

The January 12, 2015 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 p.m. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Tony Button, Amy Goplen, and Christine Bjornson. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITY GOVERNMENT ANNUAL REORGANIZATION: Administer Oath of Office to Christine Bjornson, Amy Goplen and Mayor Sandy Reichel: Clerk administered oath to all three. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to make commissioner appointments and designate the following to represent the city as recommended by the Mayor. Bjornson-Main, Acting Mayor & Sewer Commissioner; Reichel, Weed Inspector; Weinreich, Assistant Weed Inspector, Button, Street & Sidewalk Commissioner; Goplen, Municipal Buildings Commissioner; Bjornson, Park Commissioner. First National Bank of Milaca, Isle Branch & Northview Bank, Finlayson Branch, Depositories; Mille Lacs Messenger, Newspaper; Althoff & Nordquist LLC, Accountant; Kennedy & Graven Chartered and Mille Lacs County (MLC) Attorney's Office, Attorneys; Short Elliot Hendrikson (S.E.H) Inc., Engineers and Zoning Consultants; David Drown Associates Inc, Financial Advisors. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Button asked that more details be brought to 2/9 meeting relative to item E. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Bjornson to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

A) Meeting Minutes: 12/8 Council

B) City Hall Closed Mon. 1/19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

C) 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Beef Chili Cook Off & Community Input Meeting Sat. 1/24 @ Wahkon Inn

D) Joint Agreement to Provide City Attorney Services to the City of Wahkon by the Mille Lacs County (MLC) Attorney's Office: Continuation of Prosecution Services for 2015

E) Century Link Notice of Application for Authority to Provide Local Telephone Service:

F) League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) 2014 Property/Casualty Dividend Memo: Received \$1,091

G) 2015 IRS Standard Mileage Rate .575 Cents from .56: New Wahkon Rate

H) Charitable Gambling Report: 11/2014 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$241.61

I) Treasurer's Year End Unaudited Report Ending Balance \$605,420.67

J) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Reports

K) Checks #22792 Dated 12/10/14 through #22837 Dated 1/12/15 Total \$63,089.45

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Ordinance No. 2015-1 Regulating the Use and Maintenance of Streets, Alleys & Sidewalks: As directed, changes made to Section 6 "Winter Removal" allowing sandwich boards and/or other temporary signs during business hours. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to adopt Ordinance 2015-1 as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS: Sewer: Weinreich had to purchase four pump brackets for main lift station at \$600 each. One of the main pumps is being rebuilt; have loaner pumper as replacement. Having a spare pump that large isn't cost effective. We do have one spare pump that can be used in smaller lift stations.

Zoning Issue: Poshusta Unresolved Adverse Drainage Issue: Bjornson-Main is real estate agent for both properties affected, Bachman and Poshusta. She'll disclose to potential buyers the ongoing drainage issue, as will the clerk should anyone make inquiries. Adverse drainage from Poshusta to Bachman has not been resolved. Nothing can be done during winter.

Complaint List: Old School Apartments: Isle Fire & Rescue Co-Chief David Miller was present. City has received three letters from owner Roger Jorgenson, one threatens consulting attorney for slander. City sent second letter after deadline passed. Isle FD sent their own letter and received response specifically to Miller: "I am hereby informing you that you are not to trespass on the property... without direct permission from me. You are not allowed to have any agent of the complex show you around." Jorgenson referenced statement made by Miller about stairs feeling loose and that he doesn't have any credentials to know what he is talking about. Miller acknowledged the statement and at the same time informed Jorgenson that is why he would be working with deputy fire marshal that has inspection credentials. Complaint and first fire marshal meeting with city came together all at once. Isle FD has wanted an inspection for many years. Miller and State Fire Marshal Dan Beeson have discussed the issue and written documentation is key component to protecting city and FD liability. Mille Lacs County Sheriff Brent Lindgren has been informed of "no trespass" and stated that Miller, if paged by the County to respond to an emergency at the Old School Apts., has authority to do so.

Clerk contacted Jorgenson direct on 12/30 and asked if we could start over; two things city wants done: (1) replace missing garage door and (2) have a preplan inspection. Authority for fire inspections is granted by statute to Co-Chief Miller. Jorgenson informed clerk he has a garage door and will install it when weather warms up. Preplan inspection informs FD where utilities are in a building, floor plan, tenants that may need extra help in emergencies, etc. Building owners usually work cooperatively with FD on this. Can the city have a rental housing ordinance without adopting the building code? In past City has hired building inspector; one building was found hazardous and another wasn't. Is owner permission required? Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to have city attorney send letter requiring garage door installation and preplan fire inspection for the safety of tenants and emergency personnel. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Put on next month's agenda.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich hasn't done much plowing due to lack of snow and has plenty of sand/salt.

Roeschlein: Two bond payments are due 2/1 and a transfer is needed in order to maintain required balance of \$83,500 for refunding bond. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to transfer \$100,000 from Wastewater Operating Fund into Wastewater Emergency/Improvement Fund. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Exact payments will be transferred into each separate bond debt service fund and remaining money will stay in E/I Fund for future payments and/or use.

Kevin Schmidt of MnDOT wanted Wahkon to know about Isle getting new sidewalks in 2016 due to new 2% grade standard. He wants to follow up last fall's discussion with new information relative to partnership projects and 2016 center lane work. Full Main Street renovation with underground electric, boulevards, curb and gutter, etc.? Council and MnDOT have tentatively agreed to use undeveloped Meshigun Avenue, north of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street E for storm water holding area. Street Commissioner Button will check his schedule.

Button reiterated WAVE Chili Cook Off & community meeting. Prom dance 4/25 at Wahkon Inn, tickets available soon.

Bjornson attended LMC Newly Elected Training. She learned a lot and has a lot of questions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: New City Truck: Last month council approved purchase of 2014 Ford ¾ ton truck with plow with trade in for \$330,590. Weinreich believed quotes included all fees and taxes as he specifically instructed. Found out after meeting they didn't. He began quote process over and tried to keep within approved amount. Sales tax is applicable on truck but not attachments. Street Commissioner Button and Mayor Reichel were kept informed during the process. Three quotes: Dealer Connection, 2014 Ford \$32,024; Murphy Chevrolet, 2015 \$24,534; and Mora Chevrolet Buick, 2015 \$24,053.78. Went with lowest bid from Mora Chevrolet Buick for 2015 Silverado K2500 Pickup and issued the check. Need additional funds to outfit truck with plow, step & install, mud flaps & install, etc., approximately \$604. Quote from last month on 2014 Ford would have been \$32,050 including sales tax. Mora Chevrolet truck is less and one year newer. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen authorizing additional \$750 above the previously authorized \$30,590 for total \$31,340. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. New truck will be here soon.

Possible Purchase 160 2<sup>nd</sup> Street East, Wahkon, MN: (1) No Action (2) CIP Bonds & Special Election or (3) Lease-Purchase Transaction: Bond Counsel Memo 12/8/14 & Applicable Resolutions & Preliminary Agreements: Memo included estimated costs and revenues for property, lease versus bond/vote, along with five years of actual city building figures. Storage rental revenue was approximately 80% when operational, which would bring in \$13,152. Projected annual receipts less expenses for lease \$11,401 and bond \$10,401; difference is lower bond payment. Bond is eleven years at 3.8% and lease is ten years at 5.5%. One time disbursements for lease \$27,300 and \$15,500 for bond; cash contribution of \$10,400 on bond covers administration fees only, whereas \$23,000 on lease figures is 20% down payment. City special election cost estimated by dividing 2014 total election cost by two, \$1650. Investment of \$130,000 for a stronger and more secure building than what we have currently. Rental fees would offset payments, once paid they'd cover maintenance and upkeep. Goplen mentioned families aren't receiving raises and taxes are already difficult to pay. She correctly stated \$891 insurance estimate would increase based upon audited city expenses. Tax worksheet provided calculated \$10,000 increase to levy would translate to additional \$37.24 on \$150,000 home \$49.66 on \$200,000. Worksheet showed \$15,000 and \$20,000 levy increase effects too.

Would city sell current city property? No definite plans. FEMA storm shelter research relative to this property began back in 9/2013. When there is money available could install storm shelter. Refunding wastewater bonds saved city \$99,621. Do we need to replace current city hall, no, but it is a pole building and this is looking to the future. Will we have this opportunity again? Katy Radunz stated building has been on the market for about four years. Grant funds are slim. Petition asking for a vote had 23 signatures. If purchased with a bond a vote is needed; lease purchase vote isn't required. Property taxes could increase with either scenario. Pat Heinsen questioned if current building isn't good enough for office, why rent it out? Taking business away from Wahkon Inn. If relocated, possibly take clerk's office and rent it out as small meeting area and still have hall area for big rentals. Dale Bjornson stated Weinreich will have more buildings and grounds to maintain and clerk will have more paper work with rentals. Currently we hire part time person to mow; will we need more? Difficult to estimate those figures. Is 80% vacancy rate still applicable? Will call other storage businesses to see. Rob Dubs, owner of Mugg's of Mille Lacs stated cities are selling their liquor stores. It is hard for cities to be in private business. Goplen isn't ready to make a decision. Decision was delayed in December in order to have full new council involved.

Bjornson-Main asked audience why we shouldn't buy it. Not necessary; aesthetic purposes only. Maybe if city had plan to sell current building. As economy improves a viable business likely will purchase building increasing tax base. Taking away a real commercial business opportunity and taking risk on unknown expenses without gaining much. Can't afford it. Main Street restoration through MnDOT may happen in the future; costs will start piling up. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson to table possible land and building acquisition decision until next month. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: Initiative Foundation Contribution Request: Requesting \$250. Motion by Button to donate \$200 from Charitable Gambling Fund. Motion died for lack of a second. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to donate \$150 from Charitable Gambling Fund. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Street Closing, Community Parking Lot & Lake Access: Steve Reis scholarship snowmobile ride, Saturday 1/17 will lunch in Wahkon. Closing 2<sup>nd</sup> Street W would help direct snowmobilers into town. Motion by Bjornson, second by Goplen to close off necessary streets to direct snowmobilers safely in and out of town. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Street Commissioner Button and Weinreich will plan accordingly.

Tom Remer of Wahkon Inn is requesting use of community parking lot and MLDS snowmobile trail to lake for fishing contest in 12/2015. Need approval in order to begin planning. Motion by Goplen, second by Bjornson-Main to allow use of community parking lot and MLDS trail for 12/2015 fishing contest. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Resort Lease Agreements: Acting Mayor Bjornson-Main presided over this issue as Mayor Reichel owns Walleye Dundee's Resort. Current leases are five years and expire 2/8/15. Clerk didn't officially notify resort owners due to just beginning this process. If any changes are made they should be represented. Throughout last summer, Park Commissioner Button has done renovation work with other volunteers at Veterans Park and noticed the beach wasn't cleaned weekly as stated in the lease. Bjornson wasn't aware of this requirement and works for Island View Resort. Both resorts will make better effort on this. Insurance amendment was added to original lease on 6/2013 and will be incorporated into new lease. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to renew leases as is with Walleye Dundee's Resort and Island View Resort to use city property for another five years, expiring 2/8/2020. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, and Button. Abstain: Reichel. Motion carried. Remind them about weekly beach cleaning.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Button, second by Bjornson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The February 9, 2015 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Amy Goplen, Ronda Bjornson-Main, Tony Button, and Christine Bjornson. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Button to accept consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) Meeting Minutes: 1/12/15 Council Meeting
- B) Mayor Reichel Letter to Mille Lacs Messenger (MLM) & City of Isle Re: Pledge of Allegiance
- C) Initiative Foundation (I.F) Donation Thank You Email
- D) 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook Off & Community Meeting 1/24/15 Results Memo
- E) Century Link Notice of Application for Authority to Provide Local Telephone Service & Email Reply
- F) Proper Economic Resource Management (PERM) 2/3 Press Release Re: Bill to Guide DNR in Applying Constitutional Amendment to Rules Process
- G) MnDOT Notice: Hwy 169 Shoulder & Lane Closures in Vineland 2/9-27
- H) Lake Mille Lacs Area (LMLA) Job Fair 4/7 @ Holy Cross Center 12:30 – 4:30 pm
- I) City Hall Closed 2/16 Presidents' Day
- J) Charitable Gambling Reports: 12/2014 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$276.88 & \$1465 to WAVE Volunteers @ Mugg's Meat Raffle; Onamia Lions 11/2014 Zero & 12/2014 \$55.02
- K) 2015 Summary Budget Statement
- L) 2014 Report of Outstanding Indebtedness
- M) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$486,426.51
- N) Tax Settlement Report \$5723.16
- O) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Reports
- P) Checks #1057 Dated 1/13/15 through #EP0615 Dated 2/9/15 Total \$321,403.64; Less Transfer Total \$122,437.39

REPORTS: Wastewater: One pump was sent to Braun Pump for possible repair and a loaner pump installed in main lift station. Pump must be rebuilt, approximately \$5,000, while a rebuilt pump with one year warranty would be \$6,000, plus install and mileage \$7100. Brand new pump is about \$12,000. Loaner pump went down Sunday and thankfully Braun was coming back Monday. Weinreich had rebuilt pump with warranty installed, which is pulling more amperage and seems to work better than our own. Old Chicago pumps seem to need rebuilding every couple of years; used to be \$3,500 now \$5,000 without warranty. At least one base elbow is cracked in Main lift station, which must be replaced prior to spring thaw; 2005 new ones were installed. Weinreich ordered two elbows, approximate cost of \$6,000 including labor. Will need bypass too. Weinreich won't replace both if the other is functioning and Braun can take second elbow as inventory. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to approve \$13,100 for main lift station repairs including rebuilt pump with warranty and possible replacement of two elbows. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Old School Apartments: Owner Roger Jorgenson was present and questioned why Isle FD needs to inspect? He doesn't have much confidence in Miller. City wants everyone safe. Garage door opening will be made smaller and door installed when weather warms up. Jorgenson has been on Maple Grove

FD for 16 years. It was suggested he deal directly with Deputy State Fire Marshal Dan Beeson as an inspector. He installed new windows, ones in the back are egress, and front ones aren't exactly as they were windows he had available. There are problems. Fire code is different than building code. Does fire code supersede? Would they close him down? Fire escapes don't hit the ground due to possible theft access. FD should conduct preplan inspection to know where utilities are so they don't go in blind during an emergency. Jorgenson should call Beeson to ask specific questions. Preplan usually consists of the fire crew so everyone sees it. He'd be ok with that possibility. City doesn't want to lose housing. Conversion of a very old building is his concern. He has done a lot of improvements, which Bjornson has seen firsthand. He also reiterated his invitation for any councilmember to visit the apartments.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich mentioned meeting with Kevin Schmitz of MnDOT relative to Main Street along with Button and Roeschlein. Isle will get new sidewalks in 2016 due to Olmstead lawsuit requiring 2% instead of 3% slope along with reshaping highway crown. Federal lawsuit changed ADA standards. Wahkon is ok for now. DOT will install sidewalk handicap ramps along with 2016 resurfacing of center 24' at their cost; city could share cost of resurfacing parking lane. They'll still install sidewalk at Dale Gieski but won't install storm water runoff area as previously discussed upon undeveloped portion of Meshigun Avenue. Future could include Main Street full reconstruct in 2021. DOT would give us concept design; formal agreements would need to be signed, etc. Usual practice is 90/10 split, however due to extra width, city percentage may be higher. We should have more figures by budget time.

CenterPoint Energy Community Grant: Matching grant up to \$2500 for community safety. Two possible items to purchase would be \$2000 defibrillator and \$700 four gas meter for wastewater. Clerk will bring more info to next meeting.

Streets: Button will contact blacktopping professionals for their expertise on street maintenance in order to plan for future repairs and budget accordingly. Some need more work than others.

Quorum: Reichel reminded councilmembers that WAVE Committee does city business and to be cautious of having quorum at their meetings. Need to keep City and WAVE separate as well as Clerk's time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Possible Purchase 160 2<sup>nd</sup> Street East, Wahkon, MN: (1) No Action (2) CIP Bonds & Special Election or (3) Lease-Purchase Transaction: Bond Counsel Memo 12/8/14 & Applicable Resolutions & Preliminary Agreements: Reichel explained how this has been ongoing for over a year and apologized for being short however the same questions and debate is frustrating. The only thing she has left to offer is that should a motion be made she'll vote on it. Resident Wayne Chester phoned Clerk requesting she convey to council "If it comes to a vote, please have it 5/1 or later for snowbird participation." Bjornson-Main questioned if all city activities could be conducted from new location, thus opening up possibility to sell current property. Weinreich didn't think so, but at minimum detached garage items could be stored in new location. Citizen Don Drabant mentioned to clerk Wahkon old fire hall could be rented to Isle as they need more space. Goplen has been polling people's opinions with majority stating it isn't in our best interest to buy. Some feel if new government building is needed we should tear down existing and rebuild on current land. Things are turning around and hopefully a business will buy it. If we want to continue we should vote. Bjornson has heard much of the same comments. Pro and cons both ways but not a necessary purchase at this time. Button and Bjornson-Main have nothing more to add. Previous property owner Gary Larson was present. Can't

afford overhead this will create. As business owner we pay enough taxes and this would reduce the tax base. If we need a city hall do it upon property we already own. Understand idea to use storage unit rental fees to offset bond payments; however you're placing city employees in terrible position dealing with upset rental unit customers, including weekends. Additional information included tonight was provided by Button detailing high rate of occupancy in the area and need for more storage units. No motions were made for or against. Council agreed with Mayor that due to lack of motion, issue dies. Clerk to notify Spire Credit Union immediately so they can relist property.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mille Lacs Realty/David Olson Properties Letter & Memo: Olson Apartments property is for sale encompassing four separate parcels. Questioning options should they sell separately and requesting extra tenant parking area no longer be required. "The 3 units consist of 6 bedrooms and there is ample space for parking parallel with the building as well as a currently unused garage space if more space were ever needed." Newer non-conforming laws allow parcels with 66% of the width and area be allowed to be sold and improved upon if they are connected to city sewer and don't exceed 25% impervious. All four parcels have been separate for a long time. Originally, Lots 7 & 8 held a store and bait shop, later converted into three apartments by Olson. City required Olson to install tenant parking area on Lots 5 & 6 due to snowplowing issues. Later tenants began parking parallel upon the 10' vacated portion of Chippewa, which has worked per Weinreich. Parking lot is no longer plowed for tenant use. Olson supplied memo and maps of area. Lot 1 area calculations include highway right of way (ROW). Mayor and Weinreich looked at property today. New owners wouldn't be able to build solely upon Lot 1 due to hill and highway ROW. If they also own Lots 2 & 3, no zoning decisions would be made until combined, creating a buildable lot of record. Olson doesn't want to combine properties and create paperwork at this time. Motion by Goplen, second by Bjornson to relinquish requirement of separate parking area upon Lots 5 & 6 for Olson Apartment tenants due to ongoing evidence over past few years that parallel parking is working favorably during winter months. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Abstain: Bjornson-Main. Motion carried.

Charitable Gambling (CG) Fund Memo: Memo error, 2105 should be 2015. CG Fund receives 10% of all profits from organizations doing business in Wahkon, which can only be used for certain expenses; park improvements, donations to 501(c)(3), relieving effects of poverty, scholarships, etc. 2014 annual report to State had \$2698.99 in expenditures with a balance of \$4907.96 at year end. State recommends not having a huge balance unless saving for a particular project. Receipts over the years have been increasing.

Nay Ah Shing Upper School/Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Washington D.C. Trip Donation Request Letter: Amanda Sorby was present. Eight students, one from Wahkon, to take part in Close Up Foundation's civic education program, a great educational experience to meet with senators, learn about Native American history, attend meetings, and a stop in New York. Cost is \$2600 per student; they've raised \$8000 since September through garage and bake sales, etc. Casino donates to many causes, Wahkon being one appreciative recipient, but they ask students to make fund raising effort. Students received \$1000 from one department and if more is needed the school will ask the casino. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to donate \$250 to Close Up Foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, from CG Fund toward Wahkon student's D.C. trip. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Mille Lacs County (MLC) Housing Needs Executive Summary Financial Request: MLC Community Development Coordinator requesting financial support for summary of 418 page East Central Regional Housing Study that could be given to potential developers. Cost \$500 to be split between Princeton, Milaca, Wahkon and MLC, \$125 each. Clerk has developer awaiting the summary. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to contribute \$125 toward housing summary report through CG Fund. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

MLM Progress Edition Honor Roll Ad: Motion by Bjornson, second by Goplen to run honor roll ad, "Wahkon 108 years" in Messenger only for \$30. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Vehicle Insurance Memo: Old city truck had liability insurance only, thus no deductible. New city truck was added with \$250 deductible until July renewal; no extra charge until new coverage period. We'll check costs closer to renewal. City of Isle carries \$1000 deductible without glass. Need to add newly installed monolith at Veterans Park on policy. Goplen made note to add monolith as she works for Oberfeld Insurance, city agency.

Open Forum: Beverly Jost asked if she needed anything from the city to combine two properties into one. Nothing from the City but county requires all taxes be paid in full prior to combining.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Button, second by Bjornson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The March 9, 2015 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Amy Goplen, Ronda Bjornson-Main, and Tony Button. Councilmember Christine Bjornson was absent. Clerk Karrie Roeschlein was present. Meeting began with the pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Make sure to get word out about clean-up day, item J. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to accept the consent agenda as written. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) Meeting Minutes: 2/9 Council
- B) Proper Economic Resource Management (PERM) “DNR Does Not Need to Consider Constitution’s Hunting Fishing Heritage Amendment”
- C) Foothills Animal Rescue of MN/Finding Hope Animal Rescue Team Donation Thank You
- D) Re-Membering Matters at Mille Lacs Community Meeting Invitation @ Rolf Olsen Center 4 – 6 pm Tues. 3/10 Re: Alzheimer’s & Dementias
- E) Lake Mille Lacs Job Fair Tues. 4/7 @ Holy Cross Church 12:30 – 4:30 pm
- F) Wahkon Days Committee Monthly Meeting 4 pm Mon. 4/6
- G) Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) Monthly Meeting 4 pm Tues. 4/7
- H) Mille Lacs Area Health Foundation Info & Save The Date Annual Spring Fling Fundraiser @ Appeldoorn’s Sunset Bay Resort Fri. 4/24
- I) WAVE Formal Prom @ Wahkon Inn 8 pm – Midnight Sat. 4/25
- J) Wahkon Clean-Up Day 8 – 11 am Sat. 5/2
- K) City Website Memo: Holly O’Neil New Contractor
- L) Charitable Gambling Reports: 1/2015 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$393.39; Onamia Lions \$35.43
- M) Treasurer’s Report Ending Balance \$469,208.50
- N) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- O) Checks #22871 Dated 2/10 through #EP1015 Dated 3/9 Total \$28,361.66
- P) Representative Sondra Erickson & Senator Dave Brown Town Hall Meeting @ Mugg’s of Mille Lacs Sat. 3/14 @ 11:30 am
- Q) Annual Mille Lacs County (MLC) Local Weed Management Training Tues 3/31 @ Zion Lutheran Church 1 – 3 pm

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution No. 20150309 “Declining to Issue Bonds Under the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)”: At 2/9 council meeting no motions were made for or against purchasing land and buildings at 160 2<sup>nd</sup> Street E for city hall and public works facility so council concluded the issue died. Resolution should be adopted in order to properly document what occurred. The City will not move to hold a special election on the issuance of general obligation bonds under the CIP, nor will they propose to finance the acquisition for a period of 365 days, per MN Statute Section 475.521. Property is back on the market. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to adopt Resolution No. 20150309. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 20150309A “Supporting Dedicated State Funding for City Streets”: League of MN Cities (LMC) requested cities adopt this. Street Commissioner Button has been contacting representatives and senators that rural areas need funding too, not just metro area. Bring concern to upcoming town hall meeting. Cities are unable to address growing needs. For every dollar spent on maintenance, taxpayers save seven dollars in repairs. “Wahkon supports an omnibus transportation

funding bill that provides additional dedicated state funding for city streets including funding that can be used for non-MSA (Municipal State Aid) city street maintenance, construction and reconstruction.” Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to adopt Resolution No. 20150309A. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 20150309B “A Resolution in Support of Legislation Establishing an Early Voting Process for Voters in Minnesota”: Another resolution supported by the LMC. Currently MN allows no-excuse absentee voting by mail or in-person. Early voting would allow voters to place voted ballot in ballot tabulator reducing risk of voter errors and reducing administration costs. Intent is to still have both processes but hope to reduce mail in ballots that must be processed at a later date. Mail in ballots can be marked as unaccepted for many reasons and there may not be time to resubmit, while an invalid ballot is automatically returned to voter to correct if they want via the tabulator. “Wahkon hereby supports legislation establishing an early voting process...” Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to adopt Resolution No. 20150309B. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Wahkon’s Web Page Policy: Modified City of Princeton’s policy as a means to deal with companies wanting free advertising on city website. Don’t want website visitors overwhelmed with superfluous information. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to adopt Web Page Policy. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS: Wastewater: Weinreich wasn’t present but gave update to Mayor who informed council that new truck windshield was replaced for \$290 due to plowed snow flying up on the hood. Per plow manufacturer that is normal. Grit got under wipers causing permanent marks on both sides. He fastened rubber mat to middle of plow deflecting snow to help prevent future issues. Insurance deductible is \$250.

Old School Apartments: Deputy Fire Marshal Dan Beeson confirmed today that owner Roger Jorgenson didn’t call. Council requested he do so to have his questions answered about a pre-plan inspection. Attorney drafted letter gave 2/28 as deadline. Council hopes Beeson will try to make phone contact. Clerk to send another letter. Until resolved this matter will be on the agenda.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Button is getting ready for road maintenance season. Anderson Brothers is having a street conference giving maintenance information. After some discussion it was decided to have Veterans Park re-dedication ceremony on 5/16 Armed Forces Day. Paver orders deadline is 4/1. Prom dance tickets can be purchased from WAVE members or at the door.

NEW BUSINESS: Onamia Senior Dining Center Donation Request: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to donate \$100 to Onamia Senior Dining Center from Charitable Gambling Fund. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

MN Rural Water Assoc. (MRWA) Annual Fee: Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to renew MRWA membership, annual fee \$250 from General Fund, \$25 equipment fund contribution and \$10 Lyle Trautman Scholarship Fund donation both from Charitable Gambling Fund; total \$285. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) Property Coverage: Goplen inquired what was covered and for how much, particularly new park amenities. Clerk reviewed previous policies and noted overcharge for lift stations. One year we were correctly charged for six and for the next three years there were seven. Overpaid \$123 over three policy periods, of which LMCIT will reimburse two years for \$76. Need to decide on item replacement values. Oberfeld Insurance has replacement estimate cost program we can utilize. Per Braham Monument, monolith itself cost \$16,476 but should it be damaged it must be fully replaced, approximately \$30,000 or more, same with granite bench. Closer to renewal check on actual insurance cost per items and inform council.

LMCIT Workers' Compensation Renewal: Volunteers have been covered for a few years now, \$75 and medical benefit can be added for \$34. Goplen will be involved as council liaison for insurance review. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to continue with 2% agent compensation and regular premium, and to add volunteer medical benefit. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

2015 Wahkon Days 8/13 – 16: Street, Alley & Launch Closures & Waive Noise Ord. Section 92.18: Motion by Button, second by Goplen to close 2<sup>nd</sup> Street E on 8/13 from 7 pm to midnight per Mugg's request, 8/15 close 2<sup>nd</sup> St. E from Hwy to Meshigun Ave, Block 9 alley, portion of Block 16 alley, 1<sup>st</sup> St. W, Hill St, and Chippewa Ave; 8/16 close boat launch; and waive Noise Ordinance Section 92.185 for city annual celebration 8/13-8/16. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Clerk instructed to notify citizens of street dances on all three nights from 8/13-8/15 upon their 7/1 wastewater bill.

Open Forum: Clerk stated draft zoning ordinance from attorney is ready for council review. Council scheduled special meeting for Mon. 3/23 at 6 pm.

Dale Matte: Corrected Clerk that Isle Area Lions donates to Wahkon Senior Dining, not Onamia Lions. Messenger's "The Guide" in error kept Dale Matte as current councilmember and Ronda Bjornson-Main was removed. New councilmembers Goplen and Christine were added. Messenger Editor Shauna Tetrault stated there were many errors.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to adjourn. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The March 23, 2015 Special Meeting of the Wahkon City Council was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Amy Goplen, and Tony Button. Councilmember Christine Bjornson was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present. This special meeting was called by the Mayor and was properly posted. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW DRAFT ZONING ORDINANCE: Council reviewed full draft zoning ordinance. Clerk will get changes, corrections, additions to city attorney promptly. Some of the issues discussed were:

- Maximum height remains at 25'. MLC may increase from 30' to 40'
- Average gable height definition from DNR was clarified. "The average height of the highest gable will be determined by adding all of the gable heights on the building and dividing that number by the number of gables."
- Adverse drainage clause from current ordinance needs to be added. "It shall be the responsibility of the property owner to rectify any and all problems derived from the permitted work for a period not to exceed ten years in order to ascertain that above average rainfalls can be handled in a manner as not to adversely affect adjacent properties."
- Remove 1500 maximum total area of accessory structures. Impervious restrictions already limit over building and such structures help keep property blight free.
- Keep verifiable survey marker within 300 feet but add Zoning administrator may ask council to decide whether a survey is required if he is unable to accurately ascertain setbacks due to outlots, degrees of angle, etc.
- Add current penalty of five times the fee for not obtaining proper permit.
- Change CUP requirements that if the business changes a revised CUP is required or if they never had one.
- Fish houses/RVs: Maximum of two, one of each or two RV's or two fish houses, per property, which can be used for occasional sleeping without a certificate of compliance. People use them for overflow visitors, grandkids, etc.
- Bay windows that protrude beyond the roof line would require permit. It doesn't change the footprint upon the ground but does change aerial print.
- Allow RV camping with annual permit for up to five years in order to allow people to develop their property.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Button, second by Goplen to adjourn. Ayes: Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The April 13, 2015 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Christine Bjornson, Tony Button, Amy Goplen, and Ronda Bjornson-Main. Employee Karrie Roeschlein was present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Button to accept consent agenda as written, second by Bjornson. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) Meeting Minutes: 3/9 Council & 3/23 Special
- B) Blandin on Broadband
- C) Mille Lacs County (MLC) Executive Summary from the East Central Regional Housing Collaborative 2/2015
- D) Wahkon Senior Dining Welcomes Everyone!
- E) Lions Club of Isle MN Donation to Wahkon Senior Dining \$1200
- F) Onamia Senior Dining/Catholic Charities Donation Thank You
- G) Nay Ah Shing Student Washington D.C. Trip Donation Thank You
- H) MLC Assessor's Informational Meeting Wed. 4/22 @ 10 am, Milaca
- I) Mille Lacs Area Health Foundation Info & Save The Date Annual Spring Fling Fundraiser @ Appeldoorn's Sunset Bay Resort Fri. 4/24
- J) WAVE Formal Prom \$10 @ Wahkon Inn 8 pm – Midnight Sat. 4/25
- K) Wahkon Clean Up Day 8 – 11 am Sat. 5/2
- L) Wahkon Day Meeting Mon. 5/4 @ 4 pm
- M) WAVE Meeting Tues. 5/5 @ 4 pm
- N) MLC 2015 Board of Review Schedule in Milaca: Wahkon Properties: Fri. 5/8 & Fri. 5/15
- O) Veterans Park Rededication Sat. 5/16 @ 11 am & Request for MN Air National Guard Fly Over
- P) Charitable Gambling Reports: 2/2015 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$0; Onamia Lions \$60.55
- Q) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$462,047.45
- R) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- S) Savage Communications Franchise 2014 Report \$2,282.58
- T) Checks #22912 Dated /10 through #22951 Dated 4/13 Total \$35,107.50

REPORTS: 2014 Financial Statements & Independent Auditor's Report & Management Letter: Carl Althoff of Althoff & Nordquist, LLC: Auditor wasn't present due to Clerk error, as this was to be presented after tax season at the May meeting. Motion by Goplen, second by Bjornson that the 2014 audit and financial statements were received. Motion carried unanimously.

Zoning: Poshusta was unable to attend meeting. Roof drains have been connected to drain tile. He sent pictures showing drainage from Bachman property across front part of his property. Not complaining, but want council aware water flows both ways. Poshusta is having sewer problems again. His line is connected with Bachman and goes out to Maple Lane. Sewer permit will be obtained for repair work. Per Poshusta shed/fish house will be removed by 6/1. Tabled until next month.

Demolition & Sample Permit: Is this something Wahkon wants? Don't want to decide without input from Weinreich. Sample is a little extravagant. Simply form to verify owner made necessary contacts & include check list.

Complaints: Hein, Anderson & Hein Properties: Letter mailed to all three property owners abutting Radisson Avenue regarding increased traffic, ruts in right of way and private property, trees being cut from private property, ATVs and vehicles not staying on blacktop, etc. Matson Hein never signed for his letter but his mother Shaye Vansel-Hein contacted clerk. Letter was forwarded to her and she had planned on attending meeting. No one was present. Shawn Anderson and Abel Hein did sign for their letters. Matson's friend, Ozzie Miller spoke to Button and Weinreich and didn't realize they were on street right of way or cutting dead trees off private property. What are their intentions for the property? Ruts are pretty deep on Radisson and there is an 8' fire pit. Weinreich to check on right of way condition to see if ruts were filled. They are ruining Radisson, which is their only access; no one else uses it.

Old School Apts: City of Isle & State Fire Marshal office are verifying jurisdiction and code application for this inspection in Wahkon. Jorgenson did speak to Deputy Fire Marshal Dan Beeson, but in his 4/2 reply to city he felt his questions went unanswered. No inspection date was set. Reply stated warmer weather needed to fix cement in garage prior to installing door. Believes City should only be concerned with fire escapes, which he offered solutions & egress windows on lower level shouldn't be problem as apartments have two exits. He'll contact Isle FD.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Clerk Roeschlein thanked council and the community for their support of prayers, food, and kind words during the tragedy of losing her mother-in-law Marjorie Roeschlein, age 94, in a fire at her home on their property 4/6.

Button: WAVE Prom 4/25. Highway clean-up will be 4/29 at 4 pm instead of 4/22 due to conflicts. Finish landscaping at Veterans Park once it dries. Need to clean up beach. Check with DNR & SWCD. Mayor was approached by Fran Weiers requesting input as to portable toilet location; don't want it where it was last year. Button & Bjornson will contact him. Rededication ceremony will be 5/16. Jake Shetka made request for a military fly over. Bjornson-Main will help read the 150 names of Veterans' pavers.

Roeschlein: Became aware a park model was brought in next to a residence on South Main owned by Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. Clerk to investigate further and send letter if necessary.

NEW BUSINESS: Meshigun Point Properties Townhomes: Chip Frederickson was present to request permission to erect gate within Bennett Street right of way (ROW) in same area as other utilities. Townhome owners would like privacy. People drive in and turn around all the time believing the street goes through. Gate would be access for owners only, marina will have separate access. There will be ROW for others to turn around. Gate sample was given to council and will open into their area. Button suggested gate should go up out of the way so drivers won't back into it. Motion by Button, second by Goplen authorizing Chip Frederickson of Meshigun Point Townhomes to erect a gate in Bennett Street easement at his cost. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Bennett Street Blacktop: Chip's grandfather Wendell Frederickson was known as the blacktop mayor and according to Chip he likely paid for the blacktop that is currently on Bennett. At that time it was mostly used by four wheelers and golf carts and the base was never done properly. "No doubt our project did damage." Rand Severson of Hard Drives gave quote for blacktop on his private drive and also on Bennett. City cost of \$6058, including tar and base. Weinreich suggested cul-de-sac for easier

plowing. Quote from Randy Larson to remove and replace base plus blacktop by Hard Drives to install 30' circumference cul-de-sac doubled cost to \$12,500; double the area as well. Schneider Lawn & Landscape will address drainage issue by installing drainage swell 2' deep between unconstructed lot and 434 Bennett Street at Frederickson's cost of \$8566.26. Arborvitae were planted two years ago as buffer. Water from property and street will not directly drain to lake. Council discussed blacktop budget. Needs aren't known yet until frost is out. Many other areas need tar. Mobilization costs would be less if city used same contractor as Frederickson. Project has more townhomes to build over the next few years. Would adhere to road restrictions and developers agreement states they must make repairs for any damage. Project has all underground utilities in. Council agreed to wait until Weinreich and Button can ascertain blacktopping needs. Tabled until next month. Frederickson confirmed he isn't removing pervious pavers.

Button: Cost to replace blacktop relative to force main repair at LS #5 should be charged to Wastewater Fund.

Resort Sewer Usage Rates & Island View Resort Memos: Jeff Eye of J&J's Resort was present. Mayor Reichel relinquished meeting to Acting Mayor Bjornson and went into audience to discuss as Walleye Dundee's resort owner. Resort business has fallen dramatically over the years. Both resorts are more empty than full as reservations are way down. Fishing restrictions over the years and recession haven't helped and they are requesting relief.

Tim Pater of Island View Resort sent detailed memo with occupancy. "In 2014 they have hit an all time low comparatively to the previous five years, and in just two years went down over -38% compared to our high in 2012. I also feel the trend will continue until the lake recovers." He would support \$25 disconnect fee for unoccupied RV sites & \$25 reconnect when occupied to cover city employee's time to verify. He is requesting reduction of two .5 (half) sewer usage fees; fish house only has one sink and one small restroom with only a toilet, no shower. Also suggests changes to Ordinance 2007-1 to address these types of amenities and implementing a program giving discounts to sewer systems that have been tested and found in compliance. Bjornson stated she removed one bag of fish guts last year.

What about snowbird residents & MLIR? Install meters? City should help businesses keep going as they bring people to town and pay higher taxes. Would an engineer have these figures? Maintenance of sewer system is year round. Have inflow & infiltration problems in city and MLIR. Hotel just added new living quarters for their manager. Meters can be expensive. How do we account for infiltration from ground with meter on private well? Clerk has been hearing more complaints since sewer bill went over \$100; currently \$100.80 for one residence per quarter. Financial consultant advised 5% annual increase to sewer fees and council went with 3%. Council will review budget to see if usage fees could be held as is. City saved \$97,000 when they did bond refunding. Check with MN Rural Water Assoc. (MRWA) for comparisons of RV & cabin usage versus residential. Also check with other cities that only have wastewater utility to see what they do.

Isle Fire Dept. Contract for Fire Service: Council is very happy with their services and for keeping their budget down. City fire protection rates have remained the same for several years. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Bjornson to renew annual fire protection contract with Isle Fire Dept. beginning March 1, 2015. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Outdoor Warning Siren Best Practice Recommendation: Email complaint received from hunter whose family stayed at hotel and were rudely awakened by fire siren at 10 pm indicating curfew. Memo included what other cities do, what businesses thought of the siren and best practice recommendations adopted 2/2015 by the Association of MN Emergency Managers (AMEM). Best practice is to use siren for emergencies only. "In siren fatigue, people have become numb to siren sounds and their attention is no longer secured when a siren goes off." MLC Emergency Director Al Fjerstad supports implementation of best practices recommendations. It is part of our history, but maybe there is no longer a need. Used for curfew when there were lots of children in town and was the means in which we knew the siren was broken. Now MLC controls test on first Wednesday of the month. City of New Auburn example is valid, wherein the siren went off at regular time of 6 pm and then a storm came through at 6:30 activating the siren again; citizens called complaining it went off twice. Thankfully the storm wasn't bad as people didn't take it seriously. City of Isle has discontinued their siren for anything but severe weather. No one enforces curfew. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to discontinue having the siren sound at 10 pm. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, and Button. Opposed: Goplen and Reichel. Motion carried. Clerk to email hunter with decision.

CenterPoint Energy Community Partnership Grant: They sent email requesting application for safety equipment and such. Clerk provided quote for multi-gas breathing apparatus \$705 and defibrillator with wall cabinet \$2007.75. If grant is awarded, city matches 50% of cost or \$1356.38, which can be paid for from Charitable Gambling Fund. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to submit grant application to CenterPoint Energy. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Mille Lacs Messenger Fun Guide ½ Page Ad: Welcome to Wahkon ad advertises events and is sponsored by several businesses, including City and WAVE. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main that the City & WAVE will participate again this year in Welcome to Wahkon ad in Messenger Fun Guide. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Thus far there are 12 sponsors to split \$899 cost.

Open Forum: Pat Heinsen questioned how many blacktopping quotes city obtains. As many as possible; letter sent to at least four companies. Burning restrictions are still on.

Bjornson-Main: Soo Line Trail is a wonderful for ATVs and we welcome them to our businesses but our city streets shouldn't be used for racing. Earlier their noise disrupted the council meeting as ATVs raced by. Clerk to research current ordinance. Some ATVs have loud racing mufflers. They shouldn't be disturbing the peace of residents. For something to be done do we call 911? Video tape them? Do they need to know who is driving? Heinsen mentioned a Harley Davidson motorcycle near her is loud and obnoxious too. We do have noise restrictions. Clerk to send letters to those she is aware of having such ATVs giving them ordinance restrictions and forewarning that neighbors may call 911. Messenger story of meeting will mention issue.

Button: WAVE Committee is considering building trails per citizens input at community meetings over the years. Field Street, an undeveloped paper street, is 33' abutting the east corporate limits. Believe there is an additional 33' on Isle Harbor Township side. Field Street would be best place to start trail system. Survey was conducted on Field Street portion abutting the lake only; remaining street extends to Hwy 27. Optimum scenario would be for trail to access Soo Line Trail for walkers, bikers, and skiers only. Button will attend I.H. Township meeting to discuss Field Street and to see if they'd be willing to split survey cost. Bev Jost believes mound system upon Dorothy Greely's property now owned by Olson may be located upon Field Street easement.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The May 11, 2015 Wahkon Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Tony Button, Amy Goplen, and Christine Bjornson-Main. Employees Chris Weinreich & Karrie Roeschlein were present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Goplen, second by Bjornson-Main to approve the consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) Meeting Minutes: None
- B) Act on Alzheimer's Action Communities Grant Proposal Support
- C) Fishing Opener Media Attention: Stay Positive for Business Sake
- D) LG220 MN Lawful Gambling Exempt Permit: Sacred Heart Church (SHC) Bazaar 8/9
- E) Veterans Park Rededication Sat. 5/16 @ 11 am
- F) 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Adopt-A-Shoreline Program 9 am – 3 pm Sun. 5/17
- G) Wahkon Day Meeting Mon. 6/1 @ 4 pm
- H) WAVE Meeting Tues. 6/2 @ 4 pm
- I) Mille Lacs County (MLC) Household Hazardous Waste Collection @ Public Works Building in Wahkon 3 – 7 pm Thurs. 6/4
- J) Charitable Gambling Reports: 3/2015 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$281.94
- K) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$465,962.69
- L) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- M) Checks #22952 Dated 4/20 through #22982 Dated 5/8 Total \$27,006.08

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution #20150511 "Accepting Donation Toward Veterans Park Renovation Project": Dan Peterson donated \$1,000 toward Veterans pavers for those financially unable to purchase one. "As a Marine Corp veteran I appreciate very much the recognition you are bringing to the Wahkon and other area veterans. I recently came across your project site and brochure box describing it and could not be more impressed. Thanks for a job well done and to all those that have served." Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to adopt Resolution #20150511. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Council expressed their thankfulness for his generosity.

REPORTS: Wastewater: Weinreich: One base elbow was repaired on main lift station. Sludge in pipe to pond was removed to ensure force main continues functioning properly. Pump is down, must be rebuilt or purchase new with warranty, approximately \$4,000. Quote to rebuild is pending, approximately 75% of new price. Rip rap work at ponds is promptly needed, approximately four hours of back hoe work. Council agreed.

Poshusta & Bachman share a sewer connection and upon Poshusta purchasing his property a utility easement was signed. Poshusta has had sewer problems and a new separate line was installed. Weinreich directed contractor Septic Check to stay within the 10' utility easement and seed the area. Bachman informed Mayor Reichel he wasn't notified. Poshusta informed Clerk he called twice; not sure if he left message. Clerk to send letter giving details of what transpired. Weinreich did all he could to ensure Bachman was protected as best as possible. Bachman may find he has issues with the old line that now only serves his residence.

Zoning: New Permit: Bjornson-Main 10'x12' shed at 121 Meshigun Ave N.

Complaints: Hein: Received letter of reply from Abel Hein & Shawn Anderson. Abel removed RV from his property in 2011 and has been back only a few times. They have no idea what is going on and are not responsible for any damages. Suggested Sheriff's Dept. be contacted should issues continue.

Old School Apts: Still working to set up an inspection by Isle Fire Dept. Give another 30 days.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich will contact Ken Zyke of DNR about beach weed removal at park. Button and Weinreich will assess blacktopping needs. Only one leak remains in hall affecting one window; he has another plan of attack.

Button: Please inform WAVE Committee of anyone unable to afford a veteran's paver. There are ten free pavers available due to generous donation from Peterson. Upcoming Veterans Park rededication ceremony is 5/16 where 180 names will be read. Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD) is deriving a plan of action for beach erosion and highway drainage flowing into the lake. For kids' safety, beach weeds should be removed as there is debris from winter fishing. Resorts also want to know what they are allowed to do.

Roeschlein and Button will attend 5/14 Isle Harbor (I.H) Township meeting to discuss survey of Field Street. City has platted easement of 33' and there was an old road petition for 33' on I.H. Township side to match with City portion for total of 66'. Possible walking/hiking/skiing trail.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Meshigun Point Properties Townhomes: Chip & Shooter Frederickson were present. New quote for city portion of blacktopping Bennett Street is \$12,300 to install full turnaround for snowplowing. Previous bid was \$6058 not including turn around. All work is within street easement. If same contractor is used, mobilization cost would be less. Turnaround would be ideal but there are other city needs too. Development will continue through phases. Five of the twelve townhomes are built and they are laying blacktop too. City doesn't have assessment policy. Larger cities require developer to pay all costs. City will solicit additional quotes. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson to obtain two more quotes for Bennett Street blacktop without turn around and that Street Commissioner Button and Weinreich will make final decision in order for work to be completed as soon as possible. Ayes: Bjornson, Button, and Reichel. Opposed: Goplen and Bjornson-Main. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: MLC Cancer Relay Donation Request: Shari Vixby was present explaining all the events going on over the next several months. Invitations and rsvp, ways people can help, need volunteers & money. Will be in Onamia parade and possibly Isle, can't make Wahkon. Hot dog stand in Onamia and Isle to raise funds. Need baskets for silent auction. Trying to get north part of county involved. She has lost 27 people that had 17 cancers. They are a 501c3 organization. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to donate \$75 to the MLC Cancer Organization from Charitable Gambling Fund. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Isle Boy Scout Troop 49 Alaska Trip Donation Request: Leader Walt Thompson, several boy scouts and parents were present. Scouts gave a presentation including a budget. Four scouts and two adults will go on high adventure trip to Alaska; goal is \$15,000 and they've raised \$2000. Trip is scheduled and if not enough funds are raised, parents will cover remainder. They are offering to do community services in Wahkon. Eagle project of Michael Nelson was the playground equipment in the Veterans Park. Motion by Button to donate \$100. Motion died for lack of a second. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Bjornson to donate \$200 to Isle Boy Scout Troop 49 from Charitable Gambling Fund. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. City will contact them should any projects arise needing their help.

Onamia Area Friends of the Library Donation Request: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to donate \$25 to Onamia Area Friends of the Library from Charitable Gambling Fund. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Fourth of July Celebration City Cost: Gary Larson: Larson wasn't present. Council debated importance of having them as a patriotic event bringing people to town, but not burdening the taxpayers. Goal is for the Event Fund to cover them from Wahkon Days proceeds. As of yet, there hasn't been enough profit. This year the fund will get 100 % of beer wagon proceeds versus 15% utilizing Spirit Lake Pub & Patio caterer's permit. Thank you! Those purchasing illegal fireworks should donate toward this event. Cost of ticket and/or court fees could be substantial, and most importantly safety factor. How many people stay afterward? WAVE Committee may consider donation possibly through meat raffle. Have sale at Teals? Bjornson-Main offered her porch to sell items for the event. Wahkon Inn used to host celebrity bartenders to raise funds. Will ask the business establishments to fundraise as well. Donation letters will be mailed asking for \$200 instead of previous \$100. Budget has remained the same.

Oberfeld Property & Possible City Land Purchase: PID #25-040-1180 is non-conforming lot of record, market value \$10,200. Originally Oberfeld planned on donating land to City however it is now part of an estate with a claim for State medical assistance. Most be sold outright at fair price. WAVE Committee passed a motion to help purchase this land for park purposes up to \$3500, as it abuts City Park. Park improvements is allowable expense under Charitable Gambling Fund. Motion by Button, second by Reichel to offer Oberfeld Estate \$7,000 for PID #25-040-1180. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Abstain: Bjornson-Main. Motion carried. Will ask Tara Oberfeld to write purchase agreement.

Conservation Practice Assistance Contract: City Park Well Seal & Abandonment: Initiated by Weinreich as a means to properly abandon City Park well that has only been capped. Approximate cost of \$465 would be split with City and MLSWCD. Contract was signed by clerk but it can still be stopped. Button believes well could be source for sprinkler system. In the past it hasn't met health standards due to sitting for long periods of time. Old pump had no pressure. Is it worth saving? Drilling new well is costly. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Bjornson to rescind MLCSWCD assistance contract to seal and abandon City Park well. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Spirit Lake Pub & Patio LLC Liquor License Name Change: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to approve 2015 liquor licenses applicable to name change for Spirit Lake Pub & Patio LLC formally known as Spirit Lake Steakhouse. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

3.2 On Sale One Day Temporary License: SHC Bazaar 8/9: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to approve 3.2 On Sale One Day Temporary License to Sacred Heart Church for their 8/9 bazaar. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Certificate as to Reconveyed Forfeited Lands: In 1995 City obtained forfeited land from State and sold it as an economic tool to Tom Briscoe who built a business upon that property and additional lots he owned at 160 North Main. This is a valid use of forfeited lands. There have been two owners since, with current being a bank due to foreclosure. Pending sale required certificate documenting what

transpired for clean title. Clerk contacted Mayor, who agreed City Attorney should draft document. City Attorney called State for template, which there wasn't, so he drafted it. Certificate was signed by Clerk and Mayor 4/27/2015.

Property Casualty Insurance Renewal: Buildings with appraised value set by League of MN Cities (LMC) will be covered at 150%, if lowered by client/city, coverage is only 100%. All city buildings were appraised by LMC and Council agrees to keep as is.

Fish House & RV Provisions: Zoning Ordinance Section Draft: Council agreed to review this at another time and to not implement a business district.

Open Forum: Clerk inquired for Joe Robinson how to amend Crooked Tree Planned Unit Development (PUD). He wants to remove one or two lots. Council agreed he would need to have it done by someone versed in PUDs.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The June 8, 2015 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Tony Button, Ronda Bjornson-Main, and Christine Bjornson. Councilmember Amy Goplen was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) Meeting Minutes: 4/13/2015 Council
- B) MN Dept. of Transportation (MnDOT) News Release
- C) MnDOT 2016 Project Update
- D) MN Assoc. of Small Cities (MAOSC) Transportation Update
- E) League of MN Cities (LMC) 5% Dues Increase Letter
- F) Onamia Depot Library Donation Thank You
- G) Fly our Flag High on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Motorcycle Ride & Street Dance: Isle & Wahkon Sat. 7/4
- H) Fireworks Display @ Dusk on Sat. 7/4
- I) Charitable Gambling Reports: 4/2015 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$144.72
- J) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$450,924.94
- K) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- L) Checks #22983 Dated 5/12 through #23028 Dated 6/8 Total \$30,726.61
- M) MN Rural Water Assoc. (MRWA) Water & WW Training @ Wahkon Inn 6/24 – 25

REPORTS: Clean Up Day History: Jim's Mille Lacs Disposal invoice was \$2,257.77 for 2015 and we received \$583 in donations. Thank you Jim Maciazka and Jim Moen for collecting items from those unable to.

Wastewater: HydroKleen is new company and we'll be getting some repair quotes per Weinreich.

Zoning: Approved Deck Permit: Nelson, Sandy: Located at 415 Broadway Street W measuring 9'x10'

Planning Commission/Council Discussion: Bezanson/Faegre "Bunkhouse": Barb Faegre & Judy Bezanson were present. Weinreich requested this be discussed as it is a gray area. Owners are being honest about use. Others would attach fish house license on it, not requiring a permit, and use it for overflow lodging. Any structure lived in for 14 consecutive days must connect to sewer. Property is short on width requirement for duplex lot size and exceeds square footage. Not financially feasible for them to add foundation slab. Think about requiring foundation requirement for future zoning ordinance, thus increasing tax base. They paid higher permit fee of \$100 versus shed permit of \$40. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson to approve bunkhouse permit to Bezanson/Faegre contingent upon meeting setbacks. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Mille Lacs County Soil & Water Conservation District (MLCSWCD) will be onsite to discuss drainage options.

Hoyt Trailer: Larger RV replaces one on parcel with garage only without sewer connection. Sewer connection required if lived in for 14 consecutive days. City has requested pumping contract or required portable toilet onsite for RV's in the past to ensure proper disposal of grey water and sewage. Park restroom is used by them. Electric has been installed recently. Per Weinreich they could connect to sewer easily. Clerk to send letter asking how they are disposing of sewer, explaining 14 consecutive day rule, and that sewer connection is possible. City will be upgrading this 20' alley due to increased traffic, which has been surveyed.

South Main: Park model sitting outside residence owned by Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. Letter was never sent. Weinreich spoke to home owner who said it would be removed; still there. Send letter it must be removed.

Complaints: Old School Apts Issues Resolved: Isle Fire Dept. Co-Chief David Miller and Deputy Fire Marshal Dan Beeson: Per professionals, an inspection was made and issues have been resolved.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Group was arguing at Veterans Park on 5/27, left meat on grill, broken liquor bottle on Walk to Honor, and were jumping off Dundee's dock. Should this one grill be removed and added to the two existing ones at City Park? Council agreed to leave it where it is, as this was an isolated incident. Veterans Park light is out for some reason. Council authorized purchase of bags and dispenser for dog owners to be available at the park, approximate cost \$90 with 2000 bags. Park Commissioner Bjornson noticed in Arizona they install fake swans to keep geese away. Check on price.

Roeschlein will attend Mille Lacs County (MLC) all hazard mitigation planning meeting on 6/17 @ 9 am.

Button and Roeschlein will attend Isle Harbor Township meeting this Thursday regarding Field Street becoming a walking trail, similar to Father Hennepin trails for exercise only, no motorized vehicles, including golf carts.

Reichel was approached at her café by a retired landscaper about doing a heritage garden for the city. His family was early settlers of Wahkon and would like to do it as part of their family reunion. Need more information and verify it will be easy to maintain.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: CenterPoint Energy Grant Award to Wahkon: Representative Scott Hengge presented Mayor with \$1400 check as 50% match to purchase multi gas meter and defibrillator with wall storage cabinet. Defibrillator will be placed in community center. Thank you CenterPoint Energy for helping us to have lifesaving safety equipment for events such as Wahkon Days and for senior dining!

Bennett Street Blacktopping: Hardrives \$6,058 & 2015 Blacktopping Needs: In conjunction with blacktop project for Meshigun Point Properties, Hardrives quoted \$6,058 to do city work upon Bennett. Two additional quotes were received, one of which had inaccurate information, thus not a viable bid. Hardrives was the lower of the two accurate quotes. Street Commissioner and Weinreich went with lowest quote. Having one contractor do both the private and city portion creates contiguous blacktop without seams.

Additional city blacktopping needs are large areas and not much small patching. Weinreich has contacted several companies, but has only received one quote from Anderson Brothers; await additional quotes. Major issue with drainage from Hwy 27 down through North Main; waiting for MLSWCD plan of action. Weinreich did cold patching and widened shoulder at 6<sup>th</sup> & Hennepin. Button asked for quicker cold patching in future as that is biggest complaint he hears every year. City receives free cold patching from MLC. Our previous on hand supply was inadvertently leveled when plowing for Arctic Blast.

Largest project is to widen Meshigun Ave. to better accommodate snowmobile trail, correct ditch behind city hall and set culvert at proper elevation. Snowmobile trail is white packed snow upon Meshigun and vehicles can't discern driving portion of the street and could become stuck. Also hope to

add width to curve at 1<sup>st</sup> St. E and Meshigun, which is used as parade detour from Hwy 27. According to plat map portion of 1<sup>st</sup> St. may be upon old railroad property, now owned by MLC. Bjornson-Main was informed by her surveyor that her mother's property corner was chopped due to RR encroachment. Will check with MLC to see what city can do to improve this area. Likely will need their permission if found to be located upon their property. Issue tabled until next month.

NEW BUSINESS: Closing of Streets Request for 4<sup>th</sup> of July Motorcycle Ride/Street Dance: Monica Weets was present. With recent negative police publicity and watching a video where the American flag was stomped upon, she wanted to turn negative into positive. Began planning the ride "Fly Our Flag High on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July" to celebrate police, fire personnel, EMT's and veterans in coordination with Isle Area Chamber. Ride begins in Isle and will end in Wahkon for fireworks and free street dance. Need area for motorcycle parking. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to block 2<sup>nd</sup> St. W to alley for street dance and additional area(s) for motorcycle parking as deemed appropriate by Button and/or Weinreich. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Wahkon and Isle are the up north twin cities. Council thanked Weets for all the great things she's done since moving here three years ago!

MAOSC Membership: Mayor of Frazee is lobbying the state for small cities to receive money for streets. Button estimated Morning Star Market (MSM) sells approximately 400,000 gallons per year. Gas tax is .385 per gallon, thus State would collect \$154,000, approximately 1.5 million over 10 years. LMC does great things for cities and so does this group. Button is very passionate about this as it isn't fair to small cities to receive nothing from the gas tax and has expressed his opinion to Senator David Brown's office. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to become members of MAOSC for 2015-2016 in the amount of \$212.70 for annual dues. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. This will be our first year.

City Purchase of Oberfeld Property: Offer was accepted but the estate is in probate and once filed it takes 30 days. Closing was scheduled for 6/12 but will need to be extended with new signatures. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson to extend Oberfeld property purchase agreement with 8/31 closing date. Ayes: Button, Bjornson, and Reichel. Abstain: Bjornson-Main. Motion carried.

League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) Liability Coverage Waiver Form: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Bjornson that Wahkon does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by MN Statutes, Section 466.04 as recommended by our insurance agent. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Statutory limits would be 1.5 million.

Quit Claim Deed to Westerly Half of Vacated Nicollet Ave: Joan Vivant is deeding property within Block 12 of Pottstown to her son and East Central Title is doing title work. Nicollet was vacated 8/13/1993 and as abutting property owner Vivant obtained 33' which the property description includes. Wahkon recently acquired tax forfeiture land in Block 11 for Soo Line Trail access and buffer to main lift station. East Central Title requested Quit Claim Deed to clarify Vivant ownership of Nicollet. Nothing was given to Vivant, the vacation itself did that in 1993 and as such the Mayor signed the Quit Claim deed on 5/27/15. Per Weinreich Vivant well is in the alley.

Alley within Block 9 Discussion: Bjornson-Main has concerns about traffic flow and parking in this heavily traveled area. Labor Day from 1<sup>st</sup> St. E to city hall several vehicles parked on private property grass to go into MSM. Install no parking signs? Cost and plowing issues? Make alley into one way?

With her recent purchase of Santa's Station, she backs out into alley. Ordinance prohibits alley parking. People go around delivery trucks onto private grass also. Much safer to unload in alley than highway with the curve. Alley appears to be part of MSM parking area. Bjornson who lives across alley from Spirit Lake Inn has issues with patrons parking in her driveway. In order to enforce ordinance, do the alleys need to be posted? Split rail fence on grass? Council agreed to keep an eye on the issue but not to do anything at this time.

ACT on Alzheimer's: New group to increase awareness of dementia, one of which is Alzheimer's. Goal is to make our communities "Dementia Friendly". Wahkon gave letter of support recently for grant funding. They need Dementia Champions to give small community presentations and have requested Roeschlein present to area businesses. They also need trainers to take four hour course for larger community presentations. Dementia will only increase as the population ages. Clerk's time needed would be approximately three hours. Clerk's time needed would be approximately three hours. Sheriff Brent Lindgren will present to law enforcement. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson to authorize Roeschlein to give dementia presentation to businesses. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Presentation will be after Wahkon Days, in the fall.

LMC Elections Task Force: Clerk was asked to take part. Cost would be time and mileage to St. Paul. Great preparation for 2016 election. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson authorizing Clerk to attend upcoming LMC Elections Task Force meeting. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Mille Lacs County (MLC) Broadband Feedback on Internet Usage & Needs & Questionnaire: Need faster internet upload and downloads for residents and businesses in order to compete in today's technological world. Education and health systems are dependent upon this, which will only increase. Messenger will have story about the topic. Questionnaire is on city website and Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) website. Need to gather information in order to make a plan of action to entice partnerships with broadband providers to finance the necessary and costly infrastructure.

Wahkon Days Security: MLC Sheriff's Dept: In years past we've hired one deputy, who then brings reserves at no charge for security and parade detour; 7 pm – 1:30 am. Their presence ensures a safe event for all. Ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson to hire MLC Sheriff's Dept. for Saturday of Wahkon Days for \$390. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

First National Bank (FNB) of Milaca "View Only" Authority: Need council approval for computer access to bank accounts, in particular at month end to balance statements instead of waiting for mailed paper copy. View only status due to City requiring two signatures for checks, transfers, etc. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to send letter to FNB authorizing clerk/treasurer view only computer access to city accounts. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:42 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The July 13, 2015 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Christine Bjornson, Tony Button, and Amy Goplen. Councilmember Ronda Bjornson-Main was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

A) Meeting Minutes: 5/11/2015 Council

B) Mille Lacs Equal Rights Foundation (MERF) 10/21 Raffle LG220 Exempt Permit

C) Property Coverage Renewal Premium 6/1/15 - 6/1/16

D) Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) LG555 Government Approval/Acknowledgement for Use of Gambling Funds \$250 Fourth of July & \$500 WAVE Kids Fishing Contest

E) Charitable Gambling Reports: Mille Lacs Drift Skippers 5/2015 \$0; Onamia Area Lions Club 3/2105 \$85.19, 4/2015 \$85.6 & 5/2015 \$87.07

F) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$434,279.75

G) Mille Lacs County (MLC) Tax Settlement Report \$162,822.68

H) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report

I) Checks #23029 Dated 6/10 through #23079 Dated 7/13 Total \$43,190.76

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution #2015-0713 "Accepting Donations Toward 2015 July Fourth Celebration": Motion by Button, second by Bjornson to adopt Resolution #2015-0713. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Many gracious businesses and individuals donated a total of \$4160.83 covering expenses 100%. Thank you ad naming donations will be in 7/15 Messenger.

REPORTS: Wastewater: Weinreich had hoped to do second discharge but PH was too high and window has closed. Terminal was replaced in lift station on Lake Shore Blvd.

Zoning Report: Includes properties with ongoing issues: J&J's Detached Townhomes, Ellis, Diver, and Poshusta. Approved permits: Bezanson 12'x24' bunkhouse @ 707 Lake Shore Blvd.; all parties are aware of City sewer easement near bunkhouse. Packer 10'x18' shed @ 435 North Main.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich wanted to bring attention to dumping of weeds and bogs in ditches and street right of ways. This is against wetland rules as it adversely affects drainage up stream and street integrity. Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD) has restoration powers, but not enforcement. DNR or the Sheriff's Dept. can issue tickets. Park neighbor had approached group of kids and was rebuked by parent/older adult, thus making them nervous to say anything in the future.

Roeschlein: Vacation day on Thursday. Council agreed to schedule special meeting for zoning ordinance review on Monday, 8/24 @ 6 pm.

Button: Thank you Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) Committee for volunteering for meat raffles. Ordered last two flags; have all six branches to be flown at special occasions at the Veterans Park. Kids are using pavers to jump around the monolith. Paver thanking all who have served was purchased by gracious donator along with extra \$125 for Veterans Park. Hope to replace sidewalk and improve drainage. MLSWCD is working on a possible plan of action as a joint effort. Rob of Mugg's looking for grant writer for public dock. Can Dock Fund be used to pay grant writer? Will discuss when facts are known.

Weinreich purchased bulbs for flag pole & log sign lights, which will last longer and cost less to run.

Reichel was asked by Earl Baartman family if they could plant weeping willow tree along with plaque at Veterans Park, as he was a veteran. Aren't willows hard to maintain? They don't take wind very well, woodpeckers love them and require lot of water; sandy soil at park. Branches get into mower blades & kids can use for whips. City needs no maintenance; oak or maple can take lake winds. Button has possible spot. City has a form to fill out for families making such requests. Reichel will relay the information.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: 2015 Blacktopping Needs: Bennett street portion was completed for \$6048 as authorized by motion at 5/11 meeting; minimum blacktop not full cul-de-sac. Shooter of Meshigun Point Townhomes Planned Unit Development (PUD) assured Clerk an updated survey plan will be forthcoming in order for all parties to be on the same page. Several years have passed and phases are taking longer than anticipated. Original drainage plan included infiltration pond that has yet to be built. Need assurance all PUD calculations are still being met as approved.

Approximately \$33,000 remains of blacktop budget. In years past when given exact dimension of blacktop areas with specs, quotes weren't the same for comparison. This year Weinreich invited contractors onsite and asked for reclamation quote based upon tonnage for 1700 square feet. Anderson Brothers \$44 per liner foot, Hardrives \$42.75 and Tri City Paving \$29.41. Why is Tri City so much lower? Holding off on highway Main Street culvert until future MnDOT project and/or MLSWCD plan of action; culvert still functions. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to hire lowest bidder Tri City Paving after their quote is substantiated as accurate. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Ross Habeck has yet to supply quote for shoulder/ditch work that will be required on Meshigun Ave. to better accommodate snowmobile trail. Anderson Brothers received MLC Soo Line Trail blacktop work from Wahkon to Isle, which will begin soon.

Marj Bertelson was present stating ditch culvert doesn't function in their area, is rusted and dangerous to grandkids. Weinreich has it scheduled for this year along with ditch near Trunnell, but not 3<sup>rd</sup> Street E. Gary Larson previously requested corner of 6<sup>th</sup> St. E and Hennepin be widened with blacktop. Vehicles/ATVs drive off tar onto shoulder. Weinreich to get quote from North Central Paving to install blacktop curb as possible solution.

Council took five minute recess to look at full scope of Meshigun Ave project. Meeting resumed at 6:54 pm. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to go with Meshigun Ave. Trail/Street plan to improve drainage and to better accommodate snowmobile trail into town. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Field Street Survey: Isle Harbor (IH) Township enthusiastically supports Wahkon's efforts to make a walking trail upon Field Street but questioned whether they still had rights after not maintaining it for over 25 years. Chad Conner of Widseth Smith Nolting (WSN), isn't our city engineer but does work for IH, and researched the issue. He submitted letter along with exhibits, specifically "Notice of Resolution to Extinguish Interest in Abandoned Roads" adopted at IH Board of Supervisors 11/13/2003 meeting; "no interest, i.e., maintenance improvement, alteration, or other expenditures have been shown or demonstrated by the Town for 25 years or longer, interest is hereby extinguished, and such roads are therefore deemed abandoned, and the rights-of-way of any such roads revert to adjacent landowners." Would IH still help with survey cost if their interest was extinguished? Per enclosed map there are wetlands within Field Street per National Wetland Inventory (NWI). No technical plan for the trail yet. City could obtain easements from specific property owners if needed. Need to verify if IH extinguished their portion of Field Street.

City Engineer: Short Elliott Hendrickson (SEH) was appointed at January's meeting as our engineering firm and has been for several years. Matt Kimman of SEH was our engineer but now works for City of Little Falls. Heidi Peiper is our contact and depending upon our needs she would coordinate someone. Per Goplen, Oberfeld Insurance has used Conner, as well as their clients, relative to floodplain issues and he goes above and beyond. He also helped Weinreich with city storm shelter questions. WSN would like to work for Wahkon. Council agreed it is imperative the city engineer is a good fit. This fall or winter, engineers will be interviewed by council.

NEW BUSINESS: "Minnesota City sues makers of "flushable" wipes over clogged sewers" Star & Tribune Article: City of Wyoming: Manufactures state they are flushable, anything can be flushed, but they stay intact causing huge clogs and damaging pumps; very costly for cities. Issue was discussed at MN Rural Water Association (MRWA) training as well. Council will be kept updated.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Goplen, second by Button to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:07 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The August 10, 2015 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Acting Mayor Ronda Bjornson-Main at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Tony Button, Christine Bjornson, and Amy Goplen. Mayor Sandy Reichel was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Bjornson-Main. Motion carried unanimously.

A) Meeting Minutes: None

B) We're Fed Up with Dial-Up: Congressman Rick Nolan's Monday 7/27 Report

C) Re-Membering Matters @ Mille Lacs Quarterly Newsletter

D) CenterPoint Energy Rate Increase Request Notice

E) Wahkon Days Event Schedule: Church service for Sun. 8/16 was cancelled

F) LG555 Lions Club of Isle MN \$200 Wahkon Celebration Donation

G) Charitable Gambling Reports 6/2015: Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$473.01 & \$1520 to WAVE for Meat Raffle Volunteers; Onamia Area Lions Club \$45.59

H) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$595,122.88

I) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report

J) Disbursement 8/7 Register: Date Range 7/14 - 8/7 Total \$25,539.31

PLANNING COMMISSION: Crooked Tree Planned Unit Development (PUD) Revision (Reduction): Midge Robinson was present. Unanimous approval was given at their July annual meeting to convert two of the seven original buildable lots into common area. Their title professional advised them to inform council, amend their covenants, quit claim lots 4 & 5 to the association as common area, and record necessary documentation at the county. Robinson's attorney will amend covenants. Since they are decreasing their PUD density, official approval isn't required. However, for clarity, it would be nice to have council approval. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson to approve Crooked Tree Planned Unit Development reduction from seven to five buildable lots. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Bjornson-Main. Motion carried unanimously. Robinson will provide city with recorded documents. Original Mylar PUD survey won't be updated as recorded documentation will state lots 4 & 5 are common area for the association.

Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Question (Also see 6.A.1): Potential buyers of 250, 260 & 270 North Main would like to convert part of the building into a residence. Main Street has residential, commercial, and combination of residential/commercial. CUP was approved in 2002 to G.P. Land Corp. for up to three businesses. Current zoning ordinance states "Properties granted commercial status through a CUP may change their daily business operation as long as it continues to be commercial in nature." Residences must be 900 square feet or more; these units are smaller. Current business tenant is concerned the effects a residence next door would have. Two of the three spaces have been empty for three years. Council agreed any changes would require action by the planning commission, i.e. council through a public hearing.

Special Meeting Mon. 8/24 @ 6 pm to review Draft Zoning Ordinance

REPORTS: Wastewater: GPW Rentals Inc. Usage Fee Reduction Request: Property owner of 250, 260 & 270 North Main believes two usage fees isn't correct due to having no living quarters in this one building with three commercial spaces; two share one restroom and the other unit has its own. Two

units haven't been rented in three years and they can't afford to overpay anymore. If reduced and rented out, than what? See CUP discussion above. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to continue charging two sewer usage fees relative to property located at 250, 260 & 270 North Main. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, and Button, Abstain: Bjornson-Main. Motion carried.

Weinreich will get quote from Hydro Kleen to repair tanks at ponds. Pine tree at Ellen Ruth Park needs to be removed.

Zoning Report: Unresolved issues: J&J's Detached Townhomes, Ellis, Diver, and Poshusta.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Street Sweeper: Isle and Onamia share a sweeper. Isle will sweep for us for a fee, before Wahkon Days. If they purchase new one, is Wahkon interested? Council questioned hourly rate versus such an investment. If we co-own Weinreich could run it. Per Goplen, best scenario is if we rent it then we're covered by our own insurance.

Lawn Mowing: Old School Apartments and Spirit Lake Steakhouse parking area need attention. Clerk to call owners requesting it be done by Wahkon Days. Few other properties also need attention, Mille Lacs Band property and some Weinreich are aware of. Usual policy is a complaint must be signed before letter is sent. Council agreed if grass is too long a letter should be sent.

Creek Rocks: Kids are pushing rip rap rocks into creek on regular basis. Do we let weeds take over again? Discuss at budget meeting.

WAVE T-shirts: Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) Committee purchased 48 through Uptown Printing, new Isle business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Blacktopping & Meshigun Avenue Project Update: Tri-City Paving original quote was questioned by Weinreich/Council as it was so much lower than the others. Tri-City came onsite to fully understand the project and submitted revised quote, which was still the lowest bid of the three. Phase I to improve snowmobile trail on Meshigun Ave. will be done this fall by widening the road through reclamation and improving drainage. Meshigun Ave. is very narrow especially when used as overflow parking at funerals and bazaars. City has extra culverts that can be used. Waiting for quote from Ross Habeck for dirt work that will be done in conjunction with Tri-City Paving. Phase II was discussed relative to removal of an Ash tree on 2<sup>nd</sup> St. E right of way (ROW) abutting Staricha property. Council agreed to write Staricha about future plan of action to remove tree, grind out stump, bring in dirt and reseed. Pending culvert and ditch work will include Bertelson/Bezanson and Trunnell.

NEW BUSINESS: 1<sup>st</sup> St W & Summit Ave Issue: Shelly Chandonnet was present to discuss ongoing speeding issues at their curve. She hasn't documented all incidents over the sixteen years she has lived there, but worries someone could get hurt. Most recent issue happened last month. Clerk took pictures and Chandonnet provided her own showing how a driver lost control and crashed into trees on their property. Majority of incidents occur after bar closing. Shed siding was damaged of which she had extra to replace it. Button almost witnessed a head on at this corner. No street light in the area either. Council discussed possible solutions; stop sign, speed bump, square off the corner utilizing more ROW. Del Freichels paid to have a light installed near his property. Bjornson lives on this street and agrees people drive too fast. More information is needed for possible future solution.

Grass Clippings & Burning Upon City Streets: Should anything be done about grass clippings and burning leaves upon city streets? Clerk included sample letter and public notice from Lake Heron. Wahkon Basic Code prohibits obstruction to the free flow of water of a public street drain and the depositing of refuse on ROW. Adversely affects the lake and blacktop integrity. People are likely not aware of the effects and need to be educated. No one should burn in the street. Messenger article should note this topic. Council agrees we can send a courtesy letter explaining how we take pride in our town's appearance and noting the adverse environmental effects.

Small Cities Assistance Payment: Received \$5573 and will receive a second payment for total of \$11,146 to be used for construction and maintenance of roads located within the city. MN Assoc. of Small Cities (MAOSC) was instrumental in getting this money along with City of Frazee mayor and clerk. Legislature approved 12.5 million to be divided between small cities that don't receive gas tax. MnDOT will do drive lanes only in 2016 of which city could share cost of improving the parking lanes. Possible Main Street renovation project in 2023 per plan submitted to City but not discussed fully by council; will be part of an upcoming meeting. Button estimates Morning Star Market has collected 3.5 million in gas tax over 20 years. Council agreed to save this extra money for a large project by investing in a CD for one year once the second payment has been received. Hopefully more funds will be arriving in the years to come.

North Main Parking Stalls: Street Commissioner Button researched painting parking stalls to help alleviate vehicles driving around turning vehicles. Commissioners have discretion up to \$500. MnDOT gave permission and WAVE offered to pay entire \$400 cost, but would prefer to match funds with City, to have it done by Wahkon Days. Stalls were painted this past Sunday and look great. Some believe we shouldn't have spent the money if MnDOT is coming in 2016, but that is for drive lanes only unless City participates on cost to do parking lanes. Clerk to request MnDOT representative attend council meeting to discuss 2016 and possible 2023 Main Street renovation projects (see paragraph above). Motion by Goplen, second by Bjornson to pay \$200 to paint North Main parking stalls. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Bjornson-Main. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Button, second by Goplen to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Bjornson-Main. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:12 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Ronda Bjornson-Main, Acting Mayor

The August 24, 2015 special meeting of the Wahkon City Council was called to order at 6:00 pm by Acting Mayor Ronda Bjornson-Main. Councilmembers present were Tony Button, Christine Bjornson, and Amy Goplen. Mayor Sandy Reichel was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW DRAFT ZONING ORDINANCE: Council began review at Section 6.2 on page 24 and went page by page through the end; page 53, then back to beginning to review earlier sections. As this was a workshop meeting of the council, not all items are noted below as several issues were discussed and debated. Clerk made notes directly within draft ordinance to bring back to city attorney for correction, additions, deletions, and clarification.

- Remove the word “district” entirely from ordinance as we don’t have them.
- No increase to side lot setback; leave at 7.5 feet.
- Section 9.2 Land Use Permits Subd. 4 Verifiable Survey Marker: Remove requirement of “verifiable survey marker within 300 feet” and sentence before stating zoning administrator isn’t a licensed surveyor.
- Planned Unit Developments shall be reviewed by a professional; City zoning consultant S.E.H.
- Is a hold harmless clause needed? “If land owner doesn’t have their own survey and is using survey information of another, the property owner shall hold the city harmless.”
- Section 9.6 Conditional Use Permits Subd. 6 Amended Permit: Should same be added under planned unit development (PUD) Section 7.8?
- Section 9.9 Appeals Subd. 1 Appealable Decisions: Confusing as to chain of command. Do we need a statement and/or definition at beginning of document informing citizens council could actually be the planning commission (PC) and the board of appeals, which is currently how it is handled? Not enough interest for separate PC but maybe in the future.
- Primary structure of 900 square feet required first or along with accessory structures. Should accessory structure be allowed if they build primary within certain time frame? Owners want to use property on weekends with RV until they can afford to build. Would be difficult to track. If sold, new owner could request same. Protect tax base but we are resort area. Keep as is.
- Section 5.8 Accessory Structures Subd. 2 Location (b) Total Area: Not to exceed 10% of buildable area. Previously this was to be deleted but attorney has concern if there were no limits. Add current zoning language: “residential properties shall be allowed impervious surface coverage not to exceed 50% of the property area; shoreland not to exceed 25%. Commercial lots not to exceed 75%; shoreland 25%.”
- Section 5.11 Recreational Vehicles: Overly regulated as written, owners won’t get certificate of compliance for overnight sleeping. This is resort camping community. Have sewer requirement if lived in for more than 14 consecutive days it must be connected. Council to review this section at a future regular council meeting. Original idea was ability to have up to two fish houses, or two RV’s, or one of each, which could be used for overnight sleeping without a permit.
- Fee schedule will need to be reviewed soon. Could both be adopted at same time? Public hearing is required for ordinance adoption.

Motion by Button, second by Bjornson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Bjornson-Main. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Ronda Bjornson-Main, Acting Mayor

The September 14, 2015 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Tony Button, Christine Bjornson, and Amy Goplen. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, as well as Heidi Peper, City Engineer Representative. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

A) Meeting Minutes: 8/10, 7/13 & 6/8 Council

B) Dementia Friends Session: Re-Membering Matters @ ML ACTION Team: Wahkon Comm. Hall Wed. 10/14 @ 9 am

C) Housing Discussion: Lakes & Pines Comm. Action Council: Thurs. 9/17 Mora 5-6 pm

D) MN Managed Care Notice

E) League of MN Cities (LMC) Executive Director David Unmacht Intro Letter

F) ML Health Hospice Butterfly Release Thank You

G) Wahkon Days Committee Thank You

H) LG220 Gambling Exempt Permit: Sacred Heart Church Bingo Sun. 9/20: Signed w/no waiting period as usual practice

I) LG220 Isle Sportsman's Club Banquet @ Wahkon Inn Sat. 9/26: Signed w/no waiting period as usual practice

J) Charitable Gambling Reports 7/2015: Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$1172.10; Onamia Area Lions \$4.80

K) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$593,787.19

L) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report

M) Disbursement 9/14 Register: Date Range 8/11 - 9/14 Total \$34,168.55

PUBLIC HEARINGS & PETITIONS: Motion by Button, second by Bjornson to close Council meeting & open Planning Commission public hearing. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Abstain: Bjornson-Main. Motion carried. Bjornson-Main went out into the audience.

Variance: Emil & Sue Moss #25-040-0470 located at 250,260, & 270 North Main: Purchase agreement is contingent upon this request. Property has existing conditional use permit (CUP) for up to three businesses and variances granted (1) from prescribed 10,000 square feet as this parcel has 9,750, (2) setback of zero from Hwy 27/North Main, and (3) alley setback of 3' for garage. Requesting full time residence in combination with one (minimum) business or up to two, continue with 3' alley setback for future garage and variance for impervious up to 75%. Plans may include possible vacation lodging rental(s), construct deck in back yard, and install sewer/water to unit without. No comments were received for or against this request, nor were any heard from the audience. Higher impervious has been allowed in the past within this undesignated four block commercial area and request is consistent with existing parcels. There are several existing parcels with combination of both residential and commercial. If approved, they would move in promptly and solicit commercial renter for empty unit.

Motion by Button, second by Goplen to close Planning Commission public hearing. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Abstain: Bjornson-Main. Motion carried. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson to open Council meeting. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Abstain: Bjornson-Main. Motion carried. Council meeting reconvened at 6:06 pm.

Motion by Bjornson, second by Goplen authorizing PID #25-040-0470 to (1) have dual combination of residential and commercial use with minimum of one commercial business, (2) approving variance of up to 75% impervious coverage and (3) continuation of existing variance of 3' alley setback for future garage based upon the findings of fact this is consistent with existing parcels in the area. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, and Reichel. Abstain: Bjornson-Main. Motion carried. Bjornson-Main returned from the audience to her council seat.

REPORTS: Engineering: Short Elliot Hendrickson (SEH) Heidi Peper was present. Her expertise is funding projects in part with grants and/or loans and will be our representative as previous city engineer Greg Kimman works for Little Falls now. Apologized for neglecting to introduce herself earlier to council, but she did discuss her role with the clerk in person a while ago. She'd be willing to attend council meetings periodically and more often when projects warrant. Possible future needs include street improvements, stormwater, MnDOT Main Street beautification and permanent dock. When a project arises, a specific engineer will be brought in.

Wastewater: Weinreich: Purchased new pump with coated impeller as repair without warranty wasn't much cheaper. Working at the ponds to meet discharge limits.

Zoning Report: Unresolved issues J&J's Detached Townhomes, Ellis, Diver, and Poshusta. Approved permit Feltmann @ 1955 Lake Shore Blvd to replace existing roof & walls of old part of house and construct additions 14'x16' & 8'x18'. Impervious is a bit over 25% and owner is aware no more coverage will be allowed.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich found 20' dock for possible purchase to accommodate boat launching next year. Water level is low and using open area of pier is difficult. Boaters wouldn't park haphazardly if boat isn't floating away. Cost is \$200 and requires decking for approximately \$150 plus employee time. Council agreed Park Commissioner can make the decision.

Pavilion: Built in 1987 it needs some attention as nails are popping out and it is heaving. Last year quote was \$5200. Repair nominally until we can afford to replace it with new, possibly six sided low maintenance one.

Entryway: New siding was budgeted in 2014 but no work was done. Received new quote from reputable contractor with insurance for \$1800. Prior quote in 2014 from different contractor was \$3500. Discuss at budget meeting, which is Tuesday 9/22 at 10 am.

Hendry/Gervais & Field St: Council agreed to move this item up on the agenda. Bjornson-Main went out into the audience. Mille Lacs Realty agent Bob was present along with Mark & Kari Savage, potential buyers of Hendry/Gervais property with questions as to future use of undeveloped Field Street. Want assurance it will remain private and quiet as it has been. They've read meeting minutes were many scenarios have been discussed over the years. Hendry/Gervais sent written request in the past to leave it as it has been for their long tenure here. Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) Committee has shown interest in walking and cross country ski trail, but nothing will take place until a specific plan of action is approved by council. City surveyed portion abutting lake only. No plan for vehicular traffic to use Field Street as access to Hwy 27. Recently confirmed Isle Harbor Township extinguished their 33' Field Street right of way and may partner with City & WAVE to survey remaining portion. Is vacating and extinguishing a right of way the same, where half reverts to each

abutting property owner? If yes, City acquired 16.5' additional width to their 33' for total of 49.5'. Council agreed they can give assurance of what this council believes at this time, but can't tie hands of future councils. There are wetlands in the area that would require mitigation if developed into a trail. Property owners may request street vacation; DNR may oppose it, but ultimately it would be a council decision based upon a public hearing. Council hoped Savages would become Wahkon citizens. Bjornson-Main returned to her council seat.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Blacktopping & Meshigun Ave Phase I Update: Weinreich stated Phase I will begin next week. Habeck has dirt work and Tri City Paving will blacktop. Will also do section on Lake shore Blvd, all within budget.

Snowmobile Trail on 2<sup>nd</sup> St. E & Tree Removal Phase II? Les Pinz of MLDS stated it is up to City whether to leave the tree or remove it. Snowmobile trail groomer mirror has hit it. Mugg's diagonal parking narrows the street and with groomed trail it is tight. Non-conforming green shed at alley corner is more of a safety hazard. Street hasn't been surveyed, which should be done to assure working within city right of way. Property owner Jim Staricha informed Goplen he wants tree to remain. Mugg's agrees and believes land values would depreciate if removed. Want to improve safety. Discuss at budget time.

NEW BUSINESS: Hwy Maintenance 2016 & Possible 2023 Main Street Renovation: MnDOT Kevin Schmidt was present. 2016 they'll do drive lanes, corner ramps, and sidewalk installation at Gieski, corner of Hwy 27 & 3<sup>rd</sup> St E. Olmstead lawsuit at federal level requires states to adhere to higher sidewalk standards for pedestrian and disabled users. Isle will have all new sidewalks in 2016 due to these requirements. Wahkon has wider Main Street than usual and a center turn lane could be added as well in 2016. Cost sharing is 90/10 for typical road width and thereafter it is 100% city expense. With added turn lane, city cost to pave 10' wide parking lane is estimated to be \$9,000, down from previous estimate. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main agreeing to three lanes, including a center turn lane, fully at MnDOT cost, and paving parking lanes at city cost, estimated at \$9,000 for 2016 Hwy 27/North Main Street project. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. MnDOT agreement will be reviewed and signed in early 2016 with contractors being solicited in March.

2023 Main Street Beautification: Project is a possibility requiring workshop meetings to formulate plan and public hearings to solidify support. Today cost estimate is 1.5 million. Basic lighting would be 50/50 split; decorative lighting would be higher city cost. Underground electric would be city cost. Project could include new sidewalk, curb and gutter and storm water ponds. MnDOT can do all the engineering. Begin serious discussion in 2019 and 2020.

South Main Stormwater Management & Veterans Park Beach Erosion Control: Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD) Lynn Gallice:" Plans with pictures and estimated budgets were received, solicited through Weinreich. Highway stormwater flows to the lake causing infrastructure and environmental issues. Remedial work could be coordinated with MnDOT future projects. MLSWCD believes beach is eroding due to removal of lake vegetation that slows wave erosion. Scenarios include rain garden, planting of native grasses, and development of stormwater maps. Estimated project costs: \$5,064 "Erosion along Veteran's Memorial parking", \$15,420 "Runoff & erosion along beach parking area across from Walleye Dundees", and \$4,152 "Shoreline"; total of \$24,636 which would be shared 50/50.

Beach area has been cleaned since picture was taken. There is confusion as to what can be done about decaying lake weeds. Have heard you can't remove them, but Weinreich spoke to DNR contact allowing their removal. MLSWCD would rather plant native grasses.

Hendry & Gervais Property & Field Street Encroachments: Item moved to earlier in the meeting.

LMC 2016 Annual Dues & MN Mayors Assoc. Membership: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Button to renew LMC 2016 annual membership for \$384. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Wahkon has never joined MN Mayors Assoc.

Bridge Bank Stabilization Plan & Estimate: Weinreich solicited estimate to redo creek banks with rocks, erosion fabric, mulch and plantings. Bank rocks are consistently rolled into the creek, which can cause flooding and leaves banks vulnerable to erosion. Tall native grasses will hide the stone bridge. Roots would hold the bank best. Two quotes, one for bank work, Minnesota Shore Works \$1475, and Hayland Woods \$787.20 for plants and labor. Button suggested using DeCoursey concrete, low in ash, to permanently set top level of rocks; kids couldn't sit down and push them with their feet. DNR approves use of low ash concrete near water, but unsure about this application. Brainstorm with Ken Zyke of DNR for possible solutions.

Mille Lacs Advisory Committee Application: Deadline is 9/24. "Committee will advise MN DNR on the State of Minnesota's fisheries management program for Mille Lacs Lake, resulting in effective and well-supported recommended actions to address identified fisheries management issues, and shared understanding among committee members, the DNR, and the broader public of issues and potential solutions." This is a big issue that affects our community and stems from the early closing of walleye season this year. Button will send in application.

Open Forum: Peper invited council and staff to S.E.H. Oktoberfest for customer appreciation on 10/8 in Brainerd @ 4:30 pm

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Bjornson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The September 22, 2015 special meeting of the Wahkon Council was called to order by Acting Mayor Ronda Bjornson-Main at 10:03 am. Councilmembers present were Tony Button, Amy Goplen, and Christine Bjornson. Mayor Sandy Reichel was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich & Karrie Roeschlein were present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance. *Mayor Sandy Reichel arrived at 10:05 am and presided over the meeting.*

REVIEW GENERAL & SEWER 2016 BUDGETS: Mille Lacs County (MLC) is ranked third highest for taxes. Facts are there are many acres not paying taxes, including state park land, wildlife management area, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe trust land, etc. Costs for social services, incarceration and prosecution are higher due to issues on the reservation, without reimbursement from the Band or the State, of which the burden falls onto the taxpayer. Effects can be seen at all levels of taxing authority, city, township, school districts, county, and state. MLC Board must continue the dialogue; Band is one of the highest paying taxpayer and they have a lot of land not paying taxes upon. Clerk believes State recommends cities have six to nine months surplus as first tax levy payment isn't received until May.

Council went line by line and made changes to proposed budget as detailed below. Council took a five minute break and reconvened at 11:57 pm. Council agreed to keep 2016 sewer rates at the 2015 level without the annual 3% increase. Projected sewer operating surplus of \$82,740 will be transferred to Sewer Emergency Improvement/Debt Service Fund for 2016 refinancing bond payment of \$83,859. Beginning 2016 only one bond payment instead of two; must have \$83,500 escrow. Sewer accounting fee has been \$10,000 at least since Clerk began in 1993, council agreed \$15,000.

Motion by Bjornson, second by Button to adopt 2016 General Budget with receipts and disbursements both at \$263,620, and 2016 Sewer Operating Budget with receipts of \$220,470 and disbursements of \$137,730. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 20150922 APPROVING FINAL 2015 TAX LEVY COLLECTIBLE IN 2016: Motion by Goplen, second by Bjornson to adopt Resolution 20150922 Approving Final 2015 Tax Levy Collectible in 2016 in the amount of \$235,351, a 4.2% decrease over last year. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

The following line item changes were made to proposed 2016 budgets as final adopted budgets:

General Fund (100)

	31000	General Property Taxes	235,351.
	39200	Transfers In	15,000.
Buildings	41940-240	Tools, Parts & Equipment	200.
Streets	43100-370	Trash Removal	200.
	43100-400	R/M-Contract-Blacktop	40,000.
		R/M-Contract-Ditch Work	10,000.
Parks, Trails & Signs	45200-255	Landscaping Supplies	200.
	45200-400	R/M-Contract	9,500.
	45200-410	Rentals	0.

Sewer Fund (602)

	37200	Sewer Usage Fees	194,000.
	49360-720	Operating Transfers	15,000.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 12:40 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The October 12, 2015 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Christine Bjornson, Tony Button, and Amy Goplen. Employee Karrie Roeschlein was present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

A) Dementia Friends Session for Area Businesses: Re-Membering Matters @ ML ACTION Team: Wahkon Comm. Hall Wed. 10/14 @ 9 am

B) Mille Lacs County (MLC) 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Operation Community Connect Thurs. 10/15 @ Milaca Public School 10 am – 2 pm

C) Notice of Decision to Revise & Update the Mille Lacs County Local Water Management Plan: Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD)

D) Ruff Start Rescue Community Feline Spay/Neuter Program

E) Wahkon 2016 Tax Levy Worksheet

F) Charitable Gambling Reports 8/2015: Mille Lacs Drift Skippers \$1069.06; Onamia Area Lions \$69.05

G) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$574,190.80

H) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report

I) Disbursement 10/9 Register: Date Range 9/15 – 10/9 Total \$42,694.60; Less Transfers Total \$22,883.35

REPORTS: Wastewater: No report as Weinreich is on vacation.

Zoning Report: Non-compliant unresolved issues: J&J's Detached Townhomes, Ellis, Diver, and Poshusta. New approved permits: Bjornson #25-040-0390 @ 160 North Main and Shearen #25-041-0430 @ 665 State Hwy 27.

Complaint: Park Mowing: Dave & Kim Tyson were present. Formal email complaint received 9/18 "I have kindly asked on several occasions that when the park is being mowed that the clippings, etc. not be "shot" at my building because of the windows and not wanting them broken. Yet again, this morning my window was hit by a pine cone or whatever." "City asked us to stop putting grass clippings on street and on Soo Line Trail and we have, just asking the same in return." Complaint is on file and should something happen caused by the city, we would rectify it. Furthermore, Kim was upset her emails were shared with Chris, whom she was complaining about. Clerk informed Weinreich as he is in charge of mowing. He mowed that day and stated he does mow away from the building until about half way out into the park. This was passed on to Tyson via email. Clerk was on vacation after sending the first email and Weinreich checked for a reply and responded directly himself. Clerk apologized and this won't happen again. City hasn't received any other complaints from property owners abutting parks. Button suggested a mulch guard. Clerk to request MLC level newly tarred area on Soo Line Trail so Tyson can mow it. Currently need weed whip but prefer mower as they have done in the past. Per MLC Engineer, county appreciates property owners mowing up to the trail.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Button: Wahkon Area Vison Effusion (WAVE) all beef chili cook off will be 1/23 at Wahkon Inn; can't be elsewhere due to increase participation. Open to all businesses and citizens of the area, including Isle and Onamia. WAVE prom will be 4/23 also at Wahkon Inn. Should children be allowed again this year? Complaints were heard that children

shouldn't be present and not everyone dressed in formal wear. It is a community fundraiser at \$10 per person, similar to a wedding reception. WAVE will discuss further and advertise accordingly. Suggestion to charge double for those not dressed up. WAVE is checking price of trailer advertising sign to promote events.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Park Property Purchase & Future Muskie Park Sign: City now owns Lot 1, Block 21 which abuts City Park restroom. Purchase price was \$7,000, total of \$7,722.96 including closing costs. WAVE donated \$3500 and remaining amount will be from Charitable Gambling Fund for park purposes. Button asked Weinreich to mark the property for everyone to see and hope to incorporate new trail. Possible name could be Lake Shore Trail as part of it is on the paper street of Lake Shore Blvd. Council agreed a plan needs to be agreed upon first. Thank you WAVE and charitable gambling organizations!

Park Signs: Two park commissioners ago, price was \$400 to repaint city park sign and a second option was \$800 for state sign. Sentiment was we can be more creative. Tom Jackson Jr. "Deuce" graciously donated a state record size Muskie laser cut out of aluminum. His company made the light pole animals many years ago too. Wanted to make sure paint adhered to the aluminum and tried to solicit help through high school art department. They weren't able to do it and now the Muskie is at Mille Lacs Auto to be painted. Button presented proof to council for new vinyl park sign adhered to Kevlar with aluminum coating backing through TCI Signs for \$397.30. Donated 3M reflective tape will be used as well. Sign will be fastened to plywood base and posts. Council agreed with concept and Park Commissioner Bjornson will make final approval.

Council agreed to duplicate Veterans Park sign for Ellen Ruth Park with "Wahkon" as means to advertise when people stop to take pictures.

Blacktopping & Meshigun Ave. Phase I Cancellation: Button: Due to things beyond our control and assumptions that were made, Phase I has been cancelled. Appears the two contractors weren't on the same page and with winter approaching it is getting late. Blacktop plant could close down before project is completed. Can the unspent blacktop budget funds be used in 2016? Few small patches will be done this year. Will rebid all work next year. Should Meshigun Ave project be revisited? Is it worth expense to widen it for snowmobiles and an annual parade? Once 2015 blacktopping and ditch work expenses are known, a memo will be drafted regarding use of unused funds. If 2016 budget was amended, payable tax levy wouldn't increase.

NEW BUSINESS: MLC Resolution No. 9-22-15-3 "2015 Tax Penalty Abatement Policy for Commercial Property": No penalty for paying second half 10/15 tax payments through year end for commercial use real property used for seasonal residential recreational purposes due to economic loss of closing walleye season. Council agreed it is a nice gesture but it doesn't solve the problem. MLC is third highest taxed county due to numerous acres of non-taxable property such as state parks, management area forests, current trust land and more acres being requested to be put into trust. Burden is left upon properties paying taxes. Businesses need viable fishing season in order to pay taxes on time. Reichel questioned why Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe has application for more trust land when they weren't listed as a recognized tribe? Very difficult situation for the county board. Per Commissioner Dave Oslin, Cass County has a great working relationship with the Native American band there, which could be something to emulate. Wahkon did their part and decreased taxes by 4.2%.

Grass or Tree Buffer along Lakes, Streams & Ditches Future Requirement: MLSWCD: Governor Mark Dayton has signed a bill to require a buffer of grass or trees planted along lakes, streams and ditches to keep water clean. Memo included deadlines of mapping, public process, etc. One deadline is 11/1/2018 for buffers on public drainage systems. MLSWCD will inform landowners where and what type of buffer is required and help find funding if needed. Clerk recently read about Waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule, which likely this stems from. Another federal government mandate?

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The November 9, 2015 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Tony Button, Ronda Bjornson, Amy Goplen, and Christine Bjornson. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Goplen, second by Bjornson to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

A) Minutes: 10/12 & 9/14 Council Meetings

B) CenterPoint Energy Letter w/Notices: Price Increase

C) Veterans Day Service @ Veterans Park Wed. 11/11 @ 11 am

D) 2016 Liquor License Renewals: South Shore Hospitality dba Mugg's of Mille Lacs; BC Niesen Inc. dba Morning Star Market & Morning Star Wine & Spirits; Wahkon Inn Bar & Restaurant LLC; and Spirit Lake Pub & Patio LLC

E) Charitable Gambling Reports 9/2015: Mille Lacs Drift Skippers \$650.75; Onamia Area Lions \$32.68

F) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$587,308.60

G) Wahkon Days Financial Report

H) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report

I) Disbursement 11/5 Register: Date Range 10/10 – 11/5 Total \$22,059.00

REPORTS: Wastewater: Weinreich: Force main break out to ponds on 10/30. RC. Habeck was repair contractor. MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) was properly notified and they may require future repair and/or replacement due to several past breaks. Three force main breaks: 2004, two breaks in 2012 one of which was at the ponds and one in the force main and this most recent one. Nothing official has been received. Line isn't bedded well and lays on rocks and hard pan clay. Supposedly MPCA will come out to inspect soon. Ellingson Contractor from Owatonna does directional boring and pipe bursting. Line is older PVC pipe and in 2003 main lift station 7 HP pumps were replaced with 20 HP pumps causing more head pressure. Poly pigs make it through but are torn up. Could line be drained and televised to ascertain its condition? If required by MPCA to replace, engineers will need to be involved. Cost could be exurbanite.

Engineering design flaw at ponds makes transferring water difficult. Weinreich will have Infratech out next year as it can wait. Septic Check pumped chamber and will return for jetting before ponds ice over. Repair was budgeted.

Zoning Report: Non-compliant unresolved issues: J&J's Detached Townhomes, Ellis, Diver, and Poshusta. Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD) along with their engineer was onsite at Bezanson regarding inadequate drainage. Letter will be sent confirming their findings that not much can be done. Bezanson built a bunkhouse and wanted more parking area.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich: MLSWCD also looked at highway drainage down to Veterans Park and reserve area again. They had given three possible solutions with 50/50 cost sharing, however Council agreed to table this issue in hopes of coordinating with MnDOT in 2023 as they plan on constructing stormwater ponds. Dundee's boat launch is eroding due to high velocity of storm water entering the lake. Culvert near Weiers will need to be replaced too. MLSWCD didn't think replacing park sidewalk in 2016 would hinder anything in the future.

No culvert work was done as it is getting late in the year. Judy Cassady has bent culvert needing repair. Per Button remove rusty culvert at Marj Bertelson property as it dangerous. Carpets were cleaned in community hall and office. New tables were purchased and old ones will be saved for garage sales and events.

Button requesting authorization for WAVE Committee to purchase lighted trailer advertising sign for \$1700; 50% down payment is required. Will be used to advertise events and businesses could use it too. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Bjornson to authorize purchase of trailer advertising sign for \$1700 from WAVE Fund. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. WAVE also purchased POW/MIA heavy duty flag and extra US flags to have on hand for Veterans Park.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: City Parks Muskie Sign & Dock: WAVE paid \$715.04 for the sign and Jackson family donated the record size aluminum metal Muskie. TCI Signs designed it and Button put it together, while WAVE members did install due to great weather. Thank you it looks great!

Loren Lee Mattson donated 40' x 4' wide dock for boat launching at City Park. Park Commissioner Bjornson approved purchase of cedar decking and screws for approximately \$150 and if necessary, stringers for additional \$75. Weinreich will replace decking and owner of Anything Metal will donate bobcat to install next spring. Weinreich stated cost could be \$180 instead of \$150. Council agreed to install it on the natural side of launch and not on the fishing pier side.

NEW BUSINESS: Premier Pyrotechnics Inc. Early Purchase Option 2: Budget has been \$3850 for many years now and early pay option gives us additional 12.5% of product. Motion by Button, second by Bjornson-Main to approve early option 2 payment of July Fourth fireworks through Premier Pyrotechnics in the amount of \$3850. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Opposed: Goplen. Motion carried. Past three years no taxpayer funds have been expended as they were covered by donations and/or transfer from Event Fund. Should donations not cover expense, council would be asked where the remaining funds should come from. Council hopes Wahkon Days profits in Event Fund will cover all events including July Fourth celebration.

Wellness Alliance Incentive Program for 2015 & Model Memorandum Agreement: Covered employees can earn up to \$350 by taking a confidential health risk assessment, know their lab numbers for blood pressure, cholesterol, etc. and take up to three online health courses. November 30<sup>th</sup> is the deadline. Usually these are paid into a health savings account (HSA) but as the City has a reasonable deductible for their employees, HSA's aren't allowed. Incentive money would need to be paid through payroll. Yes there would be additional city costs for their portion of payroll taxes. Council agreed to table this issue.

Walleye Dundee's Resort & Cafe Lease Continuation Upon Sale of Property: Sandy Reichel went out into the audience and Acting Mayor Bjornson-Main took over the meeting. Reichel will soon be selling their property and need assurance that as long as the property continues as a resort business the new owner shall have the same rights as they have currently through their lease with the City for utilizing Lake Shore Blvd and Reserve B. Lease states "Walleye Dundee's and its predecessors in title since that 1940's have continually used with the City's knowledge and permission portions of City land described below as a component of its resort business." Previous owner of Husnik's Resort requested same thing when they sold and City issued a letter of consent. Need validation resort can continue as is in order to advertise appropriately. Council agreed there is no issue if it remains a resort,

but if it were converted into residential lots, lease would be null and void. Reichel understands that too. Motion by Button, second by Goplen to compose letter authorizing the continuation of the existing lease between the City of Wahkon and future owners of Walleye Dundee's Resort & Café for use of public property described as Reserve B and Lake Shore Blvd for resort purposes for as long as the property remains a resort. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, and Button. Abstain: Bjornson-Main and Reichel. Motion carried. Mayor Reichel returned to council seat.

PLANNING COMMISSION/COUNCIL WORKSHOP: Zoning Ordinance Draft Sections Review: Fish Houses, Vacation Rentals & Recreational Vehicles: Council believes this is too lengthy as written and would be difficult to enforce. Without permission, we can't step onto private property. Want to stop people using fish houses for storage shed as no permit is required. Buildings used as living quarters for fourteen consecutive days must be connected to sewer, which is written in sewer ordinance; don't think we also need it here. Council instructed clerk to simplify the rules into one "fish house/recreational vehicle" section. Bring back to regular meeting for review.

Council discussed fact that the pillars were removed from the overhang of Jim Staricha's building on North Main and laying on the ground. Are they decoration or structurally pertinent for snow load? Future plans include demolition. Clerk to call Staricha requesting building be demoed sooner than later and see what his plans are for the little brown building as well.

Friday night there was a loud and obnoxious four wheeler driving upon North Main. They also tore down Lake Shore Blvd.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Bjornson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The December 14, 2015 Wahkon Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Amy Goplen, Christine Bjornson, Tony Button, and Ronda Bjornson-Main. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, along with city engineering firm representative Heidi Peper of S.E.H. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA: All items listed shall be approved by one motion, unless removed. Motion by Goplen, second by Bjornson-Main to accept consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Button, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) State Representative Sondra Erickson Town Hall Meeting, Isle City Hall 12/16 @ 7 pm
- B) AARP Fraud, Scams & Identity Theft Discussion @ IREC 12/20 @ 1 - 2 pm
- C) City Hall Closed 12/16, 12/25 & 1/1
- D) WAVE 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook Off 1/23 @ Wahkon Inn
- E) Mille Lacs Area Health Foundation (MLAHF) Donation Request
- F) Charitable Gambling Reports 10/2015: Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$80.61
- G) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$584,140.69
- H) Mille Lacs County (MLC) Tax Settlement Report \$118,008.84
- I) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- J) Disbursement 12/14 Register Date Range 11/10 – 12/14 Total \$25,894.22

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution No. 2015-1214 “In Support of Conducting a Scenic Byway Assessment for the Lake Mille Lacs Area”: Penny Simonsen of East Central Regional Development Commission (ECRDC) was present to discuss. Council is all for promoting tourism to this great lake, but would designation adversely affect individual land owners? No. It all began with suggestion from Mugg's co-owner Steve Dubbs in a letter to the editor. Simonsen is also a small business owner and previously worked for MLC. Options include state, federal, local/regional byways or green routes. Need to consider sustainability as well. Designation may open funding for better roads. Looking for community support through this resolution, which was sent to all communities surrounding the lake. Several development commission districts are working jointly on this and if supported the process would take about a year. No down side to it that Simonsen sees. Destination driven to bring people to the lake, not taking private or public land off the tax rolls. National designation is more detailed with more requirements. Designate specific roads that go around the lake. Funding? Possibly from MnDOT or State Legacy Fund. State money may be available to promote the area due to tight fishing regulations. Historical details would be identified too. The group is requesting a contact person be designated to represent Wahkon; contact Clerk Roeschlein. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Bjornson to adopt Resolution No. 2015-1214 “In Support of Conducting a Scenic Byway Assessment for the Lake Mille Lacs Area”. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2015-1214A “Adopting 2016 Special Assessments for 2015 Delinquent Utility Fees”: Clerk supplied council will past due list as of today. Haack's daughter will send payment of \$250 by mail today and the rest by end of January if council agrees. Council agreed to payment terms. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Goplen to adopt Resolution No. 2015-1214A “Adopting 2016 Special Assessments for 2015 Delinquent Utility Fees” with the exception of removing Haack-Berg from the list. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Property owners can make payments through year end then clerk will send final assessment list to MLC.

Resolution No. 2015-1214B “Approving Charitable Gambling Within the City Limits of Wahkon.” Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) will have pull tabs at Morning Star Market once approved by the State. Motion by Bjornson, second by Bjornson-Main to adopt Resolution No. 2015-1214B “Approving Charitable Gambling Within the City Limits of Wahkon”. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS: Wastewater: Weinreich: Did repairs out at ponds. Septic Check cleaned a line for \$800 versus \$3000. Haven’t been notified by MPCA relative to force main break but Weinreich is investigating possible options. Want to alleviate pressure on the old force main. National representative for AVS pumps will be at Breezy Point and they’ll stop to discuss. Hope to find non-invasive solution instead of high cost to replace entire force main, which would require bonding. Did late discharge at ponds, which are ready for winter.

Zoning Report: Permit issues/violations are: J&J’s Detached Townhomes, Ellis, Diver, and Poshusta. New approved permit for Albertson, #25-561-0280 @ 250 Bennett Street upon non-conforming existing structure to construct first and second floor extensions, which will meet all applicable setbacks.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich: Entryway siding was replaced along with new left handed swinging screen door. Previous one was damaged due to wind blowing it open. Better door raised cost to \$2100, but it should also help with heating costs.

Street Blacktopping: Button will begin working on paving needs promptly in the spring in order to get work accomplished in timely manner.

Park Community Garden: Bjornson as Park Commissioner will meet with David Morneau to discuss his dream to build possible community garden.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Appeldoorn’s Sunset Bay Resort Questions Regarding Walleye Dundee’s Resort Purchase: Both Mayor Reichel (seller) and Acting Mayor Bjornson-Main (realtor) removed themselves from council to be out in the audience. Remaining council agreed Button, as senior member, would conduct meeting. Paul Waldowski, representing Appeldoorn’s, had the following questions: Lease: renewal guarantee, pricing & cost increases, shed next to park, building & replacement restrictions, beach area & restrictions, parking, dock & boat ramp upkeep & restrictions. Resort: sewer rates & hookup fees, park models replacing RV’s, cabin replacement permitting process, and encroachment issue of café and cabin upon right of way (ROW). Council has and will continue to promote businesses. Waldowski doesn’t see need for old boat house next to Veterans Park, which would be nice to have it solely as a park without this encumbrance. Plan is to have Dickie’s plow road and collect ice road pass. Put out a permanent dock in the future. City plans to remove grass boulevard in front of park making additional parking. Boat trailer parking has caused some concern in past. Waldowski wants to protect their investment. Times have changed and what worked thirty years ago isn’t working anymore.

North Main is 100’ wide; café and cabin #4 are partially within ROW according to recent survey. Can they be rebuilt if damaged? Non-conforming structures have 180 day statute rule to obtain permit. Main Street commercial businesses are allowed 1’ setback. Final survey will detail encroachment. Past practice is that sewer connection fees aren’t applicable if utilizing existing line.

Want to replace RV's with park models and increase green space. Current old cabins don't meet health code and are allowed to continue, but if renovated must meet current standards. City would work with them on permits to improve the resort and increase tax base. City received memorial money from families for permanent future city dock. Common goal is to bring people into Wahkon.

Five year lease price began at \$500 for Dundee's and \$400 for Island View and continues today. Private dock fees upon paper streets are no longer allowed but were \$350. City isn't looking to make money. Are lease prices similar to liquor fees wherein cities can only charge what they expend to enforce? Clerk wasn't sure. For over thirteen years, Reichel has seen the City work with businesses. Everyone is in it for the long haul and what is best for businesses is best for the town. Council agreed they will support Appeldoorn's plans as they have done for previous resort owners in the past. Reichel and Bjornson-Main returned to their council seats.

Field Street Survey: Isle Harbor (I.H) Township extinguished their half of Field Street and it doesn't revert over to city per S.E.H engineer. Not similar to vacation where abutting property owner takes half as this is outside our corporate limits. Wahkon has 33' easement. Cost of \$3300 for certificate of survey of Field Street from Lake Shore Blvd to Hwy 27 and \$5850 for certificate and wetland delineation report for trail, which would have five year shelf life. I.H. and WAVE are willing to pay \$1100 each if City would also participate. With current fishing regulations, economy isn't the greatest. Have possible engineering fees for sidewalk replacement at Veterans Park this year. Is a walking trail a high priority at this time? Once surveyed, Boy Scouts could help construct trail with wood chips. There are wetlands according to county map. How many people will actually use it? Already have Soo Line Trail and two State Parks with beautiful trails. Field Street doesn't abut property with houses and this was the path of least resistance for a possible trail. Doing this could be perceived as improving Lake Shore Blvd area only. Citizens would likely not want tax money used as complaints are heard taxes are too high. City reduced levy by 3% to help citizens. If economy improves, maybe in the future. City doesn't have a master trail plan, but MLC is working on one. Best to have trails connect for grant funding, which this one doesn't. Trail would be used for cross country skiing, snow shoeing, etc., not motorized vehicles, including golf carts. Peper of S.E.H. will attend next WAVE meeting on 1/5 to discuss funding for parks and trails. Council agreed to table this matter for now.

NEW BUSINESS: Catholic Charities Senior Dining Program Site Use Agreement: Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Button, to enter into the Catholic Charities Senior Dining Program Site Use Agreement for 2016. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Veterans Park & 1<sup>st</sup> Street W Sidewalk Installation Specifications: Possible contractors aren't happy with our limited specifications. Without elevation specifications and as built plans, drainage will be a problem and contractors don't want city to come back to them for remedies. Need engineering assistance to ensure integrity of improvement. Launch is being under washed from highway drainage flowing along street and Veterans Park sidewalk. Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD) has looked at the area too. MnDOT projects in 2016 and 2023 may affect drainage; should work jointly on remedy. Engineer Jeff Ledin of S.E. H will be onsite to access situation. Engineer fee for small sidewalk project at 1<sup>st</sup> Street W would be approximately \$2000. Council agreed Ledin should review both areas as well as force main issue. Peper could also help with funding sources.

Open Forum: Heidi Piper of S.E.H is willing to attend meetings on a quarterly basis, but council agreed it can be on an as needed basis. Dale Matte questioned how snowmobiles would be kept from using a snowshoe and ski trail? Steel barricade limiting width would work. Have issues with snowmobiles speedy down Lake Shore Blvd already without a trial.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Goplen, second by Bjornson-Main to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Goplen, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

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Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

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Sandy Reichel, Mayor