

**City of Loretto**  
**Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting**  
**June 14, 2011**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Koch called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present: Mayor Kent Koch, Council members Clark Lohr, John Neumann, and Tom Pedersen. Member excused: Jeff Tepfer. Also present: City Clerk Cindy Patnode, Public Works Director Jeff Leuer, City Attorney Paula Callies, Planner Carie Fuhrman, Engineer Chad Isakson, Hennepin County Lieutenant Jeff Schlumpberger, and Medina Police Officer Kevin Boecker. There was one person in the audience.

**SET AGENDA**

The agenda was approved with the following change:

- move the Compost Site Update from under Informational to Action/Planning

**APPROVE MINUTES**

On a motion by Lohr, seconded by Neumann, to approve the May 10, 2011 Minutes as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

**MEDINA POLICE REPORT**

Officer Boecker updated the Council of activities in May, stating that they had increased enforcement for the seat belt campaign, otherwise, another relatively quiet month. No action taken.

**FEASIBILITY STUDY – RAILWAY/ST. JOHN STREETS – RESOLUTION 2011-13**

Attorney Callies informed the Council on the process of passing this Resolution. She stated the feedback at the public hearing from those affected will be used to help the Council determine whether they move forward with the project.

Engineer Isakson answered questions regarding the feasibility report for the Council.

Discussion summary:

Contaminated material, landfill, and trucking costs are all unknown at this time but placed at a high cost for preliminary numbers; easements, specifically the railroad easement for the storm water drainage, would look at negotiating since they have an assessment and has the existing storm water drain on it; value of land for determining easements; financing the project - bond for the work and then levy the city portion.

On a motion by Lohr, seconded by Neumann to approve Resolution 2011-13, A RESOLUTION RECEIVING FEASIBILITY REPORT AND CALLING FOR HEARING ON THE RAILWAY STREET AND ST. JOHN STREET IMPROVEMENT.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **SUPPORT NEW 911 COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY – RESOLUTION 2011-14**

Hennepin County Lieutenant Schlumpberger was at the meeting to request that the City Council pass a Resolution supporting their new 911 Communications Facility that is being proposed in the City of Plymouth due to the dated facility in Golden Valley.

On a motion by Neumann, seconded by Lohr, to approve Resolution 2011-14, A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING HENNEPIN COUNTY SHERIFF'S NEW REGIONAL 911 EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **WELLHEAD PROTECTION PROGRAM EVALUATION**

Patnode informed the Council of the meeting with the Mn Dept of Health official and MN Rural Waters representative regarding the Loretto Wellhead Protection Program.

On a motion by Lohr, seconded by Neumann, to accept the implementation meeting notes dated May 6, 2011 as submitted.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **LOCAL RESULTS AND INNOVATION**

On a motion by Neumann, seconded by Pedersen, to reply to the State Auditor that the City of Loretto will not participate in the voluntary Local Results and Innovation program.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **BACKFLOW ON SEWER PIPE**

Leuer informed the Council that the County will grant the city a variance to correct the backflow on the sewer pipe that runs under County Road 19 without having to have a steel casing.

Summary of discussion:

Gravity fed makes the difference instead of a force fed sewer line; Leuer has to apply for it on-line; the cost is back in line with the original proposal; current cost to flush it repeatedly is mostly time (one hour a month to blow it out with the fire hose); grease builds up in that area; the line will need to be repaired when Loretto hooks up to a permanent sewer line.

On a motion by Lohr, seconded by Koch, to direct the Public Works Director to move forward with contracting the engineering and design on the backflow of sewer pipe under County Road 19.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **MET COUNCIL SYSTEM STATEMENT**

The Council acknowledged receipt of the Systems Statement and the finding that Loretto is not affected by any of the Met Council's 2030 revisions.

### **EQUIPMENT SHARING AGREEMENT**

Attorney Callies will review the revised Equipment Sharing Agreement and notify staff if any major changes have been made. The Council approved this at the May meeting pending no significant changes.

## **COMPOST SITE UPDATE**

Mayor Koch informed the Council that he and Leuer have been working on the compost issue. The current plan is to work with business owner Gary Koecheler (on his most western property) on a temporary site. He is working on it as a community project with no cost to the city. The goal is to relocate to a permanent site at the Loretto sewer ponds in the future. Preliminary talks with Koecheler have been positive and a meeting with this group will ensue next week.

Koch was looking for support from the Council to approve negotiations that he works out with Koecheler to be able to open the compost site for residents prior to the July meeting. The majority of the Council felt that there were too many unanswered questions regarding this and would like an agreement for Council review at the July meeting.

## **REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (RAC) ITEMS**

### **Annual Report**

Planner Fuhrman summarized the past years accomplishments ~ obtaining a grant; completion of appraisals and market research studies; and design alternatives being created. More grants will be applied for that will require some type of monetary match and will be discussed further at budget workshops.

Fuhrman stated that this was her last meeting for the City of Loretto as she has taken a job with the City of Princeton. Her office is looking for a replacement for her. She is hopeful that the RAC continues on course to get this project to a reality.

Council thanked her for time in the city and her role in the RAC and wished her success in her new position.

### **New Member**

Resident Cari Girk has agreed to become a member of the RAC and will be formally appointed at the July City Council meeting.

### **Redevelopment Action Plan**

Lohr provided the Council with an updated (6/14/11) Redevelopment Action Plan. He reviewed the progress in more detail regarding the valuations and Market Research Study. He was seeking Council approval to post the information on the website for the public. RAC is applying for a grant that would allow for planning costs. More discussion will be made at the budget workshop on financial obligations for the RAC.

### **Minutes**

Council consensus was to accept the May 19, 2011 Redevelopment Minutes as submitted.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **Recycling Update**

April Incentive winners: Recycling – Spurzem family; Organic – Ihrke family.

May Incentive winners: Recycling – Pavlish family; Organic – Daniels family.

### **Axel's Outdoor Event**

Axel's is having an indoor/outdoor event on a Monday in September for the local Loram business. They will be arriving by steam train (approximately 250 people) from Minneapolis and unloading in Loretto.

It is unknown at this time if it will require any type of permitting by the City. They will submit their plans for police review.

### Sts. Peter & Paul School closing

Council acknowledged that the Academy of Sts. Peter and Paul School is closing down after 100 years of Catholic schooling. Planner Fuhrman informed the Council that any use, as long as an accessory to the church, would be fine (as there was mention of a daycare or early childhood program) as far as zoning compliance issues.

### Fun Fest Update

Lohr updated the Council on the progress of the Fun Fest and the renewed energy that has been shown. Sub-committees have been formed and the next meeting will be on Monday, June 20<sup>th</sup>. He requested city staff place the date on the Explore MN website to have Loretto be seen as a destination point with our different amenities (restaurants, bike path, Fun Fest).

Council member Pedersen suggested that the city have a city-wide garage sale in conjunction with the Fun Fest to get people into town. Lohr will bring that idea to the committee.

### Fire Contract Update

Lohr updated the Council on the fire department meeting and stated that negotiations are underway on calculating the fire contract for Loretto.

## **MONTHLY REPORTS**

### **City Hall**

No items brought forward.

### **Streets**

#### Dust Control

Leuer informed the Council that dust control will be applied on West Railway and St. John Streets in late June.

#### County Road 19

Vehicles parking along County Road 19 right up to street intersections have caused safety issues for cars pulling onto the County Road. The Police Chief and Public Works Director reviewed this issue after a close call was reported and the consensus was to stripe the areas along County Road 19 as per MN Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices.

### **Water**

#### Update of church water leak

The hydrant was leaking at the church fire hydrant and they've since shut off the water to the hydrant until it gets fixed.

More research is being conducted to locate the reason for overall water loss in the system. Lohr reported that he received a complaint regarding sprinkling at the ball fields during the day and Leuer also stated he received two calls on sprinkling complaints at the park.

#### Well house damage

Leuer informed the Council that a fire next to the well house melted some of the siding. There will be a cost to the City as it will come in lower than the deductible. The homeowner's insurance may pick up the cost (or a portion of the cost).

**\*\*\*The Planner was dismissed at 8:14 p.m.\*\*\***

### **Wastewater & Parks**

No items brought forward.

## **Storm water**

### **Meeting Updates**

Patnode reviewed the notes from the storm water meetings. She also requested that the Engineer review the Lake Sarah Implementation Plan and provide comments. Council consensus was to send the Lake Sarah Implementation Plan to the engineer for review and comments to be forwarded to the Pioneer Sarah Creek Watershed Commission.

### **Meadow Drive issues**

Leuer informed the Council of various water issues that are affecting Meadow Drive as the curbs and catch basins have been shifting, creating problems with the asphalt and drainage patterns. He stated that this could get expensive and extensive work may be needed. He will be getting a camera to look into the drains that were placed on the backside of the curbs in the early 2000's to see if any of them collapsed or are plugged up.

Council consensus was to have Leuer email them the status of the camera findings.

### **137 Creekview Lane issue**

Leuer informed the Council that the waterline that was damaged due to snowplowing has been corrected but it appears there are still water issues that are occurring at that address. He will update the Council on his findings.

### **Wetland Delineation Status**

Leuer informed the Council that he will be contacting the lowest bidder on the wetland delineation project and get that completed. He will then share the information with the cities of Corcoran and Medina when it's complete to discuss the next step for this project. Lohr requested Leuer to send him the RFP to forward it to a business (due date 6/17). Leuer stated the preliminary date of the work to be completed is the first week of July.

**\*\*\*\*\* The Attorney was dismissed at 8:31 p.m. \*\*\*\*\***

## **FINANCIAL**

### **June Bills**

There was a short discussion on the bills.

On a motion by Neumann, seconded by Lohr, to approve check #'s 880E-899E and 19407-19446 in the amount of \$90,495.48.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Monthly Balance Sheet**

Council reviewed the Monthly Balance Sheet.

No action taken.

## **ADJOURN**

On a motion by Neumann, seconded by Lohr, to adjourn at 8:36 p.m.

Motion carried unanimously.

## **ATTEST:**

---

Cynthia J. Patnode, City Clerk

---

Kent Koch, Mayor