

**CITY OF WILLERNIE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 16, 2024**

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 2024 MINUTES

Baglio moved to approve the September minutes as pre-read, Soderlund seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Brian from Alicia Heights Association gave the council a handout concerning tree removal at the beach. The Association will commit to \$4,500 until next year, however, the cost will be approximately \$9,000. The Association is asking Willernie to contribute \$5800 on the project.

De Jong would like to table the decision until more information is available on the project.

Parent would like to follow through on the project due to inclement weather approaching.

Ken suggested Woodchuck for the tree trimming and he will donate his chipper to help with the cleanup.

Baglio agrees the beach should be cleaned up.

Parent moved to add this item to the agenda. Siver seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

BEACH TREE PROJECT

Soderlund thanked Brian for the bid and moved to accept the price on the bid as presented by Brian to clean up the trees on the joint beach area hoping for donations from Mahtomedi. Siver seconded the motion.

De Jong pointed out the bid is for \$10,000 with the Association committing to \$4500. The Association would like Willernie to commit to 50% of the bid.

The motion passed with De Jong voting against the motion.

WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF

No officers were present at the October meeting.

Parent explained that she stopped at 316 Charing and asked them to stop parking cars on the grass. The residents were not happy about removing the vehicles and said other residents park in this area. Parent then explained there is a public parking area for the residents to park when enjoying the equipment in the park. Ken will fix the grass as soon as the cars are removed from the area.

A discussion then followed on 200 Stewart and the police activity that took place at this resident during the month of October.

Susannah explained that this will go to prosecution and there is a difference between criminal issues and civil issues. The police need probable cause, and they cannot obtain a search warrant without cause.

Susannah will research the residents in the city causing harm to neighbors and report back to the council in November.

The sheriff will be contacted to make sure they are present at the November meeting.

KEN REPORT

Ken presented a bid from Woodchuck to remove five dead trees. Also a light pole in front of Westfall has broken and needs to be replaced. The base of the pole is cracked and cannot be repaired.

The leaves are being picked up and he will continue to do so weather permitting until the first part of November.

The lift station has had some difficulty with the motors due residents flushing shirts, rags, disposal wipes etc. This is an expense to the city as well as the pole, however, it needs to be fixed as soon as possible.

Parent moved to replace the light in front of Westfall. Siver seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

JOHN MANSHIP – LIFT STATION

The lift station was installed in 1965 and has been running smoothly until Sunday when the red light came on. Ken and John watched it and on Monday morning general repair was coming to

repair the pump. General repair did not make it to Willernie until Tuesday and after reviewing the situation, John recommends replacing pump number one.

Rags, shirts etc. tore the pump apart and they were going to replace the valves, but the valves could not be removed due to the pressure in the station. Pumper trucks are running and removing the sewage and Metropolitan Council helped with the removal. They have one pump up and running after taking it apart and putting it back together again.

The next step is to put the valves in and contain the sewage to get the pumps back up and running. If the whole system was replaced it would cost approximately \$300,000. After repairing the pumps, they will run for a number of years, giving the city time to research grants for a new system.

The mayor will draft a notice to the citizens to be inserted in the next water bill on the sewage articles that should not be flushed and in the meantime a notice will be placed on the bulletin board for the residents to read.

CLYDE AND CRAIG HOUSES

Susannah presented handouts on the price the Horan's would like for the easement on Kindross.

The city needs an appraiser to confirm the value of the easement.

Marcus, city engineer, approached Mahtomedi and they have given permission to have the discharge run as requested.

Mr. Horan would like to discuss the contract with Susannah since the property is in a trust with his parents.

Susannah explained the compensation; however, an appraisal is needed to determine the value of the easement.

Soderlund moved to have an appraiser determine the value of the easement. The price of the appraisal is approved up to \$500. Parent seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

The garage at Bello's has been inspected by Jack and Marcus. The Bello's have done everything required by the engineer and have submitted new construction drawings to compensate for the drainage on the neighbor's property.

A special meeting will be held to review the building permit on the Bello garage.

ANIMAL CONTROL CONTRACT

The animal control contract was tabled until the November meeting.

ORDINANCES

A clean copy of the ordinances is needed to put on the city website. The council needs to finish reviewing and complete them this year so council members should send any suggestions to Susannah.

CITY CD INVESTMENT

The city can obtain CDs for 12 months, 9 months or 6 months.

De Jong moved to have a 6 month and a 9-month CD, then withdrew his motion.

Baglio moved to obtain two 9-month CDs for the city. Parent seconded and the motion passed.

YARDS IN VIOLATION

There are parked cars in the park that have been addressed.

307 Stewart has an inoperable vehicle.

200 Stewart – Holly property – notice of violation which took care of some of the wood. Some things have been cleaned up, but the snowmobile is still sitting there, and the property does not look clean.

411 Dartmoor – Ed Butler – nothing has been done. Neighbors have been complaining and the yard has vehicles plus debris to be removed.

210 Kindross – Patrick Miller – has been asked to concentrate on the front yard and he is working on it.

The council asked for direction on the properties that have not complied with the violation notices. After discussing the issues, the council agreed that all residents should be treated the same and tickets should be issued.

STOP SIGN ON 72ND STREET

De Jong inquired about the installation of the stop sign on 72nd Street. Parent explained that the stop sign on Warner was installed by Mahtomedi because Ken did not realize this was a council action and slowing traffic down on Warner is always an issue.

De Jong is concerned about the liability the city has concerning the stop sign.

Parent moved to ratify the stop sign that was installed by the City of Mahtomedi on 72nd and Warner. Siver seconded the motion, and the motion passed with De Jong abstaining from the vote.

APPROVAL OF THE BILLS

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

ADJOURNMENT

Soderlund moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:51 p.m. Baglio seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria R. Keating
Clerk-Treasurer