

**CITY OF WILLERNIE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 16, 2021
VIA ZOOM**

PRESENT: Parent, Baglio, Soderlund, Siver, DeJong, Attorney-Andrea McAlpine, Maintenance Superintendent-Rick Paulson and Clerk-Vickie Keating.

RESIDENTS PRESENT: Mats Ludwig and Tori K.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Letter G library was added to the agenda under new business. A motion to accept the agenda with the addition was made by Baglio and the motion was seconded by Siver. All council members present voted yes to the motion.

MINUTES OF THE MAY 2021 MEETING

Baglio moved to approve the May minutes as pre-read, Soderlund seconded the motion, and all council members present voted yes to the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments at the June meeting.

HOUSE EXPLOSION

313 Mitchell had a window air conditioner that exploded causing damage to the house. Fortunately, the residents were not home at the time, however, the dogs in the house did not survive.

Parent explained that their son was given information about resources for help at Washington County. He said the insurance company has been notified and they are waiting on direction from them.

This happened last week so if anyone has any ideas concerning ways to help this family, please let the council know.

ORDINANCE MEETING

Parent asked about the number of ordinances needing revision. Baglio would like to make sure everyone has the current ordinances their book.

It was suggested that ordinance meetings start again in the fall. As soon as Laurann is notified the council will be contacted concerning scheduling of the ordinance meetings.

MATS LUDWIG BUSINESS LICENSE

Mats is requesting a business license for short term room rentals such as air b n b's for the building on Stillwater Road.

Parent explained there is a cap on rental licenses and the city is over the limit at this time. A city the size of Willernie has too many rentals so there is a limit on rental licenses according to ordinance 1400.

Mats is not renting an apartment. It would be a family b and b.

Air bnb's are not discussed in the Comprehensive Plan and they are not allowed in the City Ordinances.

There is parking on the west side of the building and there is parking for one guest. There will be no signs on the building and the airbnb will be family oriented. It will be rented to one family at a time.

Mats has two apartments above the area that he rents.

This building has been for rent for some time and so Mats thought the airbnb would be a good use for the space. The area contains two bedrooms and a full bath with no kitchen.

DeJong asked about the commercial zoning on the space. Soderlund explained that 1401.02 does not allow hotels. Parent does not think there is enough information on airbnb's for the council to make an intelligent decision on the request. Parent suggested researching the airbnb's before the July meeting and it will be discussed again at that time.

Laurann and Andrea will gather information on the airbnb's and distribute it to the council before the next meeting.

SPEED LIMIT – WARNER AVENUE

Mahtomedi recently adopted a new speed limit policy of 25 mph, and the school area will be 20 mph. Since part of Warner Road is in Willernie they would like permission to change the speed limit in Willernie. The speed limit is 30 mph at the present time in Willernie.

DeJong believes there is a state statute the requiring a study be done before the county can enforce a new speed limit.

Baglio explained that Warner Road should have a lower speed limit due to the school and bus route on the road.

This was tabled until July so the council can check on the study requirements.

WATER AND SEWER AMOUNTS

Mahtomedi increases the water rates yearly and the Metropolitan Council also has been increasing the sewer rates about 5% a year.

Parent moved to increase the water rate 44 cents and sewer will be increased to \$60.50 as of second quarter 2021. Soderlund seconded the motion, and all council members present voted yes to the motion.

BUDGET MEETING AUGUST 18, 6:00 P.M.

LIBRARY CELEBRATION

The library is having a celebration Tuesday, July 20th from 4 to 7 p.m. This is the grand opening of the new library since it was not possible last year due to COVID.

LETTER EXPLAINING RATIONAL FOR NOT APPROVING DUPLEX AT 312 CHIPPENHAM

A letter explaining the reasons for not approving the rezoning of 312 Chippenham was written by Susannah. She asked for any revisions or questions from the council concerning the letter.

Since there were no revisions Parent moved to approve the letter, Baglio seconded the motion, and all council members present voted yes to approve the motion.

ZOOM MEETINGS

The City Hall is a public building and the requirements must follow state statutes.

Andrea read some requirements that will take place after the emergency orders are lifted.

All vaccinated people are not required to wear a mask, ease back into the in-person meetings.

In July there could be a hybrid meeting since the guidance is not clear at this time. Nothing will be definite until July 14th.

Parent explained that no one has complained about City Hall being locked and making appointments to come into the office. For the safety of the clerks Parent is suggesting the protocol continue at City Hall.

KENMARE STREET VACATION

A public hearing was set for July on Kenmare Street vacation.

GOLF TOURNAMENT

August 14 is the Golf Tournament. Frigaard's might co-sponsor the tournament and help with the contacts and donations.

Parent will bring in the brochure tomorrow for printing and she is encouraging everyone to join the fun at the tournament.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

Susannah and Laurann are working on the special use permit to present at the July meeting.

The council would like to check on a 6 p.m. meeting on July 21 before the 7 p.m. meeting for an ordinance meeting.

The council will be notified concerning the meeting as soon as it is set up for July.

BONDING REQUEST

Parent attended Steve Wolgamonts reception for the Lake Links Trail and Senator Wiger explained that the bill requested by Willernie was not passed by the Legislature before the session ended. There will be a special session of the Legislature held and as soon as the bill is passed, he will notify Parent.

Once this bill is passed the city has four years to use the funds

YARDS IN VIOLATION OR ORDINANCES

Soderlund updated the spread sheet on ordinance violations today. Baglio and Soderlund checked yards on Monday and are not sure when citations are going to be given the second time around. They would like the protocol after the citations are served.

Andrea does not have experience with yard citations, but she will research the question and report back to the council.

Patraw – 313 Wildwood Road has not done much to clean up his yard in 4 years. He received a citation in May and came to City Hall and said he had received a two-day notice. Can he be cited again, or should the city wait until he goes to court before the second citation.

Another resident that received a citation called Baglio asking about the fine and court expectations.

Andrea explained that if the procedure was done correctly nothing else needs to be done.

The residents have an opportunity to dispute the ordinance violation three weeks prior to the meeting. If they don't resolve the problem a citation is given, and it goes through the Washington County Court System. Baglio and Soderlund would like to know when the citations go to court and when the court notifies the city know about the hearing?

Setbacks need to be investigated at the Brown's and Wilsons concerning fence installations and permits.

Cheryl Malkowski has been working on the junk in her yard for over a year. Last year the truck was holding material that was going to be off the property in 30 days. Cheryl needs a letter explaining that she should clean up her yard by a certain date or a citation will be issued.

Mr. Langeslay on Warner Road will have the area cleaned up by the end of the week.

Parent received information about a Pod on Warner Road and was concerned about renters moving into the house with no renters' license. The lawyers have sent notices to Mr. Henry concerning the rental of this house.

RICK REPORT

Parent was contacted about a GAGA Pit for the Willernie Park. This resident is willing to provide the funding for the materials if Willernie will install and maintain it.

The pit would take up the center of the park and cause issues with the basketball court.

Schifsky's are finished except for Faversham. Leaf vac is still in the shop and the new backboard will be installed this week.

Rick asked about removing the black top at the beach. It is in bad shape and there will be more grass after it is removed.

The house on Clyde is down and they have not hurt the road. The water and sewer are already in so the road should remain intact.

There was a French drain installed on Faversham to fix the water problem. The road will be ground to the west so the water can run off. The French drain should be between the house, and it should drain properly.

Rick asked if anyone was going to maintain the flowers at City Hall or if he should put wood chips down. If someone wants the flowers, they are welcome to come and dig them up before next week.

DeJong sited a bear on his property that went south on Paddington towards Chatham. He believes it was a young male.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Baglio moved to approve the bills, Soderlund seconded the motion, and all council members present voted yes to approve the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

Soderlund moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:48 p.m. DeJong seconded the motion, and all council members present voted yes to the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria R. Keating
Clerk-Treasurer