

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

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

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Baglio moved to accept the agenda, Siver seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

**APPROVAL OF AUGUST 2024 MINUTES**

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

**WASHINGTON COUNTY SHERIFF**

The officers attending the meeting introduced themselves and explained that in the last 30 days they have responded to two verbal abuse charges and assault plus some disturbance in one of the bars.

Willernie has had some problems with the road work on county 12 and due to this there have been extra patrols on Warner. A stop sign will be installed on Warner and 72<sup>nd</sup> in order to slow the traffic down.

The officers appreciate knowing the hot spots of traffic and problems in the city. The mayor mentioned Wildwood Road and County 12. The stop sign on Paddington is not observed by some motorists and at the bottom of Chatham during school hours cars cut through Willernie.

If there are complaints call the officers.

Parent mentioned that there is a parking lot in Millner Park, however, two cars are parked on the grass alongside the park. The renters across the street are using the park to fix cars. The officer will discuss this matter with the daytime deputies.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments at the September meeting.

## **KEN REPORT**

The lift station stopped working two weeks ago because there was water in the airlines. It was discovered immediately and fixed. Then when pump number 2 was on it began shooting water out. On Monday Ken was in the pump station with Brian Overline and they discovered there were 3 holes throwing sewage out.

John Manship and Ken called general repair and the parts have been ordered. Pump number 1 is doing all the work until number 2 is fixed. The cost of the repair will be approximately \$7,000.

There are also some lines that need to be relined due to the tree roots in these lines.

Parent asked for an estimate on repairing the two worst areas with roots. Ken will check on the prices and report back to the city.

The sewer system was installed in 1964, and they usually last 50 years.

Ken and Baglio drove around the city checking on the area.

Parent informed the council about the bench donated in Steve Wolgamots name. Jane Schneeweis, Mahtomedi liaison, explained that another bench will be placed in Wildwood Beach Park.

The last item discussed are the dead trees in the city that need to be addressed. Ken will request an estimate and report back to the council.

## **WIWAT AND WANLIPA WIPHUSIT**

Wiwat lives seven minutes away from Willernie and he would like to purchase Earle of Sandwiches to run a kitchen out of this business. The kitchen would be available for food preparation in a commercial kitchen with health department approval.

Wiwat is negotiating with the owner on the property and would like council approval of the project proposed.

He does not want to tear the building down just rehab it. Soderlund suggested hiring a contractor and obtaining bids before signing a contract.

There will only be Wiwat and his wife as employees for the business, however, renters for the kitchen will come and go on the property.

DeJong suggested checking on the rehabilitation of the building, bringing it up to code for the health department and commercial use. These are issues to consider before signing a contract.

Parent explained the rehabilitation on the building is up to the buyer not the city. The council suggested having a contractor inspect the building and come to the council with a business plan for approval. The council needs more information before it can approve this business.

### **INVESTMENTS**

It was suggested that the council purchase two more cd's to receive a higher yield on their investment.

Parent moved to acquire two cd's for the city, Baglio seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

### **LIABILITY WAIVER FORM**

A motion to not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by Minnesota Statutes 466.04 was made by Siver. Baglio seconded the motion and the motion passed.

### **WASHINGTON CONSERVATION DISTRICT EDUCATION FOR STORM WATER SEWER PERMIT**

A motion to approve the contract to continue the education in the City of Willernie on the Storm Water Sewer Permit was made by Baglio. Soderlund seconded the motion and the contract was approved.

### **BENDELE LETTER AND CUP**

Susannah does not have the Bendele letter ready but will send it to the clerk tomorrow.

The CUP on Warner needs follow up and Susannah will give the clerk directions on this filing.

### **CLYDE AND CRAIG PLACE**

Marcus Johnson, city engineer, presented the estimates on the upgrades for the storm sewer by Craig Place. The survey will be at the expense of the city. There will be a draft for the easement with the compensation recommended for Charles Horan on the easement. 860 feet of easement will be on the Horan property.

The City has until October 2026 to use the Rice Creek Grant – Rice Creek needs a signed copy of the contract for their files.

A motion to order the survey, conditional on the grant still being in place was made by Parent. Baglio seconded the motion and the motion passed.

**YARDS IN VIOLATION**

There are five properties with cars parked on the grass. Letters will be sent to the owners with a copy of the ordinance and if nothing is done, they will then receive a notice of violation.

**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 8:10 p.m. Baglio seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Victoria R. Keating  
Clerk-Treasurer