

**CITY OF WILLERNIE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 17, 2023**

PRESENT: Parent, Siver, Baglio, Soderlund, DeJong, Attorney-Susannah Torseth, Maintenance Superintendent – Ken Johnson and Clerk-Vickie Keating.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Safe Routes to School was added under new business and under old business, dark sky, cannabis information, grant, and T. Patraw were added.

After the additions Baglio moved to approve the agenda, Soderlund seconded the motion, and the agenda was approved.

MINUTES OF THE MAY 2023 MEETING

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

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF

Officer Jarrett attended the meeting and explained that it has been busy with reoccurring issues and juveniles. He encouraged the residents to call in any suspicious activities in the city.

The council asked for a saturation on the traffic incidents on Chatham and at the four way stops.

SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL

Kate Anderson introduced herself to the council as the lead on the Safe Routes to School and the Community Education Director. The committee is trying to determine a safer way for students to bike, ride and roll to school.

The committee includes community leaders, county employees, principals, and parents. Currently they are utilizing the 2015 Plan. They now have new leadership in the district and a grant was written and awarded for the planning of the safe routes to school. The planning grant began last June with MN Dot and Alta Consulting Firm collecting analytical information.

There were open houses and maps displayed last fall and a survey with the students and families. This includes St. Andrews, St. Jude's, City of Grant, Mahtomedi, Willernie and the schools.

There is a draft of the new plan, and they are hoping Alta will send a new draft of recommendations for the roads to be safer.

The issues concerning Willernie are the intersections at Warner Ave. So. and Warwick.

Another consideration is sidewalks on Warner.

The committee will continue to keep Willernie informed on the proposals and if anyone is interested in participating on the committee, they are welcome to attend the meetings.

BOB LACASSE 109 WARNER

Bob explained that he owns 109 Warner, and the retaining wall needs repair, however, it is not 10 feet from the street and if it is removed the house will not have a yard.

Bob would like to have paperwork to accompany the property so the retaining wall can remain in place but is not sure which avenue to pursue in this matter.

The council suggested a Conditional Use Permit or a variance to stay with the property.

Bob will fill out the paperwork and submit it to the council in the next few months.

XCEL CHIPPENHAM PERMIT

Parent read the permit request to the council and then a motion was then made by Parent to approve the permit on Chippenham requiring completion by September 30, 2023. Soderlund seconded the motion and the motion passed.

TERRY PATRAW

Mr. Patraw asked to install a door on the breezeway instead of the tarp. This house does not have enough property for a garage, so a breezeway was installed.

No decision was made on this request.

YARDS IN VIOLATION

Patrick Kincade – 313 Wildwood Road – attended the meeting to discuss the notice of violation he was sent in May. Mr. Kincade did not feel he was allowed adequate time to complete the requested projects in the violation. He would have preferred a discussion on the debris and the items he needed to address on his property.

Mr. Kincade has completed most of the work required and the rest will be done soon.

In the future he suggested a community service day. The council walking the neighborhood could stop and ask homeowners if they need help to complete the jobs in a timely manner.

He would like to meet in Milnar Park and help residents with the articles that need to be removed from their property such as the brush, etc.

Soderlund explained that his name had been cleared and apologized if the notice sounded threatening. She did talk to some residents and most of them jumped on the problems.

The council thanked Patrick and explained they have people that will help the residents unable to complete the tasks in their yards. The council also loves his idea of a community service day and will try to organize this event next year. Ken will donate his chipper for the wood if the city organizes the event.

Kelly O'Neil feels the same as Patrick. She has 4 vehicles and the ordinances state no more than 3. Kelly asked to have until July to remove the vehicle and she will call in when the vehicle is gone.

Thirteen of thirty-one violations have been completed. Thirteen are still working on the requests and four are on the questionable list.

David Casas – 319-321 Milford also attended the meeting and his violations have been addressed and completed. The council thanked David for his diligence.

DARK SKIES

Siver is still researching the dark skies ordinances from other cities so this will be discussed at future meetings.

CANNIBUS INFORMATION

Susannah handed out the information for review by the council. The council needs more time to research this information and it will be discussed in June.

GRANTS/TRASH

DeJong did not have any new information on grants.

The trash service has improved and he would like to continue working on this project.

KEN REPORT

The council thanked Ken for the work in the park.

The leaves have been removed this week and he will be out on Monday to pick up any remaining leaves.

Ken has been working on the garage, he has removed two loads and still has more objects to remove.

The street sweeper does not have any brakes and Ken talked to the gentleman the city purchased the sweeper from and he said it would take \$2000 to repair it.

Mahtomedi is selling the router and will split the funds with Willernie.

The old truck needs some work, Dan is checking it out.

Schifsky's sent a bid for the blacktop, but Ken will get another bid on the shop and the water breaks to see if the job can be done at a lesser amount.

DeJong moved to patch the watermain breaks with the lower bids. Baglio seconded the motion.

The motion was rescinded.

Ken will submit the bids for the roads at the June meeting.

It was also suggested that Ken's report be on the top of the agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

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

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Victoria R. Keating
Clerk-Treasurer