

**CITY OF WILLERNIE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 19, 2021  
VIA ZOOM**

**PRESENT:** Parent, Siver, Soderlund, Baglio, DeJong, Attorney's Susannah Torseth and Andrea McAlpine, Maintenance Superintendent-Rick Paulson, Engineer-Les Mateffy and Clerk-Vickie Keating.

**RESIDENTS JOINING MEETING**

Scott Johnson, Ann Schmitz, Vicki Newport, Kathy Holste, Kristine Cook, Emily Strangl, Bonnie Swanson, and Eric Fosgate.

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M.**

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Portable garages were added under new business. After this addition was made Parent moved to approve the agenda, Siver seconded the motion, and all council members present voted yes to the motion.

**MINUTES OF THE APRIL 2021 MEETING**

Soderlund moved to approve the April 2021 minutes as pre-read, Siver seconded the motion, and all council members present voted yes to the motion.

**LES MATEFFY**

Les Mateffy, City Engineer, joined the meeting and explained he is longer with Moore Engineering. The mayor explained that Les was appointed as the City Engineer, so he remains in the position even if he is no longer with Moore Engineering.

**GOLF TOURNAMENT**

The golf tournament will be held on August 14<sup>th</sup> at Applewood Golf Course, Roma will cater and Frigaard's might co-host the event.

**CITY BANNERS**

Parent explained the banners have had great feedback and the residents like the sidewalk along county 12.

**MEETING SUSPENDED AT 7:10 P.M. TO OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING ON 312 CHIPPENHAM REZONING**

Parent explained the protocol for the public hearing for the public hearing. Mr. Henry did not attend the meeting, so Parent asked for comments from neighbors attending the meeting.

Eric Fosgate reminded the Council of his objections from the previous meeting. He is not in favor of the rezoning due to lack of parking and the drain on the land.

Vicki Newport does not think it is right to rezone 312 Chippenham. Since the last meeting, the neighbor's dog was playing with a dead squirrel and the owner threw the squirrel on her property for her disposal. This is just one example of the items thrown onto her property. There are many cars parked by the house and there is not enough room for the number of cars.

The public hearing was closed at 7:18 p.m. The City Council Meeting was opened at 7:19 p.m.

The City issue is the possibility of rezoning the Chippenham property. Soderlund expressed her concern on rezoning the property due to the issues raised by the neighbors.

Siver is not in favor of rezoning due to the number of rentals in the city.

Baglio is not in favor of turning the house into a duplex due to the parking issue. The Council's goal is to reduce the number of rental houses not increase the number.

DeJong does not feel single family dwellings should be turned into multifamily dwellings.

Mr. Henry was not present to speak on the rezoning.

A motion to deny the rezoning on 312 Chippenham was made by Soderlund. Siver seconded the motion, and all council members present voted yes to the motion.

The Council denied the rezoning of 312 Chippenham to a multi-family dwelling.

Parent then asked Susannah about the house on Warner with a for rent sign in the yard. There has been no application for a rental license and there are no more rental licenses available in the City.

Susannah will send Mr. Henry a letter explaining the ordinance and the Council decision on the rezoning issue.

**MAEF**

The representative for MAEF did not attend the meeting.

**EMILY STRANGL**

Emily would like to know what has been done on the easement concerning the road vacation on Kenmare Place.

The vote to proceed with the road vacation took place in 2019 and due to Covid the project was tabled and has not been addressed.

Susannah will work with the clerk to set a date for the public hearing and the resolution that needs to be passed to complete the road vacation.

Emily has a new dog and will call the office tomorrow to follow up on the dog license.

Susannah explained that once the vacation is passed the county makes note of the vacation and the City is not claiming rights to that road. The owner's legal description shows that the property is adjacent to the road vacation.

The addition to the property is between the mortgage holder and the property owner. The City does not create a new legal description for the property.

Les Mateffy asked about utilities under the property, however, this was checked on in 2019.

Parent explained that the road was a platted road. For the neighbors, the road was cutting down the middle of the property and the City has no use for this property.

**ANDREW THOMPSON**

Andrew Thompson did not attend the meeting.

**PORTRABLE GARAGES**

Information about portable garages was sent to the Council by Susannah.

Soderlund asked if these garages are temporary for 180 days who would monitor the time frame?

Susannah just gave the information about portable garages to the Council for review and suggestions. It is up to the Council to decide how to proceed with the garages. The Council asked about permits depending on the size of the temporary units. How close to the road are they allowed and could this cause visibility problems.

Parent explained that some lots do not have room for garages, and this is a solution to help with the protection of vehicles during the winter months. Baglio thinks if you have room for a portable garage, you have room for a permanent structure. There is a cost factor involved with a permanent structure to be considered.

Baglio would like the portable garages to be temporary. Also, would this affect the property values of neighboring properties.

DeJong agrees there is a cost issue with a permanent versus a temporary structure. He questioned the permits for a portable structure and would it be treated as a permanent structure. The structures are not on asphalt, gravel or cement and the cars could leak fluids into the ground causing other environmental issues. There is also the problem of storing junk in the portable structures, what about greenhouses and different types of portable sheds that could be allowed.

Soderlund did have a portable garage that collapsed and wrecked the neighbors siding and dented her car. She figured out a way to attach a garage to her house that was affordable. She does not want to see structures pop up continually.

After much discussion Susannah recommended an ordinance covering the structures. Laurann will need to be involved in the drafting of such an ordinance after the Council has given her some guidance on the requirements of these structures.

Parent summarized the concerns about portable garages. They should be aluminum, not permanent, not storage sheds, ones that can protect the cars. Temporary ones should be designed to be temporary. Placement on the property will need to abide by the setbacks required in the City.

### **YARDS IN VIOLATION**

Parent thanked Soderlund and Baglio for all the work they have done in the City on the violations.

Soderlund explained that out of 20 letters sent out 11 called in. Most requested more time to complete the projects. Nine did not reply or acknowledge the violation.

The process of the violations and consequences was discussed and Soderlund explained that 8 or 9 citations will be issued on the properties not completing the cleanup.

Officer Jared will knock on the doors and explain the problem before issuing the citations. There is a question on 512 Donegal even though the owner has taken pictures of the clean up in his yard. Mr. Palmer sent a letter to the City explaining that the work was completed as the DNR requested. The retaining wall is building material not really a retaining wall. The easement was

vacated as requested by the DNR. There cannot be anything within 100 feet of the water. The DNR requested Mr. Tveit remove the wall.

312 Berkeley said the area would be cleaned up in the next two months. The Council needs a letter stating that the articles will be removed and a firm date on the cleanup.

317 Wildwood Road – Brad Patraw cleaned up some of the articles on the side of the garage, but the back yard still has the cement blocks, pallets and the fence need to be replaced. He will receive a citation.

115 Trim is commercial, Kathy Henry has not been reached due to the lack of an address or phone number. Nothing has been reported on Gibson.. Josh Hague at 312 Warner has piles of lumber and a shed in bad condition.

The Council asked why the officers have not attended the meeting. Parent explained that the officers have a hard time attending with Zoom. They used to stop in if there were no emergencies, but they are on call during the meeting.

335 Wilwood Road had a new fence with no permit – Jack will check on it.

### **RICK REPORT**

The leaf vac did have a problem and Rick took it to Wisconsin to have it fixed. The motor needs to come apart, but it should be ready in the fall.

Schifsky's are working on the drains and will tar the roads in the next few weeks.

David Casas brought a power washer to the park and cleaned the tables, Rick scrubbed them during the process. Mr. Casas also painted the handicap parking line in front of City Hall. The City thanks Dave for all his hard work.

A good citizen cleaned the sandbox in the park and raked leaves. Volunteers are taking care of the parks for the City.

Siver and Jennifer Washington planted some hostas in the park to help make things look nicer. DeJong asked about the drain issue on Faversham. Rick explained a French drain is going to run east to west down to Paddington. A French drain goes into the ground and does not run anywhere.

A concerned resident asked about Willernie sponsoring a dumpster day. They would like Willernie to consider a trash to treasure weekend or having dumpsters in the park for one day to clean up the City.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

After the last meeting Parent was called to testify at the legislature session. Nothing has been decided at this time. The Senate Committee is working with the House Committee, but nothing has been decided at this time.

**APPROVAL OF THE BILLS**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

Soderlund moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 p.m. Baglio seconded the motion, and all council members present voted yes to the motion.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria R. Keating  
Clerk-Treasurer