

**CITY OF WILLERNIE
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
DECEMBER 18, 2024**

PRESENT: Parent, Baglio, Siver, De Jong, Soderlund, Kristine Cook, Ken Johson
Maintenance – via Zoom, Attorney-Tori Kelm and Clerk-Vickie Keating.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 2024 MINUTES

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments in December.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF

There have not been any serious issues during the last 30 days in Willernie. A non-violent resident is back in the house.

A new deputy will be in Willernie starting in January due to the promotion and shift rotations in Washington County. Allen Oyaas is the new officer that will be reporting on the activities in Willernie.

De Jong asked about the stop sign that was installed by O.H.Anderson.

The officer explained that the residents close to the sign are happy about it and the results. There have been no complaints on the stop sign at this time.

Siver believes the stop sign is a good thing and helps with the safety of the students walking on Warner. She asked if home owners have complained about residents walking in their yards. The officer said the residents have not complained.

COMPUTER POLICY

Parent explained the computers have lived their life and they should be eliminated as a liability for the city.

Soderlund and Baglio do not use their computers, however, De Jong believes they are important.

Celia Wirth, Willernie's computer tech explained two parts. The council needs to decide if they want to use the computers. Number 2, what do you want to do with the computers that are currently owned by the city. Then the software is the next issue.

The League of Minnesota Cities does not expect the small cities to furnish city emails for the council.

Soderlund moved to discontinue computers for the city allowing the council members to keep the computers at no charge, however they now are personal property and not city owned. Parent seconded the motion and the motion passed with Siver and De Jong voting no to the motion.

Parent moved to have a stipend for Microsoft 365 available to council member for one year if they are using the computers for city obligations. Baglio seconded the motion and the motion passed.

GALOWITZ OLSON PRICE INCREASE

Tori thanked the city for letting Galowitz Olson represent them and explained the firm feels it is a privilege to serve the city.

The fee is increasing \$10 an hour beginning in January.

De Jong asked if Galowitz Olson would ever entertain a flat rate for the city instead of an hourly fee.

Soderlund would like to research the increase before making a decision.

Baglio moved to approve the increase with the understanding that the council is going to research the legal fees. Soderlund seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

REPORT ON CLYDE AND CRAIG

There was nothing new to report on Clyde and Craig streets.

ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACT

The fee for animal control is increasing to \$45 dollars a month.

Based on the history of the animals in Willernie, animal control is the best option.

Parent moved to approve the increase on the animal control contract, Siver seconded the motion and the contract was approved.

ORDINANCE UPDATE

Tori updated some of the ordinances, then Baglio gave an update on the ordinances and the work that is in progress.

YARDS IN VIOLATIONS

A closed meeting will be necessary to make decisions on 316 Chatham after the January meeting.

BARB'S FAREWELL

Barb thanked the council for the work they do for the city. She wanted them to know it has been an honor to server on the council.

Barb reminded the council they are the executive branch and the employees should be supported by the council to carry the workload.

If problems arise the lawyer contacts the mayor, sometimes the Clerk contacts the mayor if a problem arises. She has learned many things from the council and is happy that Willernie looks after their neighbors.

She is going to miss all of the council and staff members but will enjoy her travel time.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

Soderlund moved to approve the bills. Baglio seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Soderlund moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Baglio seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned.

CLOSED MEETING ON APPRAISAL

The amount of appraisal covers the land. The appraisal is a fair amount that will be presented to the Horans.

RESUMED THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING AT 8:55 P.M.

Parent moved to approve the \$3,000 for the Horan easement. Soderlund seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Soderlund moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 p.m. Baglio seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned after the special meeting.

The council wished Barb the best during her retirement.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria R. Keating
Clerk-Treasurer