belong to Met Council therefore you spread the cost over two million people who utilize the system. They do not have radium problem we do here. Ramsey also has a radium problem. We try to find a balance on doing the improvement and not have. I would like to know who you talked to MPCA. Steve Weise. He's the one we've been negotiating with on this whole process so his group is the effluent limits so what they do is they set the limits to the receiving stream. They have the phosphorus numbers, they set those numbers for the City of St. Francis, in addition that have set the fluoride limit for the City of St. Francis, which we negotiated be a ten year process and what that is the city uses salt in their water softeners and what we need the public to do is reduce that use. We have ten years to try to get the city to use less salt so that we don't need to do that. He wanted that implemented now. The dates you had a question on is in the slide presentation. They also do not have radium in their water and so the water treatment costs are a little more expensive than they are in other communities.

Questions from the audience on cost and the number of connections. When are they expecting to move here? Who gave you the projection numbers?

Sullivan stated so maybe I misunderstood, but you just said there's a phase 2 after this phase 1.

Saffert stated we're trying not to have a phase 2.

Sullivan but there's a phased plan though, right?

Saffert stated, no there is not because it depends on where the city ends up in ten years.

RANDOM: So you're hoping we're going to take care of the salt water problem so there doesn't need to be a phase 2 on our own as a community?

Saffert said yes, I'm looking to the residents—that's what we're trying to do is educate the public.

RANDOM: So we flip the bill for a modification in 2008, that's not good enough, that's never going to be good enough because we have all of these contaminants that aren't going to be acceptable because they keep changing the standards so now we have to build a whole new one because they've come close to hitting their standards, then we all have to flip out of our pocket a new way of doing things for ourselves in order to not get hit again shortly after we get hit with this.

Saffert stated I don't make the rules.

Lepak said Mr. Mayor, just so we can have the record reflect what's actually said rather than just the standard comments that the mic may or may not be picking up, if we could limit the back and forth with the crowd.

Kane asked if the audience has a question, please come up to the podium to speak.

David Berg 23046 Jivaro Street, I moved up here a little less than a year ago from Hennepin County and my water bill doubled when I moved here. I don't like to think about the future of it, but I just want to remind you if there are 1500 hookups, there's probably 1350 people that didn't show up tonight and I think with what occurred tonight—I can't speak for everybody, but I think I can, it pretty much echoes throughout the whole community. There's a lot of people that I talked to that couldn't make it tonight too, and I'd like the Council to consider that us here tonight is just the tip of the iceberg and everybody feels pretty much the same and I'd like to see a 60-day delay on this vote that you're talking about tonight because this came upon us too quick and not everybody could be here. There's a lot more people that would like to elaborate on what we here tonight have said. So I'd like you all to consider that, please. Thank you.

I'm Sandra Shear 22957 Rum River Blvd. I want to know what time you're going to vote tonight and how each of you are going to vote.

Kane stated later on in this meeting.

Kane closed the public comment time at 7:28 pm

5. Meeting Open to the Public:

George Bichler, on behalf on the fire department we asked that you postpone the appointment for 60 days so we can have a chance to talk to the new administrator. Bichler read the 14 out of 18 fire fighters names that signed the petition.

Melissa Enzler, Anytime Fitness on the temporary sign ordinance. Business community needs a more efficient way to advertise. We asked for 240 days with a variance 60-day for community or special event extension. Let's look at the Zimmerman and Oak Grove if we are going to compare sign ordinances. I do better in Zimmerman; we don't get members from the Courier because we do track how we get our customers. There was a 180 days that came up not sure how that was, I appreciate your increase but it is not enough. We don't want a sign 12 months out of the year. We need to get new people to see. The council is spending \$12,500 on a consulting company to be able to grow. But you are not helping your current businesses to grow. We need the black signs.

Connie Tillman, St. Francis Collision, why are temporary signs so important, we do have a good turn over. Without having the normal advertising like newspapers the other communities have we need to have the signs. We need to be creative and it works for the liquor store. It is however attached to the building. Give the other business the same opportunities. We need to be creative and help each other. It is hard to find out about us and there just not a good source to get the news out. Thank you for your time.

6. **Petitions, Requests, Applications:**

a. **239th Street Improvement: Public Hearing:** City Engineer Jared Voge presented an overview of the proposed project, the cost associated with the proposed project, and the projected schedule. A memorandum of this project was included in the city council packet The roadways within the 239th Avenue Improvement project areas was constructed in 1994. The exact amounts will not be determined until the bids are received. The property owners will be sent an assessment amount and the hearing date. Mayor Kane opened the public hearing for comment at 7:41 pm.

Phyllis Peterson 2853-239th, first of all shame on all of you. I can't afford a \$9,000 dollars for ten years. I lived here for 18 years. I will support the police and fire departments. Rum River Blvd/239th doesn't need to be fixed.

John Kane 2665 239th Lane, some of that road I had heard in the past was put in substandard. Voge I am not familiar with the standard construction of that road in 1994. When they snow plow, staff is problems with the street. Hane stated the road base was put in 1994 and asphalt in 1995. We basically have had a commercial trucking company at the end of the cul-de-sac driving heavy trucks on this street. They should be paying a larger portion of this assessment. I believe the road was built substandard and believe the city tried to get money from the contractor. I don't see any value to upgrade Bittersweet Street.

Kent Eittreim 2930-239th Avenue, asked why are we doing this street at this time, do we have a plan for the whole city. How do you pick the roads for upgrades? Is there a way to stop the street improvement? If sixteen residents don't want it do you still go ahead with it? As far as the ditch depth, I have never seen any water in my ditch. So I don't know where the drainage problem is. Is there a way to stop this project? What is the drainage problem? We have a city council recommendation for the residents of 40% and the city portion percentage of what 60%. I am not happy about it. We all don't think the road needs to be done at this time. If we don't do it know how long do we have to wait.

Jared Voge said does the city have a plan. In 2013 the City did a street inventory. This project was talked about in 2013 but never moved forward and stopped at the public hearing stage. Every street in town has a rating. This is the public hearing to voice your concerns. Regarding the drainage issues, I would be happy to discuss this with the resident after the meeting. I do not have the paperwork right in front of me. This bid does go out for public bid. I am not sure

how many bids we would receive. In regards to the assessment percentage, 40% is the property owner's portion with 60% the city's responsibility.

Leonard Larson 23865 Rum River Blvd. at this time why can't it be patched. What about your patch work on Bridge Street? Voge said the roadway surface has deteriorated such that if you start a patch where do you stop it. Previously some comments were made on the Bridge Street patching. Bridge Street is a county road and we will pass along the comments to them.

Daryl Degonda 2850-239th been here for fifteen years and I don't see the deteriorating over the fifteen year. I don't see a drainage problem either, rain is gone in three days. I don't see enough of a cause to have it repaired at this time.

Phyllis Pederson was just wondering if you are making up projects to cover the cost of other projects because there is no money.

Marty Nathe 2543, 239th, stated I believe Bittersweet a side street that was put in for the fire trucks and bus turn around and future street access. In the winter they don't plow it. Can't we put tar and rock on the street? I have three hundred feet, this would put me in the poor farm.

Voge said regarding that road is long belong it's useful life for seal coating. Bittersweet Street can be taken out of the project if the council wants to.

Mayor Kane closed the meeting at 8:00 pm.

The resolution before you is to order the improvement and directing preparation of final plans and specification, then it comes back to city council. After the design is done it would come back to the city council to go out for bids. Orpen asked what is the cost of the engineering study. Voge said approximately \$40,000 to \$50,000. Brown asked how long are the plans good for. Voge said once the plans are prepared they would be good indefinitely. MOTION BY BROWN SECOND McCLISH APPROVE RESOLUTION 2015-23 A RESOLUTION ORDERING IMPROVEMENT AND DIRECTING PREPARATION OF FINAL PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS. Orpen said \$40,000 to \$50,000 is a lot of money when it seems the residents do not want it. Motion failed 2-2. Kane and Orpen voted nay.

b. Kerry Street and 232nd Lane & Ivywood Street Improvement: Public Hearing: City Engineer Jared Voge presented an overview of the proposed project, the cost associated with the proposed project, and the projected schedule by showing a power point presentation. A memorandum of this project was included in the city council packet. This project includes the roadways within the Kerry Street, 232nd Lane and Ivywood Street Improvement. These two projects are similar projects but this project is in the urban area which include curb and gutter and more traffic. At the last City Council meeting the council directed staff to include Ivywood Street between 233rd Lane and 235th Avenue in the project area. Mayor Kane opened the public hearing for comment at 8:10 pm

Ted Gehrig, 23153 Kerry Street, the street is dangerous to rollerblade and ride a bike down and don't see anything wrong with the project but when you have this cost plus water and sewer going up. I have a family of six. The length of the assessment is not long enough. Kane asked Finance Director Darcy Mulvihill about the length of the assessment. Mulvihill stated the length of the assessment comes from the assessment policy the city adopted.

Brandon Powers, 23393 Ivywood Street, there are definitely potholes on the road. What you don't see is all the traffic coming through our neighborhood going to other the development. It was patched just several years ago. My big concern is about the amount of the traffic that goes through ours to get into other developments. All these cost with water and sewer and the amount of traffic are not realistic. Thank you.

Robert Bauer, 23246 Kerry Street, here to oppose the assessment to this project. I believe the council cannot assess because these are repairs and does not increase our property values. Bauer read the statute about street assessment and when you can and cannot assess. These are common repairs we already pay taxes to get our roads fixed.

Sarah Hunt, 23246 Kerry Street, I also work for the school district and 1.5 of my hours each day are being cut next year. You are now adding to my water bill and adding to my house bill. I have four kids in the school district. I moved from a house with well water into town so my kids could be closer to the schools and I am regretting it every single day. You need to take a really hard look at what you are doing to your residents.

Keith Penticoff, 23353 Ivywood Street. Why are the people behind us (Jonquil Street) not involved in the assessments?

Voge said the assessment policy indicates that the street improvements are assessed to the benefiting property. The 60% of the city cost goes to all residents.

I agree the traffic in the other developments from 235th Avenue race through our development. I have young kids. I don't agree with this assessment and the water cost.

Brandon Power, 23393 Ivywood Street, just one more thing, let's deal with the potholes and put the kids with the rollerblades on the sidewalk. I have no problem for paying for all the other roads. Let's just have one big fund for all the streets.

Matt Michaels 23308 Ivywood Street asking for assurance the roads will hold up. I have lived here for fifteen years, raised four children and I love St. Francis and the people of St. Francis. What I saw the last winter the plows were trying to scrape the ice, they actually lifted the top pavement. It is just not our neighborhood using the road, it is all the developments behind us.

Sarah Hunt, 23246 Kerry Street said with the new roundabouts wouldn't they be paving Kerry Street anyway. Voge said this project is north of the roundabout project. The Bridge Street

Corridor Improvement stops on Kerry Street at 230th Lane. As part of the roundabout project a cul-de-sac will be installed at the end of Kerry Street so there will no longer be an access to Bridge Street.

Robert Brown, 23321 Ivywood Street, are you saying the curb staying on the project. Voge said that is correct. What does the signage and traffic control include. Voge said traffic control associated with the project. Brown said so you mean temporary signage. I know at least one of you knows that Ivywood Street is a thorough fare for the back area. I came five or six years ago I came to a city council meeting about getting a stop sign put in the area. I was told by the city administrator at that time that they were too expensive. In the event, can we change the speed limit in the area or put up a stop sign. Mr. Orpen and Mr. McClish thank you for your service. On that note, Mr. Mayor when these people are applauding your shutting down these people are applauding because we are finally being heard. That we don't have enough money for all this stuff. Mayor Kane said we are here to talk about the assessment. Brown stated all the infrastructure you are talking about, I build roads and build sewer stations that is what I do. I understand all this. Listening to the people around me, they don't know some of the things. I know this road needs resurfacing and not temporary patching, I know because that is what I do. So my time is here is running short. Getting back to the applause, these people don't want to spend any more money. If they are forced to please educate us. How did you get to the twenty two million good luck or this or that.

Dan Frost 3060 234th Lane, these residents are absolutely right about other developments driving through their development. I live in the development behind them. Other roads in the area are not peachy either. Maybe do a number developments together instead of just small project. Try doing a little foresight or investigation. It does seem a little unfair they get hit so hard, very high traffic area.

Robert Bauer 23426 Kerry Street, I would ask the city council at the end of 235th to get a petition together from the residents to close off the street. someone's kid is going to get killed on Ivywood Street. I walk it every day and the speed is about 55 mph. Kane gaveled the audience for their interruptions and asked they let the speaker speak. It is not going to get any better when they close of Kerry Street. Kane asked Mr. Kohlmann investigate the feasibility to close at 235th and look at the possibility of a stop sign.

Scott Gacek 23245 Kerry Street, why is the little cul-de-sac have to be paved when it doesn't need any repair. Why do I get stuck paying for this project. Voge said the Kerry Street cul-de-sac was put in the same time frame. The deterioration is starting. There may not be large potholes there now. Why are the people to the south on Kerry Street not included in this project. Voge said that portion of Kerry Street stops where is does is because of the Bridge Street Improvement. We don't want to improve it and them have them impacted by the Bridge Street project I have enough other bills and include this water. I just moved here a last years ago and not liking the bills. I thought this was a small town and live within their means. And not pay for a bunch of unnecessary

Doug Lennertson, 23355 Jonquil, I do feel for the people in the area. I do use the streets. I have heard there are a number of cities that have been having problems with the overlay, what are they doing about the deterioration of the asphalt. Let's look at that before we invest a lot of money into these streets.

Mayor Kane asked if there were any other speakers with no one coming forward, Kane closed the public hearing at 8:35 pm. Two resolutions were presented for consideration: Resolution 2015-24 amending the Preliminary Engineer Report and Resolution 2015-25 ordering improvement and directing preparation of final plans and specifications.

McClish asked Voge to explain the failure of the overlay. Voge explained there are a number of communities that have the experiencing the same problem in the metro area. Some are conducting overlays, thin overlays, and total reconstruction. There seems to be a bituminous mix design problem for a number of years in the metro area.. MOTION BY ORPEN SECOND McCLISH TO ADOPT 2015-24 A RESOLUTION RECEIVING AMENDED REPORT ON IMPROVEMENT. Motion carried 4-0.

Orpen asked about the length of the assessment length. The assessment policy was created by the city council and if you do have the authority to change the length of time. Staff has direction to look at lengthening the assessment timeframe.

MOTION BY ORPEN SECOND McCLISH TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2015-25 ORDERING IMPROVEMENT AND DIRECTING PREPARATION OF FINAL PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS.. Motion carried 4-0.

7. Ordinances & Resolution:

a. Ordinance 201, Second Series: Amending Section 2-9-1 of the City Code Regarding the Fee Schedule- Second Reading:

If the city council does not vote on the rate increase at this time how long do we have to vote on this. Saffert said it could that come back as late as the second meeting in June in regarding setting the fees. Kane asked for Paul Saffert come back to the next meeting to answer more questions along with our city administrator. Kane said I agree I am not crazy about it either. I am just looking at what we have to do in the near future. Brown wanted to mention to the residents the council was advised back four or five years ago to raise the rates, but the council chose not to. I was opposed to waiting because I knew this was going to happen.

McClish thanked the residents for coming, what a great turn out. I agree to table this to answer their questions. We owe it to them to hear what they have to say. I think we should have some type of public hearing. Back in 2007, we bought 180 acres in Isanti County and I think we paid way too much. It was two million dollars and that money was taken out of the sewer fund I think we should pay the sewer fund back. Thank you again for showing up, it is a hot topic. Kane said even if it may not look like it I appreciate you coming and your input.

Just remember we do have to keep order in the meeting. I too am affected by the rate increase.

MOTION BY McCLISH SECOND ORPEN TO TABLE THE ORDINANCE UNTIL JUNE 1, 2015. Motion carried 4-0.

b. Ordinance 202, Second Series: Amending Sec 10-23-5-E of the Zoning Ordinance Regarding Temporary Signs-1st Reading: Kane said after the last meeting I discussed this topic with Melissa and Connie. I told them and I want to tell everyone that I would like to wait for sixty days to see if we can have the business council meet with our new city administrator. MOTION BY KANE SECOND ORPEN APPROVING THE FIRST READING OF AMENDING SECTION 10-23-5-E OF THE ZONING ORDINANCE REGARDING TEMPORARY SIGN. Roll Call: Ayes: McClish, Brown, Orpen and Kane. Motion carried 4-0

Second reading at the next meeting and then thirty days after publication.

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

a. **Engineer:**

b. **Attorney:**

c. **Staff:**

Bldg. Official:

Fire Dept.: Appointment of Interim Fire Chief: Current Interim Fire Chief Dean Kapler said I know it is a long night but I would like to give you a time line on the hiring process. With this being the fourth step. We began in January 2015 when the city council chose to look for a new fire chief internally. March 2, 2015 a job description was presented and approved by the city council. On April 20 results of the internal search were brought forward and was recommended at that time to go to the outside search. There was a concern with the new city administrator starting and the timing. Since our new administrator was named, I have been in contact with him even before he started. I interviewed three prospective candidates to fill this position. Chief Kapler stated his is recommending Matt Kohout to fill the position as an Interim Fire Chief for St. Francis. Matt Kohout is the existing District Chief on the Andover Fire Department. This is a stepping stone. Orpen said I believe your contract was also three years. What in the four years what did you do to gain the leadership experience and groom a fire fighter to fill the position. Kapler said when I was asked to come here. First there had to be an understanding they were a part of the city. They are not unique but they are part of the city. They are paid on call. I believe there was part of a disconnect there. Not going to be doing things by popular vote. Orpen asked have the officers been sent to training and one on one training to groom them. Not quite sure how to answer that. MOTION BY ORPEN, I WOULD LIKE TO HAVE OUR FIRE FIGHTERS HAVE GOOD MORAL AND TABLE THIS FOR 30 DAYS. Failed for a lack of a second.

MOTION BY BROWN SECOND McCLISH TO APPOINT MATT KOHOUT AS AN INTERIM FIRE CHIEF FOR TWO YEARS PER CONTRACT . Brown said I am not sure what the problem or situation is regarding this situation. I do not want to see the department go back to popular vote. What we gained in the last four years I would like to continue to the that direction. Orpen suggested if this is motion carried, I recommend the city administrator and new chief sit down and they work towards developing a new internal chief. Motion carried 3-1. Orpen voting nay.

Appointment of Fire Fighter-Tim Kizer: Chief Kapler is recommending the appointment of Tim Kizer to the fire department. Tim Kizer has passed the necessary testing in the hiring process. MOTION BY BROWN SECOND McCLISH TO HIRE TIM KIZER AS A FIRE FIGHTER. Motion carried 4-0. McClish asked how long does your contract go. Kapler said my contract goes through the 20th of June but I would recommend my contract end tonight. I will be in contact with Matt Kohout during transition.

MOTION BY McCLISH SECOND ORPEN TO TERMININATE THE CONTRACT WITH CURRENT FIRE CHIEF DEAN KAPLER. EFFECTIVE MAY 31, 2015. Motion carried 4-0.

Public Works:

Liquor Store:

Police Dept:

City Administrator: Joe Kohlmann thanked people for coming out and enjoyed my first city council meeting. Looking forward to many years of serving this community.

9. **Reports from Council Members:** Orpen thanked the people for coming to the meeting. We wanted city involvement and we got it. I hope you come to more meetings but if not, go to our city's website there is a lot of information on the site, very informative.

McClish stated I would like to welcome Joe Kohlmann as the new city administrator for the City of St. Francis. Also thanked Paul Teicher for filling the Acting City Administrator position. Paul had double duty filling in as Acting City Administrator while still holding the position of Public Works Director. I hope that in the near future we can upgrade our video system and put it out on YouTube.

Brown said he would like to have people look at the website, council agenda. There are no secret.

10. **Report from Mayor:** Thanked the resident for coming to the meeting. Also would like to thank the Fire Chief Dean Kapler for his help and Paul Teicher for filling as Acting City Administrator.

11. **Old Business:** None

12. **New Business:** Mr. Kohlmann asked to for a workshop next week. Check your calendars.

13. **Adjournment:** Mayor Kane adjourned at 9:07 pm

Barbara I. Held, City Clerk