

**CITY OF WILLERNIE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
NOVEMBER 15, 2023**

PRESENT: Parent, Baglio Soderlund, Siver, DeJong, Attorney-Susannah Torseth, Maintenance Superintendent-Ken Johnson, Clerk-Vickie Keating, Residents Terri Buckley and Becky Jensen.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Siver moved to accept the agenda, Soderlund seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved.

APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 2023 MINUTES

Baglio moved to accept the October minutes as pre-read, Siver seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF

Officer Jarrett was present and explained activity takes place late at night and early mornings. Keep your cars locked and make sure the garage doors are closed to discourage thieves.

Officer Jarrett is leaving patrol on the 29th of December, the council thanked him for his service to the city.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Eric Fosgate joined the meeting via Zoom. Eric explained the neighbor is not maintaining the property causing homes for rodents and other unwanted animals. There is an auto junk yard across the street from his property that needs to be addressed. Some of the vehicles are leaking fluids into the soil and the entire yard is used for parking.

Mr. Fosgate would like this property cleaned up to keep his property values up and for the health of the community.

Terri Buckley prepared a statement that will be attached to the minutes explaining the parking on Milford. On a daily basis cars are parked on Milford in front of the house that prohibits travel through the intersection of Berwick and Milford. Large and small vehicles are forced to back down Berwick including the trash truck, delivery trucks and a metro mobility bus. How can emergency vehicles get through if necessary?

Terri would like a no parking sign installed on Milford to prevent parking in the road.

Chris Siver came to complain about the farrow cats that kill birds and use his yard as a dumping ground.

Slyvie explained the farrow cats have been neutered and vaccinated. Some have been placed in homes and only four remain in the area and they have been neutered. Slyvie has used her own funds to help with the cat population and does not want to euthanize them. If a cat is a true farrow, you cannot see them.

After much discussion it was discovered the black and white cat causing problems is not a farrow cat and has a collar. Sylvie will lend the residents a trap and see if the owner of this cat can be found.

VARIANCE HEARING

CITY COUNCIL MEETING WAS SUSPENDED AT 7:30 P.M.

There was a variance request from Santino Tenerelli at 301 Webster to ask for allowance of the retaining wall on his property that is not 10 feet from the street.

The council believes the Variance Request was incomplete and Mr. Tenerelli will be notified that a new request will need to be made and published with more information before the decision on the retaining wall can be made.

Mr. Tenerelli will be given an additional 60 days to provide the information needed for a variance hearing.

The variance hearing closed at 7:50 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING RESUMED AT 7:51 P.M.

DeJong moved to table the variance hearing and gave Mr. Tenerelli an additional 60 days to request a new hearing. Soderlund seconded the motion and the motion passed.

ADOPTION OF THE ALL-HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN RESOLUTION

Mayor Parent read the resolution for the all-hazard mitigation plan.

A motion to approve the resolution for the mitigation plan was made by Soderlund. Baglio seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

BECKY BECKER

Mrs. Becker is a resident of Willernie and would like the numbers installed on the house at 308 Paddington plus the deck has trash and things that need to be discarded. She would like this property to stay cleaned up since it has been a problem for some time.

418 Sargent was rented without a rental license; however, the house has been sold on a contract for deed, so no rental license is necessary.

Mrs. Becker did not want the city to ignore the rental license problem and it was explained that the license was on the agenda, however, a contract for deed does not fall in the city ordinances. It is a legal action, and the current residents are liable for the house.

KEN JOHNSON

Leaf vac is going out tomorrow and Ken will continue picking up leaves until the weather no longer permits the process.

The council thanked Ken for all the work he has done on the park and streets.

The slide in Milner Park will cost \$22,000 for the product and installation due to new state regulations on the installation of slides. The current slide is no longer available so another model will need to be installed if a new one is purchased.

A motion to remove the slide from the park was made by Baglio. The motion was seconded by Soderlund, and the motion passed.

Ken also explained that some sewer lines will need to be lined in the spring. He will continue to work with the InfoTech company on the sewer lines.

The bathroom at the maintenance building will be finished this winter.

CD APPROVAL

The clerk explained that the city would be wise to invest in some CDs and the bank would increase the money market account to 3% interest.

A motion to move \$100,000 to CD's was made by Parent, Soderlund seconded the motion and the motion passed.

CLYDE AND CRAIG HOUSES

Susannah distributed a memorandum to the council at the workshop that was discussed, and this memorandum will be added to the minute book.

110 Craig – Susannah will send an email tomorrow to Oeverning Homes explaining the work that needs to be completed. She will also continue to outline the issues and send emails.

DeJong asked about the work in progress and the financial responsibility for the problems involved. The work to be done is at the direction of the city and should be done to the specification set forth by the city. The city engineer will check on the progress of the work and direct the owners to complete the work as described. Financial responsibility falls on the owners of the property at this time.

The owners have 60 days to complete the work and then the city can have the work done and assess the property according to the Maintenance Plan.

111 Clyde has a purchase agreement, and the prospective buyer does not think the issues on this property are insurmountable. They are still considering the purchase of this home.

The deck needs a variance, however, Oeverning Homes does not believe they need to ask for a variance. Susannah has explained that a variance is necessary to keep the deck on the property.

There is a retaining wall that needs to be built and Oeverning Homes suggested holding funds in escrow until the wall is completed, however, funds are lacking so it might not be possible to obtain escrow.

109 Clyde has dirt that needs to be moved off Kindross and unpaid water bill to the city.

YARDS IN VIOLATION

Parent thanked the council members that have worked so hard on the cleaning up process in the city and hopes residents understand it is a process that does not happen immediately.

316 Chatham has a disabled car on the dirt.

Susannah suggested a memo on this property be sent on the rental license and then an inspection can be made by Jack and if they refuse to allow the inspection Jack can red tag the property and the attorneys can proceed with a cease-and-desist process letter.

Baglio is sending a letter of violation to the resident in the house. The car has no tags, is disabled and parked off the driveway area.

Parent suggested hand delivering the notice to the house and also having the sheriff run the plates on the vehicle to discover the owner of this vehicle.

317 Wildwood is a work in progress.

Susannah suggested a letter to the residents on Milford concerning parking before a decision can be made on the no parking signs.

CAT DONATIONS

If anyone would like to donate funds to help with the neutering and placement of the farrow cats, please contact council person Siver.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Baglio moved to approve the bills, Siver seconded the motion, and the bills were approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Soderlund moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:50 p.m. Baglio seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria R. Keating
Clerk-Treasurer