

May 10, 2021

CITY OF WASHBURN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

5:30PM

Washburn City Hall & Remote Call-In

City Council Members:

Present, in-person:

Karen Spears-Novachek, Tom Neimes, Carl Broberg, Dave Anderson, Jennifer Maziasz, Laura Tulowitzky, Mary McGrath

Present, remote:

none

Municipal Personnel:

Present in-person:

Mayor Mary D. Motiff, City Administrator Scott J. Kluver, Assistant City Administrator Tony Janisch, Director of Public Works Gerry Schuette

Present, remote:

City Attorney Max Lindsey

Absent:

none

Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 5:30PM by Mayor Motiff. Roll call attendance depicted seven (7) of seven (7) members of the Common Council in attendance. Quorum of the Council recognized.

Approval of Minutes – City Council Meeting of April 12, 2021 & April 20, 2021 - A motion was made by Novachek to approve the April 12 & 20, 2021 minutes of the City Council with the corrections noted, second by Neimes. Motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Expenditures - A motion was made by Novachek to approve the monthly expenditures as reviewed, second by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously via roll-call vote.

Public Comment – Bridget Kelly, 715 3rd Ave. W, expressed concern that she will be homeless in 21 days. The house that she currently lives in with her daughter has been sold and she is struggling to find a home in the community where she works, and her daughter goes to school. Ms. Kelly further expressed concern of the number of air bnb’s opening, taking away potential year-round housing. She further stated that there is currently a 2-year waiting list for Housing Authority Units, but no waiting list Air BnB permitting.

Mayoral Announcements, Proclamations, Appointments- The Mayor made the following proclamations: National Skilled Nursing Care Week, National Police Week, Emergency Medical Services Week, Week of the Young Child, Historic Preservation Month, and Arbor Day. She further announced that on May 12th & 26th, the final two food distributions will occur in Washburn at the Bayfield Co. Hwy. Garage, in the afternoon.

Discussion & Action on Resolution #21-003 Recognizing the Washburn High School 2021 Girls Volleyball Team for Winning the State Championship – The Mayor read Resolution #21-003 aloud. Broberg moved to adopt Resolution #21-003, seconded by Maziasz. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Second Driveway Access at 205 W. Harborview Dr. – James Thoreson & Edith Deutsch, Petitioners – Public Works Director Schuette stated that all criteria have been met to approve the request for a second driveway. Schuette added that the ordinance states that driveways shall be no greater than 18 ft. wide, the existing driveway is 21 ft. wide and has recommended that the new driveway be 21 ft. wide to match the existing. Novachek questioned the existing culvert and gravel drive where the new driveway is being proposed. Janisch answered that he approved a temporary driveway last year to allow construction vehicle access for an addition being built on to the house. Anderson stated that he was under the impression the circle driveways were not allowed in the City. Discussion continued regarding circular and secondary driveways, and the special circumstances that allow for this. Broberg moved to approve the request for a secondary driveway at 205 W. Harborview Dr., seconded by McGrath. Discussion continued regarding the consistency of approving/denying these requests and the fear of setting a precedence in future requests. Broberg amended his motion to approve the secondary driveway at 18 ft. wide, McGrath agreed. Motion carried five (5) to two (2), Maziasz & Tulowitzky voting Nay.

Discussion & Action on Second Driveway Access at 701 W. Hillside Dr. – Paul Haugen, Petitioner – Anderson moved to approve the request for a secondary driveway at 701 W. Hillside Dr., seconded by Neimes. Mr. Haugen stated that he is remodeling his residence and moving the main entrance and would like to be able to park at the new entrance. Schuette stated that because of the slope to the roadway, he is requesting that the first 40 ft. be graveled. Discussion continued regarding the necessity and feasibility of a secondary

driveway at this location. Maziasz added that it seems odd to have a driveway discussion separate from the building permit process, seems that both should go together. Motion carried five (5) to two (2), Maziasz & Tulowitzky voting Nay.

Discussion & Action on Decorative Streetlight Design for Bayfield Street Reconstruction – The Mayor began discussion noting the survey that was initiated to help gather public input. Kluver stated that there appeared to be some confusion when reviewing the comments regarding lighting fixtures and added that all lighting options were dark sky compliant. Discussion ensued following the Decision Matrix for selection of lighting style, with each councilor providing comment and opinion regard their choice. Broberg moved to approve Option 2b with a GlassWerks light fixture, Candy Cane style arm without the scrolling, and North Yorkshire base, seconded by Neimes. Discussion continued, including costs and additional amenities of each style. Mike Stoffel, Ayres & Associates, included that in looking at survey results regarding arm style; if you look at the horizontal arm style, in general, vs the candy cane; more people prefer a horizontal arm. Anderson added that he felt an overall theme is important for the City. Tulowitzky asked if the branding survey results are available. The Mayor answered that result should be coming out at the end of the month. Novachek moved to table discussion until the June Meeting, seconded by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Bayfield County Resolution to form EMS Study Committee – The Mayor, and Council, discussed the purpose of this committee. Novachek moved to approve to approve the Bayfield Co. Resolution and participate on the EMS study committee, seconded by Anderson. Motion carried unanimously. Broberg added that the 2% budget increase cap on municipalities also effects the EMS, but that the County is not bound by a 2% cap.

Discussion & Action on Resolution #21-004 Requesting the Legislature Increase Funding for the Shared Revenue Program – McGrath moved to approve Resolution #21-004, seconded by Neimes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Special Event Request to Temporarily Restrict Parking on S. 2nd Ave W. and Harbor View Drive for North Coast Car Show on July 24, 2021 – Tammy DeMars, Petitioner – No discussion occurred. McGrath moved to approval the Special Event Request to temporarily restrict parking on S. 2nd Ave W. and Harbor View Drive for North Coast Car Show on July 24, 2021, seconded by Anderson. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Special Event Request to Temporarily Close Central Avenue from Bayfield Street to the Alley on Saturday, May 22 for Historic Preservation Celebration – Karen Novachek, Petitioner – No discussion occurred. McGrath moved to approve the Special Event Request to temporarily close Central Avenue from Bayfield Street to the alley on Saturday, May 22 for Historic Preservation Celebration, seconded by Tulowitzky. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Chamber of Commerce Use of Thompson’s West End Park, Memorial Park, Wikdal Park, and the Coal Dock; Closure of Portions of N. 3rd Ave. West and S. 4th Avenue West; and Relaxation of Open Container and Noise Ordinances all at Certain Times during Brownstone Block Party Activities July 23 through July 25, 2021 – No discussion occurred. McGrath moved to approve the request of the Chamber of Commerce use of Thompson’s West End Park, Memorial Park, Wikdal Park, and the Coal Dock; closure of portions of N. 3rd Ave. W and S. 4th Ave. W; and relaxation of open container and noise ordinances all at certain times during Brownstone Block Party activities July 23 through July 25, 2021, seconded by Neimes. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Notice of Annual Alcohol License Renewals – McGrath moved to authorize staff to begin the alcohol license renewals process, seconded by Novachek. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn – Motion to adjourn by Neimes, seconded by McGrath. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:29PM.

Tony Janisch, Assistant City Administrator

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 4:30pm

Committee Members Karen Spears-Novachek & Mary McGrath reviewed monthly expenditure vouchers.