

**CITY OF WILLERNIE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 18, 2023**

**PRESENT:** Parent, Siver, DeJong, Baglio, Soderlund, Attorney-Susannah Torseth and Clerk-Vickie Keating.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Baglio moved to approve the agenda, Siver seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved.

**APPROVAL OF MARCH 2023 MINUTES**

Soderlund moved to approve the March minutes as pre-read, Siver seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Becky and Dave Becker were present to discuss 308 Paddington a rental house. They believe a business is being run from this residence. There is a dumpster on the grass and parking on the street. The green bag dumpster is full of construction materials, and they are wondering if this resident is violating ordinances.

601 Stewart has had construction occurring during the year and the yard has been destroyed with all the equipment and machinery driven on the property.

This house has been sold and will not be a rental.

308 Paddington will receive a letter from the attorney.

**WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF**

Vehicle tampering is not as predominant as it has been in the past, however, officer Jarrett would like residents to be aware of the problem.

**CHRISTINE WEFLEN-BUSINESS LICENSE**

St. Croix Saddlery will be purchasing Roma on May 1, 2023, and they need the business license to present to the loan officer to complete the sale.

Parent moved to approve the business license for Horsepower LLC to conduct business for horse tack and clothing on Stillwater Road for a period of 12 months. Siver seconded the motion, and the license was approved.

### **MIKE ALTIMIMI – BUSINESS LICENSE**

Mr. Altimimi would like to rent 313 Stillwater Road for a tobacco shop. He wants to sell hemp, CHC and tobacco products. He has a business in White Bear Lake, and it has been running smoothly for a year. This would include low key hemp, CHC and vaping devices.

Parent explained Willernie is located close to the Mahtomedi High School which might cause some issues and vaping is a huge concern among the high school students.

The city is not prepared at this time for a venture including these products. The council will review the process and put an ordinance in place to cover the products, however, this will take some time. This procedure will be in place before a business license can be approved for a business dealing with these products.

### **CHANGE REQUEST FORM FOR NEW MN GOVERNMENT ACCESS**

Susannah explained that this form is used for prosecutions and allows the law firm access to files necessary for prosecution procedures. Melissa is no longer with the firm, so this form replaces Melissa as the person accessing the information.

A motion to approve the form was made by Baglio. Siver seconded the motion and the motion passed.

### **YARDS IN VIOLATION OF ORDIANCES**

The procedure for sending violations to the residents was discussed, with suggestions being made for improvement on the procedure.

A memo will be included with the forms explaining the residents have time to attend a council meeting or call the city office to extend the time for the cleanup, however, if they do not respond and the work is not done a citation will be issued.

Abatement was discussed on parked cars, but the car must be stored for 30 days before any legal action can be taken.

### **NIGHT SKY LIGHTING**

The Center City Ordinance has been reviewed and contains some important information on the lighting in the city.

It was suggested that this issue be described in the mayor's newsletter and have more education on the subject before writing an ordinance to incorporate rules on night sky lighting.

Parent and DeJong will work on this project and report back to the council.

### **GRANTS**

DeJong is still looking into grants for the city and is contacting the representative concerning the lift station and asking for funding to improve it.

DeJong has been reviewing new trash haulers, three have returned his calls and would be willing to take Willernie as a customer.

### **CITY BUSINESS**

John Manship has received a bid for repairs on the lift station for \$1800 and he would like council approval to repair the problems in the lift station.

A motion to approve the bid was made by Soderlund, Siver seconded the motion, and the bid was approved.

There was a leak on Kimberly in the sewer line. John reconfigured the area and the sewage is flowing into the manhole. Miller will fix the area on Monday. Washington County is working with the city to extend the time frame on this project if it is needed.

Schifsky's is having issues with the asphalt so the overlaying will be delayed this spring.

Parent reviewed the welcome to Willernie news clip that was on Channel 4 featuring Willernie. There has been positive response to the information on Willernie.

The city has received some donations for the sign that will be on the Maintenance Building in honor of Rick and Parent presented the picture of the sign that is being made for the building.

### **APPROVAL OF THE BILLS**

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

Soderlund moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 p.m. Baglio seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria R. Keating  
Clerk-Treasurer