

**CITY OF WILLERNIE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 16, 2020
VIA ZOOM**

PRESENT: Parent, Siver, Baglio, Miller, Soderlund, Attorney-Susannah Torseth, Maintenance Superintendent-Rick Paulson and Clerk-Vickie Keating.

Stan Karwoski, Washington County Board, and Jack Kramer, building inspector also joined the meeting.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Miller moved to accept the agenda, Siver seconded the motion and all council members present voted yes on the motion.

MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 2020 MEETING

Baglio moved to approve the November minutes as pre-read. Miller seconded the motion and all council members present voted yes on the motion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments at the December meeting.

STAN KARWOSKI

Parent thanked Patrick Miller for his 20 years of service to the City of Willernie and introduced Stan Karwoski who made a presentation of a certificate of appreciation for the length of service and hard work Patrick has done for the City.

Parent then told Patrick he will be missed, and the City appreciates all the time he has spent helping the City of Willernie. It has been a pleasure working with Patrick Miller. A plaque will also be given to Patrick expressing the City's appreciation of service.

Parent then asked Stan about the bonding bill and explained that the City might not receive the funds due to some of the timing and wording in the bill.

Stan then wished the Council Happy Holidays.

CONTINUATION WITH GALOWITZ OLSON

Viet-Hanh is leaving Galowitz, Olson, therefore, Willernie decides to continue with Galowitz, Olson or leave with Viet-Hanh. Viet-Hanh has represented Willernie in prosecutions during her time with Galowitz, Olson.

Parent suggested staying with Galowitz, Olson and Miller, Baglio, Soderlund, and Siver agreed with this suggestion. No further action is required if the City is going to stay with the firm.

MIKE HENRY

Since the last meeting Jack Kramer has sent a report on the property and two of the three tenants have moved out.

The report given by Jack Kramer outlines the safety issues on the property and the necessary building changes that need to be made to the property if it is to become a multiple dwelling.

Currently the property is not a rental unit, no rental license has been granted and no zoning change has been requested.

The City is obligated to enforce ordinances; the tenants living in the house must deal with the landlord.

Eric Fosgate sent in a report on the unit and a copy was given to each Council member. Eric joined the meeting to make sure the Council members received the information he submitted. Currently, no residents can move into the house so only one person is living in the residence at the present time.

If an application for rezoning is submitted a public hearing will take place where the neighbors will be notified and they will be present to voice their opinions.

Mr. Fosgate asked the Council to look at the information he provided and the history of the trash and snow which will be escalated if this becomes a multi-family dwelling. There is also a drain issue when snow is piled on it.

Parent explained the process of a public hearing that will be necessary if this is to become a multi-family dwelling. The hearing would be published, neighbors receive notices, and then the Council decides if it possible to rezone after all the parties involved have expressed their concerns.

BONDING INFORMATION

Almost two years ago Parent made a presentation to the bonding committee at the state capital. At that time Willernie needed to repair and replace the roof on city hall, a new maintenance building and the County 12 project to replace our water main for safety measures. The sidewalk was extended to McGregor that was a 50-50 split with the county and it was an opportunity to fix the catch basin by the post office.

The City received a \$200,000 grant from Mn Dot and one from Rice Creek. The bonding bill was still under consideration and did not pass in the spring; however, it did pass this fall. Willernie was awarded \$160,000 for the roof, to help pay down the debt on County 12 and the maintenance building. The problem came in after the bill was passed because the County 12 project was completed before the bill was passed. Now the grant will only allow the City to replace the roof on City Hall and the remaining funds in the grant will stay with the state.

The City will continue to look for grants to replace the maintenance building.

YARDS IN VIOLATION OF ORDINANCES

Soderlund explained that there are three more in violation that have been in violation for the last year.

The three that need to be addressed with notifications are 318 Berkeley, 314 Webster and 314 Wildwood Road.

Baglio has discussed the mattress and other items on Warner Road by the apartments with the owner and it has been removed.

GRANTS

Miller has not had any news from FEMA and other requests for funding at the present time.

WASTE MANAGEMENT

Parent explained that the City is following the trash contract with the new owners.

DECIBEL METER

Siver has the meter. It was \$44.00 and would like to know if the Council wants her to learn how to use it or bring it to City Hall.

Parent would like to meet with Roma in February or March to make sure everything is clear about the noise level and the decibel reading can be done by the City.

Siver will learn how to work the meter and report back to the City.

RICK REPORT

Xcel is replacing some gas lines. They are digging in the road due to leaks and replacing old fittings.

There are some leaves on the road but when the snow comes the plow will push the leaves back into the resident's yards. The leaves can be raked in the spring when the leaf-vac is out again.

Parent asked Jack Kramer about car coverings in the City. These do not require a permit. A resident has an ice fishing shed that is not a permanent structure so it does not require a permit. It folds down and is not permanent.

APPROVAL OF BILLS

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

ADJOURNMENT

Soderlund moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m. Miller thanked everyone and seconded the motion. All council members present voted yes to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria R. Keating
Clerk-Treasurer