

The January 9, 2017 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Christine Bjornson, and Tony Button. Councilmember Kim Tyson was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, along with city engineering firm S.E.H representative Heidi Peper. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITY GOVERNMENT ANNUAL REORGANIZATION: Clerk administered Oath of Office to Ronda Bjornson-Main, Anthony Button, and Mayor Sandy Reichel. Motion by Bjornson-Main, second by Bjornson 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; Tyson, Municipal Buildings Commissioner; and Bjornson, Park Commissioner. First National Bank of Milaca, Isle Branch, Depository; 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; and Oberfeld Insurance, Insurance Agency. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

CONTINUED PUBLIC HEARING FROM 12/12/16 COUNCIL MEETING: Seventh Street Vacation Public Hearing: Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Bjornson-Main to open the continued public hearing. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Due to weather conditions, petitioners were unable to drive here from the Twin Cities and request tonight's hearing be continued. Department of Natural Resources (DNR) letter was received 12/27/2016. Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Button to continue the Seventh Street Vacation Public Hearing to 2/13/2017 council meeting per petitioner's request. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Bjornson-main to close the public hearing. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

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

A) Mille Lacs County (MLC) High Speed Internet Community Outreach Program, 6 pm Wed. 1/11 @ Wahkon Community Hall

B) City Hall Closed Mon. 1/16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day

C) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Hearing, 9 a.m. Tues. 1/17 @ MLC Courthouse

D) How to Practice Cultural Humility by Roxanne DeLille, 5:30 – 8:30 pm Thurs. 1/19 @ Rolf Olsen Center (ROC) Onamia, FREE Light Dinner Included

E) 6th Annual Beef Chili Cook Off & Community Input Meeting Sat. 1/28 @ Wahkon Inn

F) 2017 IRS Standard Mileage Rate 53.5 Cents from 54 Cents: New Wahkon Rate

G) League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) Property/Casualty 2016 Dividend

H) Charitable Gambling Report: 11/2016 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$292.42

I) Treasurer's Year End Unaudited Report Ending Balance \$666,842.64

J) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Reports

K) Disbursement 1/9/17 Register for 12/13/16 – 1/9/17 Total \$97,233.70

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Neighborhood Watch: Sheriff Brent Lindgren: Council agreed to move unfinished business up on the agenda due to travel distance. WAVE Committee and Council inquired as some incidents have occurred. Lindgren thanked Council for this opportunity and noted that extra

patrols are happening in the area. Cops Grant funds will be used to protect cities and townships without their own police force. Two deputies were hired and will be introduced soon. Neighborhood Watch is an older program that still resonates with folks; City of Pease has signage displayed. With new technology, sharing information and tips is easier than ever. Crime mapping is available on the sheriff's website giving general vicinity. Sheriff's Dept. has a Facebook page and subscribes to Crime Stoppers, a nationwide 20 year old program, where people can electronically give information anonymously. Nextdoor.com can be set up for a community and/or neighborhood to share information amongst themselves about garage sales, events, issues of concerns, etc. Recently MLC dedicated a deputy to cover East Side, Isle Harbor, South Harbor Townships and Wahkon. Informing the public is important and having hyperlinks available on city website would be helpful. Citizens are the eyes and ears of the community and Lindgren impressed the importance of calling 911. Implementing a watch is as easy as ordering signs through Sheriff's Department and informing the public through local media.

Tribal Law & Order Agreement (TLOA): Mayor asked if Lindgren could discuss how the revocation of the TLOA by MLC may affect us. He declined to discuss it at this time and will leave that to other county staff to discuss. Council conveyed their appreciation to MLC for their support.

Veterans Park Feasibility Study Agreement: Heidi Peper was present and thanked council for S.E.H's reappointment as city engineering firm. Wahkon was awarded Initiative Foundation (I.F) \$2500 grant. Originally it was a \$10,000 study that we hoped to fill the missing \$2500 from Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD). Rather than doing small beach area, they'd prefer helping with a city wide storm water management plan that could begin this spring with S.E.H help; plan hasn't been officially approved. Approximate cost would be \$25,000 with 75% grant. Weinreich recalled previous councilmember Gary Larson investigated such a plan many years ago for \$10,000. MN Department of Transportation (DOT) may work with City in 2023 for Main Street Renovation including drainage holding ponds. SWCD grant funding goes through MN Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR) and would be received in 2018. S.E.H and SWCD will attend future meeting to discuss further. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to enter into the \$7500 Veterans Park Feasibility Study Agreement with S.E.H. of which \$5000 is city portion. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Newly elected President Donald Trump administration may substantially increase infrastructure funding. Council agreed with Peper's suggestion to hold staff work shop meeting to discuss future city needs. City projects that are formally planned have funding priority. Clerk will list project possibilities for citizen input during the community meeting portion of the WAVE chili cook off.

Brian Bezanson was present and requested anything submitted by the Bezanson family that petitioned to vacate 7th Street be supplied to him by email. If it goes in the council packet please send it to them. We will do our best to keep you updated.

REPORTS: Sewer: Weinreich has found a contractor to take care of plugged line at the ponds.

Zoning: Ongoing issues: J&J's Detached Townhomes, Ellis, and Diver. Lloyd Carr paid the penalty fee of \$375 for not obtaining a permit prior to enclosing outside steps that were covered with roof overhang; permit has been approved.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: DOT operator informed Weinreich a future contract with city for snow removal may be necessary. Clerk hasn't received anything official and City has never had a contract. Discussion occurred when Weinreich questioned why snow was piled high at the snowmobile trail head which also blocked some parking in community class five lot. DOT would supply loader and operator, with city responsible for trucking. City has smaller dump truck than what

DOT currently uses, but it would suffice. There would be extra cost for Weinreich to haul the snow. DOT has promptly removed snow piles from Main Street/Hwy 27. Weinreich will clear trail head.

Clerk may have jury duty 2/13 and must call Sunday before but should be back in time for council meeting. Button thanked WAVE volunteers and hopes attendance at chili cook off and community meeting is good.

NEW BUSINESS: Mille Lacs Area Health Foundation Donation Request: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Bjornson to donate \$1000 from Charitable Gambling Fund toward a Hygiene System tub for residents in long term care. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Isle School District (ISD) 473 Skating Rink Donation Request: Council agreed there are very few things for kids to do after school. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Bjornson to donate \$500 from Charitable Gambling Fund to ISD 473 for their skating rink. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

General Fund Street CD Maturity & Reinvestment: In 2016 state legislature appropriated money to small cities for streets. Wahkon received \$11,157 and purchased one year CD, which will mature 1/15/2017 for \$11,203.42. CD will automatically renew for another year at same interest rate of .4000%. Rates are still low at .5000% for 18 months up to .9000% for 3 years. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson to allow CD212131 to automatically renew for one year. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

July 2017 Fireworks Discussion: Council agreed not to request use of Petty property due to what occurred last year. While watching Garrison fireworks Sheriff Lindgren's personal boat was burnt from debris. Council discussed possible locations; must have adequate buffer from houses & spectators depending upon size of mortar. Should this tradition continue? Usually donations cover the cost and hope is for the Community Events Fund to cover them. Premier Pyrotechnics charges 10% to do the display and their only availability is Monday 7/3. Isle FD no longer wishes to be in charge of fireworks after 2016 display. Fireworks have been on the actual date of 7/4 for many years, however businesses have requested in the past to have the display on an earlier date so tourists can enjoy it. Continuation of fireworks will be placed on the list for citizen's votes at community meeting in conjunction with chili cook off. Ask Isle FD for location suggestions. Bring back to next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Button to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:18 pm

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The January 23, 2017 Planning Commission meeting of the Wahkon Council was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Kim Tyson, Ronda Bjornson-Main, Tony Button, and Christine Bjornson. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, as well as, Darrin Welle of National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA). Meeting was called by the Mayor and notice was properly posted.

Zoning Services Contract with NJPA: Mille Lacs County is out of their region but due to Welle living in Little Falls they felt he could cover us efficiently. Began offering zoning services due to the need and currently serve about 12 communities. No minimum hours required. City wants to do it right the first time through stream lined process, including finally getting planning and zoning page completed on website with permit applications. Completed applications would be scanned to Welle with onsite inspection conducted by him. Enforcement would be handled by NJPA by sending letters, after which attorney would need to become involved if unresolved. Welle would work with council acting as Planning Commission via meetings on the fourth Monday to finish new zoning ordinance. All changes will be reviewed by city attorney. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to contract zoning services from NJPA for \$60 per hour. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Contract dated 11/8/16 will be updated and formally signed at February council meeting.

Review Proposed Edits Regarding Fish House & Recreational Vehicles Section: Ordinance 2016-1 “An Interim Ordinance Authorizing a Study of the Use of Recreational Vehicles for Lodging Purposes and Imposing a Moratorium” is valid until 6/29/17, one year after its adoption. Thereafter, if new rules don’t exist, we will be in the same predicament as before the moratorium with no means to regulate their use. Storage and use of fish houses and RVs for overflow sleeping is fine for parcels with a residence, however they should meet setbacks. For undeveloped properties, all three utilities would be required, electric, water and sewer, as that will be an investment for future permanent structure development.

Review Zoning Ordinance Draft: Dated 6/19/15 with notations from 8/24/15 review meeting was presented. Clerk memo from 10/24/16 meeting outlined previous discussions, including asking Mille Lacs County to take on our zoning, which they have since declined. Thereafter, council decided to look into utilizing NJPA, which was formalized today. City Attorney Kyle Hartnett had taken over drafting the zoning ordinance from Troy Gilchrist, and will now work with Welle to finalize. Ordinance draft was reviewed with Welle. Primary structure must have 900 square feet but no width requirement. Allowing park models and storage containers were debated. Could use interim use permits. Will get advice from attorney and decide at next review. Demolition permits are needed to ensure utilities have been properly terminated. Fee schedule will need to be updated as zoning fees haven’t been increased in a long time.

Discuss Ordinance Option Out of the Requirements of MN Statutes Section 462.3593 Regarding Temporary Family Health Care Dwellings: City attorney drafted one page ordinance opting out, but Planning Commission agreed to include it within future zoning ordinance. Public hearing is required. How does this differ from putting grandma in a fish house on the back of your property? Legislature passed this rule allowing it unless cities opt out. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to being the process of opting out of allowing temporary family health care dwellings by including it in the zoning ordinance. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:17 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The February 13, 2017 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by interim Acting Mayor Tony Button at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Christine Bjornson and Kim Tyson. Councilmembers absent were Mayor Sandy Reichel and Acting Mayor Ronda Bjornson-Main. 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 Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson and Button. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) Meeting Minutes: 12/12/16 Council & 10/24/16 Special Council Meetings
- B) WAVE 6th Annual Beef Chili Cook Off & Community Meeting 1/28/17 Results Memo
- C) City Hall Closed 2/20 Presidents' Day
- D) Isle Fire Dept. Meeting 2/22 @ 5 pm @ Fire Hall
- E) Building Healthy Communities for our Children, Thurs. 2/23 @ Rolf Olsen Center 5:30 – 8:30 pm with Free Chili Supper
- F) Special Council Meeting Mon. 1/27 @ 6 pm: Review Draft Zoning Ordinance & Current Fee Schedules
- G) Charitable Gambling Reports: Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$1305 to WAVE Volunteers @ Mugg's Meat Raffle; 10% Fund 12/2016 \$10.98
- H) LG510 City 2016 Annual Report 10% Lawful Gambling Contribution Fund
- I) 2017 Summary Budget Statement
- J) 2017 Pay Equity Report
- K) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$602,501.61
- L) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- M) Tax Settlement Report \$24,729.35
- N) Disbursement Register 2/13 Date Range 1/10 – 2/13 Total \$213,710.11 Less Transfers Total \$19,662.61

PUBLIC HEARINGS & PETITIONS: Continued from 1/9/17: 7th Street E, Wahkon Vacation Public Hearing: Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to open the 7th Street E Vacation public hearing. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson and Button. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment: Judy Bezanson spoke for the petitioners and thanked council for continuing the meeting from 1/9 per their request due to weather related driving conditions. Their well and a small structure are within right of way (ROW), which they have maintained over the years. In 100 years it hasn't been used by the public, only as a driveway to the abutting properties. Other streets have been vacated and vacating a portion of the north side of 7th Street makes sense. Stacy Bezanson and Helen Eckert were present also.

DNR Recommendation Letter: Clerk read letter dated 12/21/2016, received 12/27/16 outlining their reasons to deny the vacation. "Seventh Street continues to hold public recreational value by providing current and/or future access to the lake for recreational purposes such as shore fishing, canoeing, an observation area, or swimming. There does not appear to be any public benefit to simply vacate the property. Based on the information provided and risking loss of access to Mille Lacs Lake via Seventh Street, the DNR opposes the vacation in regards to Vacation Petition within the Plat of Wahkon."

Letters of Opposition: Two councilmembers were unable to attend. Clerk read letters from Ronda Bjornson-Main and Sandy Reichel, both agreeing with DNR opinion to deny the vacation. Bjornson-Main added "I would also recommend that in the future that the property owners that have

encroached on 7th Street make every effort not to further encroach and to possibly remove encroachments when possible.” Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to close the 7th Street E vacation public hearing. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson and Button. Motion carried unanimously.

Council Decision: According to attorney memo regarding ROW, plat owners have a right to use them even if they haven’t been developed. Streets are for access and emergency vehicles. Brian Bezanson wasn’t present tonight but at a previous meeting stated he was opposed to the proposed vacation and recommended it all be vacated and thereafter the two families would divide up the land via an agreement based upon past maintenance practices. City shouldn’t be giving property away; others will be lining up. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to deny the 7th Street E vacation request based upon DNR recommendation. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Button. Motion carried unanimously. City attorney will draft resolution denying the vacation which will be made part of the 3/13 meeting agenda for formal adoption. Bezanson had read somewhere that property owners may ask again in one year after a denial.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution No. 2017-0213 Regarding the Administration of the Minnesota Wetland Conservation 1991 Act (WCA): Previously MLC was given authority to implement WCA rules in Wahkon and a current resolution is required. City may take authority but there are standards involved and staff training needed. Technical Evaluation Panel (TEP) consists of representatives from Board of Waters & Soil Resources (BWSR), MLC and Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD) and would continue to be involved with review and final decisions. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to adopt Resolution No. 2017-0213. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson and Button. Motion carried unanimously. MLC will continue implementing WCA rules in Wahkon.

REPORTS: Wastewater: Weinreich explained that two new 20 HP pumps are needed in main lift station. One went out and rental is in its place. Recommendation is to purchase two that will function well together and parts are no longer available for current brand pumps. Spring thaw will be soon, and delivery takes 6-8 weeks. New pumps have 5 year warranty and with purchase of two for \$29,000 we save \$1500. Budget included funds for one pump. Calculations were made to ensure pumps don’t overload our force main. Weinreich will obtain additional quote from Braun but requests permission to order pumps through lowest bidder promptly. Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Tyson to authorize purchase of two 20 HP pumps for \$29,000. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Button. Motion carried unanimously.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: List of items for sale on Craig’s List was reviewed. Three items have been sold. Trail cutter has an offer of \$1000; Weinreich will counter with \$1100. Council agreed to keep stainless steel tipping kettle price at \$700. The two grills were lowered from \$250 to \$150 for pair but still not interest, leave as is for now.

Weinreich found steel to replace large plow cutting edge, \$500 and small plow for \$450. Shipman’s Auto no longer carries Western plows. WAVE prom is 4/22 at Wahkon Inn.

Zoning: Non-compliant zoning issues, J&J’s Detached Townhomes, Ellis and Diver. Lee Hohlen permit approved to install 30’x54’ manufactured home at 2370 Lake Shore Blvd. Weinreich explained how anchoring standards have changed over the years. Hohlen foundation meets manufactured standards with four scissor metal connections at each corner; before it was tie downs on numerous piers throughout the frame. Ellis installed piers with tie downs at the ends with more pending in the middle. Council agreed to remove Ellis as being non-compliant as his anchoring is similar to what is being installed today.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Independence Day Fireworks: Location, Date & Purchase: Premier Pyrotechnics can do the display on 7/3 for 10% of our order, Isle Fire Dept. is willing to help, and Isle Harbor Township board agreed to allow Wahkon to close off Stevens Road for fireworks display from Bare Ass Beach. Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Tyson to hire Premier Pyrotechnics for \$385 to do Wahkon fireworks on Mon. 7/3 and to purchase \$3850 worth of fireworks by 3/1 in order to obtain 10% additional product. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Button. Motion carried unanimously. Audience member Kathy Vanderbert suggested sending fireworks donation letter to Princeton Jaycees PO Box 463, as she is member.

Nation Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) Planning & Zoning Services Program Purchase of Service Agreement: Darrin Welle of NJPA will begin working with council to finalize new zoning ordinance and to become zoning administrator in the near future. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to enter into a contract with NJPA for “all zoning needs” service for “as needed” hours at \$60 per hour. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Button. Motion carried unanimously. Special meetings held fourth Mon. of the month at 6 pm will be dedicated to zoning with goal of adopting new ordinance by construction season.

NEW BUSINESS: American Cancer Society Donation & Volunteer Request: Sherry Bixby & Kathy Vanderbert spoke about the 1st Annual Northern Mille Lacs County Relay for Life. Location is Isle HS parking lot 5 pm to 1 am Fri. 7/28. Fundraising efforts have begun and organizational meetings are held first Wed. of the month at Cedarwood at 6:30 pm. Need committee chairs, members, teams and volunteers for this event. Letters will be mailed and they’d hoped to use city return address as a means for it to be opened instead of thrown. City address is solely for government use and can’t be used by others, even a worthy cause such as this, but information can be provided through city website, WAVE Facebook, emails, etc. 90% of funds raised stay in the county to support patients and families living with cancer. Bixby & Vanderbert are passionate about finding a cure as many of their family members are fighting cancer and some they have lost. Motion by Tyson, second by Bjornson to donate \$1000 to American Cancer Society Northern Mille Lacs County Relay for Life from the Charitable Gambling Fund. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Button. Motion carried unanimously.

Wahkon Inn Band Request for 7/1: Tom Remer wasn’t present but sent email requesting permission for a band in his parking lot from 2–6 pm. Isle Fire Dept. bike rally will end at Wahkon Inn that day as well. Council is all for the event but questioned necessity of needing permission as the hours won’t conflict with noise ordinance. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to authorize Wahkon Inn to have a band on 7/1 in their parking lot from 2 – 6 pm. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Button. Motion carried unanimously. Weinreich will check with Remer to see about blockades, signage, etc.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Tyson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson and Button. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The February 27, 2017 Planning Commission meeting of the Wahkon Council was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Members present were Tony Button, Christine Bjornson, Ronda Bjornson-Main, and Kim Tyson. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, as well as, Darrin Welle of National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA). Meeting was called by the Mayor and notice was properly posted.

Storage Container as Permanent Accessory Storage Building Memo: Karrie Roeschlein went into the audience as a citizen to discuss. After speaking with current Zoning Administrator Weinreich, she thought an 8'x40' storage container could be permitted as Ordinance 2006-1 doesn't specifically prohibit them. Permit application was submitted the next day 2/22 for permanent storage container and pole building. One way container (very nice condition) was purchased with delivery pending. On 2/23 Weinreich explained his unease due to the unknowns and preferred to bring the storage container question to planning commission for approval. Roeschlein submitted memo outlining argument similar to why fish houses were allowed due to no regulations denying them, thus the reason for the current moratorium.

Welle spoke with city attorney Kyle Hartnett in preparation for this discussion and per ordinance it could be a storage shed or structure, however foundation would be required. Most sheds in town don't have foundations and a container has substantial weight, so it won't blow away. People use semi-trailers for storage. Yes but neither would fit aesthetically on Lake Shore Blvd. If allowed, others may want them. Container could be allowed temporarily in conjunction with the approved pole building permit. They are requesting it in order to tear down their garage and small sheds to store items in until pole building is finished; want it permanent, but if necessary temporarily. Welle reiterated that if it is a structure on a foundation it is a permitted use. Moratorium could be drafted by next meeting. Based upon NJPA and city attorney input, storage container is a structure per current Z.O. 2006-1 and as such, must be placed upon permanent foundation or frost footings every 8'. Tim & Karrie Roeschlein may have storage container temporarily in conjunction with approved 36'x48' pole building permit for up to one year, or upon completion, whichever occurs first or permanently if placed upon a foundation. Planning Commission agreed no moratorium is necessary as new zoning ordinance will be ready soon with regulations.

Zoning Ordinance 2/21/2017 Draft Review: Messenger article a few weeks ago stated some building permits are required but not enforced by Mille Lacs County. Even the county has difficulty with zoning and it reinforces our decision to contract with NJPA. Ordinance draft was reviewed page by page and Welle and clerk made notes. Changes will be made and reviewed at 3/27 meeting along with fee schedule.

Zoning Permit Review by NJPA Begins? NJPA will begin 3/1 to review permits in his official capacity as Wahkon's Zoning Administrator.

Adjournment: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Tyson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The March 13, 2017 Wahkon Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Christine Bjornson, Kim Tyson, and Ronda Bjornson-Main. Councilmember Tony Button was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, as well as, city engineer Jeff Ledin 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 Bjornson-Main, seconded by Tyson to remove approval of 2/13/17 minutes from item A for further discussion and approve remaining consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously

A) Meeting Minutes: 1/9/17 Council

B) Wahkon Letter of Thanks to MnDOT for 2016 Hwy 27 Project

C) Onamia Food Shelf Donation Thank You

D) Regional Child Care Capacity Building Summit, Mon. 3/20 @ Pine Technical Community College Auditorium 7-9 pm

E) Special Council Meeting Mon. 2/27 @ 6 pm: Review Draft Zoning Ordinance & Current Fee Schedules

F) Annual Mille Lacs County (MLC) Local Weed Management Training Mtg, Wed. 3/29 @ Zion Lutheran Church 1-3 pm

G) GPS::45::93 Economic Development Overview Training, Thurs. 3/30 @ Braham Event Center 5-8:30 pm

H) Wahkon Days Meeting, Mon. 4/3 @ Wahkon Comm. Hall 4 pm

I) WAVE Meeting, Tues. 4/4 @ Wahkon Comm. Hall 4 pm

J) WAVE Prom Dance Sat. 4/22 @ Wahkon Inn 8-12 pm

K) MLC Assessor's Information Meeting Wed. 4/5 @ 10 am

L) Savage Communication Franchise 2016 Franchise Report \$2,473.38

M) Charitable Gambling Report: 1/2017 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$1,212.06

N) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$625,856.14

O) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report

P) Disbursement Register 3/10 Date Range 2/14 – 3/10 Total \$27,046.85

A) Meeting Minutes: 2/13/17 Council: Judy Bezanson read unapproved 2/13/17 minutes and requested via email the following statement be corrected as they want the record to be clear; "Brian Bezanson wasn't present tonight but at a previous meeting stated he was opposed to the proposed vacation and recommended it all be vacated and thereafter the two families would divide up the land via an agreement based upon past maintenance practices." Judy refers back to 12/2016 meeting "...he clearly stated they were not opposed, they just didn't want the section to go so far to the east and we said we were flexible on that end." Clerk read part of 12/2016 minutes "Brain reiterated his family disagrees with what is presented..." Reichel recalled Brian telling her on site he was opposed to the vacation as written. Vacation petition clearly stated area to be vacated was open to discussion between the families and council. Both parties agree vacation was denied and this doesn't change that. Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Tyson to approve 2/13/17 council meeting minutes as written. Ayes: Bjornson and Tyson. Abstain: Bjornson-Main and Reichel due to non-attendance. Motion carried.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution No. 2017-0313 Denying the Vacation of a Portion of Seventh Street Located in the Plat of Wahkon: Council formally denied the decision at 2/13 meeting based upon DNR findings and recommendation, which was drafted into this resolution. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to adopt Resolution No. 2017-0313. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson. Abstain Bjornson-Main and Reichel due to non-attendance. Motion carried.

REPORTS: Wastewater & 2016 MPCA Wastewater Operations Award: Congratulations again Chris Weinreich! This is second year in a row for this honor. "We reviewed your submitted data and permit records for compliance from 9/1/2015 through 9/30/2016. You are confirmed as the recipient of a Certificate of Commendation for outstanding operation, maintenance, and management of your wastewater treatment system." Council agreed for a one man show he is doing a great job and authorizes his attendance at the March conference to receive the award. Weinreich recently attended MRWA conference.

Discharge pipe in original 1975 north primary pond has issues. Preliminary plans indicate pipe sitting on apron with curb of concrete across it, but no as-built plans to verify. Recent jetting confirmed there is an issue. Through pond expansion project new control structures circumvented these pipes by removing south primary pond pipe, but not the north one, as engineers didn't want to disturb original clay liner. Weinreich needs to use this pipe to exchange water between ponds. He will pump pond down to visually see the pipe from a boat. Has the curb fallen over the outlet partially? Sludge shouldn't be the cause. Big dredge could be brought in if repairs are required, which would be expensive.

Lift station # 3 is having issues. Line has elbows and it is difficult to substantiate its location and configuration, again due to lack of as-built plans. Habeck Construction has been notified should it become necessary to dig promptly, but plan is to wait until frost is out; approximate cost of \$3500. Ordered new epoxy coated impellers for pumps. Two new ABS pumps should be installed in main lift station this Wednesday.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich is still working on roof issue. LMCIT became involved per council request, by sending claims adjustor and engineer. They would cover interior damage caused by leaky roof but not the roof itself due to age of installation. Claim will be kept open until roof is torn off. Tyson suggested contractor that fixed her leaky roof as the structures are very similar. Roof used to leak during heavy rains with high wind but now it leaks more often. Addition was built in 1988; Weinreich has tightened the screws over the years, which is no longer working. Council agreed we need to stay atop of this and get going before contractors become too busy.

Laptop Computer: Clerk has had issues with old laptop stopping during meetings. Per Ernie's Computer Repair, Lenova laptop computer from Discount Computer Depot is a great deal at \$230 with one year warranty, plus additional cost for him to set it up. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Tyson to spend up to \$350 for new laptop computer, including set up. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried.

Clerk was excused from jury duty a second time, which concludes two month availability period. All items have been sold through Craig's List, except the two grills, which were pulled due to lack of interest. May 6 is scheduled clean-up day; Weinreich won't be there due to daughter's wedding. Mayor offered to help that day.

Zoning & Shoreland Management Ordinance Update Discussion: With the city close to finalizing a new zoning ordinance, should we review the new DNR Shoreland Ordinance? Current Shoreland Ordinance was adopted 25 years ago in 1992. New ordinance has better diagrams and information. Council agreed to review new ordinance at 3/27 special meeting.

Engineer Jeff Ledin: 2/10 Workshop Update, 1st St. W Sidewalk Plans & Specs, 2017 Street Blacktop, Possible Future Assessment Policy: Several possible projects were discussed at recent workshop. City wide storm water management plan grant funding is available, with June application deadline, and Lynn Gallice of Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) will be present at April meeting. Gallice discussed with Ledin utilizing S.E.H for technical help, cost estimate of \$2500 fee of which a percentage would be due from the city. Such a plan would be an asset to developers, citizens and a means to guide contractors and even MnDOT. Plan could be done in phases. Ditches are still drainage systems in need of maintenance policies as they protect street integrity and reduce I&I from entering WW system. Such a plan would be ideal for future street projects. Council will make a decision after discussing with Gallice in April. Assessments require public hearings. Past practice is that city pays 100% through tax levy.

Sanitary sewer has lingering needs as original system was installed in 1975. Treatment ponds are in good shape but force main is a big ticket item to fix or replace. City of Pease recently utilized Heidi Peper of S.E.H to obtain grants for their utility upgrade engineer report, which is needed to be on the list for grants and loans. MPCA hasn't forced the issue yet of repairing the force main due to recent breaks, but could in the future require plan of action. Air release valves were found and now have been regularly maintained. If our wastewater increases it could be a problem.

Sidewalk: Plans and specs, which follow DOT regulations, were submitted by Ledin for 1st St. W sidewalk in order to give contractor for quotes. Weinreich suggested width be increased from 4' to 6'. Wahkon Presbyterian Church (WPC) originally installed their sidewalk, some of which has cracked. City wide storm water plan would have elevation bench marks. Per Bjornson, previous resident of the area, portion of this sidewalk doesn't drain correctly. Jacking up the sidewalk was discussed. Need better transition from alley to sidewalk. Sidewalk at intersection of Hwy 27 isn't wide enough due to parking. Ledin believes the plan, which will be modified to accommodate 6' wide sidewalk may precede without a full storm water plan. Veterans Park Feasibility study work is being scheduled per Ledin.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Building Communities/Empowering Families Northern Mille Lacs County Community Action Sessions Including Free Meal: Thurs. 3/23 @ Eddy's 5:30-8 pm; Thurs. 4/6 @ Mille Lacs Band Community Center 6-8:30 pm; Thurs. 4/20 @ Eddy's 5:30-8 pm. After three community presentations, it is now time for action by collecting citizen input on what the area needs and how to make it happen. If interested in participating, please call city hall. As committee members, Button and Roeschlein will be table facilitators. All of this is sponsored by Catholic Charities, Initiative Foundation (I.F), Nobel Cause Grant, and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe.

NEW BUSINESS: Initiative Foundation (I.F) 2017 Donation Request: They recently awarded Wahkon \$2500 grant for Veterans Feasibility Study. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Tyson to donate \$250 to I.F. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

MN Rural Water Association Annual Membership: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Bjornson to renew option B annual membership \$250, equipment fund contribution \$25 and scholarship fund contribution \$10, for total of \$285. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Mille Lacs County Announces New Financing Tool for Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy Improvements News Release: Property-Assessed Clean Energy (PACE): Informational.

Messenger Fun Guide Ad: Annually this is joint effort between organizations and businesses welcoming tourists and highlighting city events. 2016 price was \$89 based upon having at least 10 participants, but there were only 8, which shortchanged the Messenger. This year price of ½ page ad is the same, but they need to charge each participant \$100 in order not to fall short again. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson for City and WAVE to each pay \$100 for the ½ page Fun Guide ad. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Bjornson requested kids fishing contest be added to events.

Isle FD Annual Contract Renewal, 2016 Fire Calls & New Fire Hall Info: Wahkon didn't have any official calls, only weather community related under "all". Rate has remained the same for several years. New fire hall is being constructed and rates shouldn't increase. Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Tyson to renew annual contract commencing 3/1/17 with Isle FD for \$9, 375.04. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The March 27, 2017 Planning Commission meeting of the Wahkon Council was called to order by Acting Mayor Ronda Bjornson-Main at 6:02 pm. Councilmembers present were Tony Button and Christine Bjornson. Councilmembers absent were Mayor Sandy Reichel and Kim Tyson. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, as well as, Darrin Welle of National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA). Meeting was called by the Mayor and notice was properly posted.

Zoning Ordinance 3/7/2017 Draft Review: Ordinance draft was reviewed line by line with Welle and clerk taking notes. Changes will be made and reviewed at 4/10 council meeting in preparation of 4/24 planning commission public hearing.

Fee Schedule Review: Wahkon fees haven't been increased in many years and Welle provided a draft with current and recommended fees. Copies of fee schedules from Isle, Onamia, and Garrison were provided for comparison. Onamia's fee schedule requires contractors pay \$25 annually to do work within the city in order to show proof of insurance, licenses and bonds. Wahkon will not require that at this time. Remove industrial structure fees, add \$60 fee for additional site visits. Escrow language will be written similar to what other cities require and when balance is less than \$300 it must be replenished.

DNR New Model Shoreland Mgmt. Ordinance Review: Current Shoreland ordinance was mandated and adopted back in December 1992. DNR has finally made a new draft with better diagrams, definitions, etc. Current ordinance is hard to read and there are gray areas that likely have been addressed in the new one. It was agreed that Welle should contact DNR to see if Wahkon could allow larger water oriented structures of 500 square feet to accommodate pontoon boats. This will be worked on after zoning ordinance has been finalized and adopted.

Set Next Special Meeting Date: Planning Commission public hearing will be held 4/24.

Adjournment: Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Button to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Button, and Bjornson-Main. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Mayor

Ronda Bjornson-Main, Acting Mayor

4/10/17 CC Meeting Minutes Pending

4/24/17 PC Public Hearing Minutes Pending

The May 8, 2017 Wahkon council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Christine Bjornson, Tony Button, and Ronda Bjornson-Main. Councilmember Kim Tyson 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 Bjornson-Main, seconded by Button to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) Planning Commission Meeting Mon. 5/22 @ 6 pm
- B) Wahkon Days Meeting, Mon. 6/5 @ Wahkon Comm. Hall 4 pm
- C) WAVE Meeting, Tues. 6/6 @ Wahkon Comm. Hall 4 pm
- D) Mille Lacs Lake Area Operation Community Connect Mon. 6/5 @ Onamia Elementary School Gym 10 am – 2 pm
- E) Mille Lacs County (MLC) Household Hazardous Waste Collection Thurs. 6/8 @ Wahkon - ML Public Works Building
- F) LG220 Exempt Permit Application: Mille Lacs Equal Rights Foundation (MERF) Raffle, Wed. 9/20
- G) 2017 League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) Property/Casualty Renewal Summary Memo
- H) LMCIT Liability Coverage – Waiver Form: “The member does not waive the monetary limits on municipal tort liability established by MN State Statutes, Section 466.04”
- I) 2017 Creative MN Report about East Central MN
- J) MN Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) 4/26 Letter
- K) Charitable Gambling Report: 3/2017 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$651.29
- L) Treasurer’s Report Ending Balance \$615,394.46
- M) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- N) Disbursement Register 5/8 Date Range 4/11 – 5/8 Total \$29,579.84

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Ordinance No. 2017-1 City of Wahkon Zoning Ordinance: After a public hearing on 4/24 the planning commission recommends approval of zoning ordinance and fee schedule. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to adopt Zoning Ordinance No. 2017-1. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance No. 2017-2 Adopting a Fee Schedule for the City: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Button to adopt Ordinance No. 2017-2. Ayes: Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2017-0508 Authorizing Publication of a Revised Zoning Ordinance & Fee Schedule: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Button to adopt Resolution No. 2017-0508. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS: Audit: 2016 Financial Statements & Independent Auditor’s Report & Management Letter: Carl Nordquist of Althoff and Nordquist, LLC thanked council for choosing his firm and presented a summary of the audit. He didn’t find any issues and everything is in compliance. City recorded a cash loss of \$40,388 in 2016, versus a gain of \$95,655 in 2015. This was due to not using budgeted funds in 2015 for blacktop & ditch work and then doing a large project in 2016. Wahkon is at 92% of fund balance for disbursements; when it gets down to 50-40% bills don’t get paid promptly. City is looking good financially. Enterprise fund is generating enough to pay the bills and a bit extra to build up funds for emergency repairs. He went into depth explaining pension plan figures, which are now required in

order for entities to know what their future liability is for retirees; \$129,000 doesn't mean we owe that money, but is the projected liability and helpful for long term pension planning. If interest rates change, liability also changes. Budget receipts came in over budget and disbursements were under; fine job controlling expenses. Management letter states there are material weaknesses, specifically lack of segregation of duties, which is common for a town our size with combined clerk/treasurer. Council is doing well by reviewing payments and bank statements. Nordquist concluded with the reminder to keep a certain amount of money on hand to take care of issues as they arise and plan the expenses when possible.

County: Deputy Tony Erholtz explained to council he was hired through a Cops Grant to provide assistance and coverage to cities and townships without a police force. The other deputy will begin soon, Alex Tokar. Either one of them can be contacted by council and/or citizens about issues/concerns and will strive to attend council meetings when they can. He provided a worksheet of 16 calls for service in April that occurred within city limits. New Hwy 23 initiative is a postcard with a lovely family on the front reminding drivers to be attentive, as the mother died recently in an accident. Additional county presence would be useful with summer approaching.

Pat Oman, MLC Administrator was present to discuss many topics. Also present was County Board Commissioner Dave Oslin. Law Enforcement: State has organized mediation between County and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe regarding the dissolution of the tribal cooperative law enforcement agreement, thus he can't say too much. Full explanation of why agreement was revoked is available at county website, but basically it was due to it not being followed. They tried to fix it, but in the end their only option was revocation. Per Oman, county wants tribal law enforcement as it is an important component. With three year grant funds, the Cove facility is now manned 24/7 with a deputy; additional deputies have been hired to ensure proper coverage. Presence in the northern part of the county has been increased. If there is a renewed agreement, county would still keep the additional deputies. Reichel conveyed that the city supports the county's efforts.

Small City Development Grant: Forgivable loan at 0% interest to update single family homes in Wahkon; same in Isle with addition of commercial rehabilitation. MLC submitted the grant application and it is pretty much locked in, but there is some delay. Central MN Housing Partnership with oversee loan program and MLC will submit application for two additional cities in 2018. Commercial revolving loan component could generate funds for future use through the individual cities.

ML Lake Area Economic Relief: Legislature set aside funds to help new and existing area businesses survive the Walleye fishing band, by issuing loans through MLC. All counties, cities and townships that touch the lake are included. Loans from \$5,000 to \$100,000 are available at a low interest rate for maximum of 20 years. Up to 50% of the loan may be forgiven if businesses remain in the community. There is also a tourism grant for events, signage, advertising, etc. There is 1.4 million left in the fund with a June deadline to distribute.

Frontier Reservation Tax Explanation: Oman is confident this was an error by the contractor hired by Frontier to handle all taxes. MLC Attorney Joe Walsh was also involved and now the tax is labeled as Mille Lacs County Tax for the ½ percent charged for road improvements. At a township meeting, another bill with such a tax was given to Oman, and they are investigating that as well. Press release explains what transpired. MLC tax is collected by the State and given to MLC effective 1/1/2017. See county website for further details. It is a way to keep the tax levy down.

2020 Census: Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Reservation is noted on Google maps and was one reason why they took over for the 2010 census. Wahkon believes the 2010 census wasn't done correctly, as five people in the Mayor's household were never counted, as well as some other residents.

City wanted the county aware of this in preparation for 2020. County is reviewing the 2010 data and asking for explanation. They are making records requests as to how the designation actually came to be, as city and county believe the reservation was disestablished.

Future Economic Development Authority Board: EDA Board, including housing authority, would report to county board. Want public and private entities involved, including a Wahkon representative, representing a smaller city; townships and two county board members. Mileage would be reimbursed. They want a committee to go through all the details and make recommendations to the board, which would decide if an EDA should be established. There will be public hearings before such a committee is in place and all entities in the county will be able to opt out or opt in. Participants could apply for certain funds such as tax credit dollars to build housing. A Tax Increment Financing (TIF) policy was something council mentioned previously they wanted to review.

Gas Tax: Per Button, Morning Star Market (MSM) generated almost a million in taxes, which seems to be used in the metro area and not in rural areas. Why can't some of it stay in the community in which it was generated? First time ever, City received funds for streets via 2015 legislature. Last year the bill wasn't passed and hopefully this year, additional funds will be granted to help small communities with streets. MLC talks to the State often and supplies them with a list of issues. Franchise fees are another means for cities to collect funds to pay for street improvements. County now has a point person to help us study and research options. Oslin stated the county visits the capital often.

Wastewater: Weinreich stated he is currently discharging at the ponds. No alum was needed, approximately \$5,000 savings. MLIR Annual Meeting Scheduling: First week of June is possible for MLIR. Reichel and Bjornson-Main said any day but Monday and Friday work for them.

Zoning: New permit approved for Patrick Bauer @ 325 North Main for 10'x12' storage shed.

Temte Dock Issue Greenwaldt Memo: Six page memo was submitted by Al & Joni Greenwaldt relative to Temte dock with boat lift, extending out from his 20' wide lakeshore. There were several items noted as needing council resolution. Greenwaldts were not present; Mike & Sue Temte were. Mike stated he feels threatened and bullied and everything on this issue was discussed and settled in 2013. New Zoning Administrator Darrin Welle checked with DNR and wrote the following in his memo "There has been discussion on docking standards within the city. I have discussed this with the area hydrologist from the DNR and I am not aware of any rule in the city zoning ordinance that has standards on dock placement in the water. There are standards on things such as the size of the dock. The fact sheet that you have been given regarding docking does suggest placing the dock in a location that would be in line if you expanded your property line out into the water, but this is not a rule. Docks need to be placed on property you own; this would apply to the point that the dock touches land. Based on this, I do not believe there is an issue that the City would be able to address."

Council agrees with attorney memo and based on pictures provided by Temte they don't see an issue. Button went onsite and confirmed dock has been placed at 90 degree angle to the property; he has 20 feet and Greenwaldt has over 100. Furthermore, this issue won't be placed on the agenda again as it has been discussed twice, today and back in 2013, with the same outcome that the city won't become involved as it has no jurisdiction to do so.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich is getting bids for blacktopping and ditch work. Alley in block 14 was improved last year and in need of wider aprons on both ends. Snowmobile and walking trail area on 3rd St. W. should have more width. Some of the walking trail was improved last year with used cement culverts and free fill from other projects. Complaint was heard that it wasn't finished, which will occur this year. Blacktop from alley to lake is narrow and two vehicles can't pass. More property owners use this street and plowing can be difficult with 11' plow. Get estimate to add class five this year. All estimates will be brought to next council meeting.

Veterans Park Feasibility Study: Clerk reminded Button and Bjornson of a workshop meeting with S.E.H. on 7/25 at 1 pm. Scenic Byway Feasibility Study is being conducted by the regional development commissions that surround Lake Mille Lacs. Great venue to bring people to the area. Maintenance agreements may be stumbling block. Vets Park will hopefully lure them to Wahkon! Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) Committee will have a Memorial Service at Vets Park naming all 140 veterans that have a walk to honor paver; need volunteer readers. Isle Area Honor Guard will also be there.

NEW BUSINESS: City Hall Roof Replacement Quotes: Received four quotes. All included sales tax, which was removed from three, as it was a line item, but not from Thornton; called him twice but no reply. Willet Remodeling & Construction \$27,194.35; PCI \$25,380; Thornton \$14,867.53; and Paul Lind Enterprises \$11,976.72. There could be additional costs if water damage is found after roof is removed; budgeted \$30,000. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Bjornson to hire Paul Lind Enterprises as the lowest bid of \$11,976.72 to replace city hall roof. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Hire Seasonal Maintenance Person? Weinreich needs summer help to keep overtime down. Ron Doty finished off the season last year but decided not to return due to health issues. Hourly wage of \$9.50 for approximately 10 hours per week for mowing and miscellaneous work in the parks. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to place an ad in the Messenger for seasonal maintenance person. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Forum: John & Peggy Berczyk were present and questioned possibility of a public dock on Maple Lane? This topic was brought up previously but no official petition requesting it has been received. This would give back lots on Lake Shore Blvd lake access for boats. There used to be a private dock there. This would be a city amenity, like boat launch dock offered at City Park. Street parking would be a problem; most would bring trailers home. With changes to the lake and resorts going out of business, this is becoming an issue. People want to launch their boats. Feasibility would begin with a petition. Berczyks are for it, if done right and parking is addressed, as it is a residential area. Tables for now as nothing official was received tonight and this will take much discussion.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Bjornson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The June 12, 2017 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Tony Button, Christine Bjornson, Kim Tyson, and Ronda Bjornson-Main. 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. Clerk requested item A be removed for further discussion. Motion by Button, seconded by Tyson to approve consent agenda as written, with exception of item A. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

B) Planning Commission Meeting Mon. 6/26 @ 6 pm

C) Independence Day Fireworks Mon. 7/3

D) League of MN Cities (LMC) Annual Dues No % Increase Letter

E) MN State Demographic Center 2016 Wahkon Population & Household Estimates

F) Mille Lacs County (MLC) County State Aid Hwy 17 (55th Ave. aka Summit Ave) Resurfacing

G) Wahkon Days 2017 Council Memo Re: Closures & Noise Ord

H) Charitable Gambling Report: 4/2017 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$344.51

I) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$615,394.46

J) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report

K) Disbursement Register 6/12 Date Range 5/9 – 6/12 Total \$71,820.32

A) Annual Mille Lacs Island Resort (MLIR) Meeting Tues. 6/13 @ 11 am: Jodi Kanera of MLIR phoned the clerk apologizing they are unable to attend. Clerk to check with all parties and reschedule as soon as possible.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Tax Increment Financing (TIF) & Tax Abatement Policy Sample: Council had indicated interest in reviewing such a policy, which was drafted by Pat Oman, MLC Administrator. Tabled until July meeting in order to discuss further with financial advisors David Drown & Associates.

REPORTS: Wastewater: Weinreich has finished discharging. Saved money as alum wasn't required for treatment and the pond pipe fixture issue was resolved without a contractor.

Zoning: Darrin Welle, Zoning Administrator wasn't present but submitted monthly report in a new memo format. Welle has been surprised by number of permits so far this year, ten. Rest assured permits are being done properly and Welle is very nice to work with.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich completed ditch work in front of Hohlen residence on Lake Shore Blvd. City hall and community hall building was re-roofed in two days. League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) claim was left open in case interior water damage was found once the roof was opened, but there wasn't. Rafters were constructed of good lumber and no mold was found. Weinreich will get contractor bid for maintenance free door jabs on back side of building.

Public Wi-Fi Hot Spot: Roeschlein: MLC installed one in community hall along with laptop computer using Blandin Foundation broadband grant funds, which has concluded and all equipment is now owned by the city. One person frequently used the laptop and she stated that continuation for only one isn't worth the expense. There are a few options available to continue having Wi-Fi for meetings and hall renters to access, but the laptop won't be available to the general public. Clerk to investigate further for cost effective way to keep city government separate and protected from public Wi-Fi.

Veterans Park Sidewalk: Button thanked everyone involved with the Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) Committee Memorial Day service at the Veterans Park. Unfortunately a woman fell to her knee due to the cracked sidewalk; no injury claim has been submitted. Council delayed replacement per S.E.H engineer's suggestion to plan ahead through a feasibility study. Button stated there were misconceptions of what we wanted and what they dream for us, as evident by their first plan, which lead to another workshop meeting with Button, Bjornson, city & S.E. H staff. Revised plan came via email today and wasn't included with tonight's agenda. Button wants the sidewalk promptly fixed and to remove it from feasibility study. Funds were budgeted for sidewalk replacement last year but don't carry over.

What about drainage from street and highway that goes into the lake? All elevation must begin at the wall which won't be changed. Any drainage containment system would be within the right of way. Yes there are grants available, but where will the matching funds come from? ADA regulations are required when improvements are made. Maybe that is why the original step raisers were made so small to accommodate the elderly. Railing on the steps is required too. Keep the handicap spot and utilize grass areas for more parking. Council directed Weinreich to obtain estimates to replace the existing sidewalk, including curb, in conjunction with 1st St. W. sidewalk replacement. S.E.H did revise 1st St. W sidewalk plans and specs. Place on 6/26 special meeting.

Speed Bump: Reichel was asked by resort patrons to please paint the culvert hump on North Main similar to how speed bumps are painted to warn drivers. Culvert replacement was previously discussed, but that can wait until 2018 budget. Weinreich will paint it for now.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Block 14 Alley & 3rd St. W Improvements: Letter was sent to abutting property owners relative to adding aprons at both ends of the alley and widening 3rd St. W. from the alley extending to the lake with class five. Deb Lawler asked clerk to convey her request to delay this discussion as she was unable to attend due to illness. Several owners were in the audience, so discussion ensued. Jeanne & Richard Ahlgren supplied council with their written opinion "We think there is no need to widen 3rd St. West at this time. We have not observed any increased traffic in the past 17 years. The narrow road slows down traffic and increases safety." During Vikings Arctic Blast, MLDS groomed ditch area for snowmobiles which packed some snow onto the road itself; complaint was heard from Tom Cardwell there wasn't sufficient width. Walking and biking trails are important tools to bring people to town. Ditch improvements were made late fall with reasonably priced used cement culverts and free fill from other projects. Complaint recently heard asking when the ditch/trail improvements would be finished, which will be this summer in conjunction with this work. Property owners questioned if plans include blacktopping and assessments? No assessments and only class five at this time. Debate continued on which access should be used by snowmobilers; MLDS prefers this route which leads to the community class five parking area on 2nd St. W behind Wahkon Inn. Additional width will make it safer for pedestrians and vehicular use. Bjornson-Main uses it with her granddaughter in a stroller and recalls as a kid accessing the trails into the parks from here. Reichel stated if we have the ability to improve safety why not? Tri State Land Company dedicated reserve property along the lake for public use and streets were platted there as well in the plats of Pottstown and Wahkon. Most has since been vacated with exception of three blocks of lake shore from 3rd St. W to 6th St, including City & Veterans Park. Two resorts lease the lake shore property between 5th and 6th streets. What a great asset to citizens and tourists to have such an area for public use. Mille Lacs communities are having economic issues and council needs to think ahead. Opening paper streets for trails can cause issues with property owners. Button stated we have to change to bring younger people to the community or we won't have a community. Council agreed to move ahead.

Hire Seasonal Maintenance & Mowing Person: Only two applications were received after two weeks of ads in the Messenger and on city website. One applicant rescinded due to his leaving in mid-August to their winter home, but offered to be on call should city need him. Weinreich interviewed Lee Hohlen who has golf course and maintenance experience. In the interim, Jacob Weinreich has been mowing as a contractor, not an employee, in preparation for the MN Rural Water Association (MRWA) conference in town this week and to keep Weinreich OT down. Water and wastewater operators from all over the state come here for training. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to hire Lee Hohlen for the seasonal maintenance position. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Hohlen will begin week of 6/19 working 10-15 hours average per week at \$9.50 per hour.

Clean Up Day 2017 Cost & Past History: \$2,245.04 Jim's Mille Lacs Disposal invoice with \$330 donations received covering 14.70%. 2016 was highest ever \$4,813.83 with \$580 donations, 12.05%.

J&J's: Bjornson asked what can be done regarding items Jeff Eye has removed from the sold J&J's Resort and storing them on J&J's Detached Townhome parcel. Resort is owned by Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe. Resorts have laterals all over the place, which is why they agreed with Weinreich to plug the main line directly from the manhole to ensure no I&I enters the system. They'll get this completed soon. No official complaint has been signed.

NEW BUSINESS: Beachside Resort Leased Property: City Beach Sign Removal: Ben Lapinski was present requesting removal of the sign, as his lease states he may rent the use of the premises to the general public and he is worried about liability. Reichel never understood why the sign was there in the first place, as it seems random, but she'll stay out of the conversation as a previous owner of this property. Leased property is public property and in the past the beach in front of the Veterans Park was full of weeds, so the public gravitated to the area between the resorts. Vets Park beach is better now and also has playground equipment. Lease states "...use of the Lease Area shall not interfere with the City's current use of the beach area surrounding the Lease Area." Lease area has a full legal description and depicted on a survey map, both are included in the agreement. Should beach sign be moved there? Is it even needed? It will always be public and council would hate to see people chased away. Lapinski and Tim Pater of Island View (also in attendance) both agreed they wouldn't do that. Sign states "swim at your own risk" but insurance company has never required it. Council agreed to remove the sign completely.

Beach Sand: Button asked if beach sand could be added to the Vets Park now that Buck Moore Dam project is complete and lake levels have adjusted. Sand was added couple years ago. Weinreich will discuss permitting process with Ken Zyke of DNR.

Annual Dock Inspection: Lapinski didn't realize it was needed as his lease should include everything. City attorney memo was received today and supplied to council and Lapinski. Dock Ordinance #2011-1 as amended requires a permit for a dock and entering into a lease agreement. Lease agreement requires resort to obtain all permits necessary to construct improvements to leased area, including dock permit. "The Agreement does not mention that it shall serve as a dock permit pursuant to the Ordinance. Such a permit, therefore, is still required." "However, the Agreement can be amended in order to serve as both a lease and the dock permit." Inspections were to prove dock safety and insurance certificate requirement. If city inspects, does that give us liability? We aren't building inspectors. If resort leases will be amended allowing docks without dock permit, Pater of Island View requests their lease be updated similar to Beachside, though technically it doesn't expire until 2020.

Council agreed it is best to do it now while all the issues are fresh in everyone's mind. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to instruct city attorney to add dock ability, without annual permit, to both resort leases and draft new lease agreement for Island View Resort similar to Beachside Resort. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Pater concluded with the statement "It is public, always has been and always will be."

Resort Wastewater Usage Fees Discussion: Beachside & Island View Resorts: Lapinski and Pater were both present. Beachside added four new RV sites through sewer permit and clerk requested an inspection to clarify actual number of connections for billing purposes. He sent a map of currently used connections along with email. Both resort owners question their fees versus how much they are actually used. Pater had submitted a memo to the clerk a few months ago but waited until he was able to attend, before presenting to council. Back in 2015 he questioned usage fees and gave suggestions along with 5 years of actual cabin occupancy data. Resort cabin rentals have declined substantially over the years due to fishing regulations. Reichel suggested we aggressively begin water meter project in order to bill wastewater based upon gallons. She totally understands, as a previous resort owner, and empathizes with them. However, adjusting usage fees for resorts will cause issues with MLIR and citizens. Currently a single person pays as much as a family of five. Meters would cause people to fix leaks and not run water in the winter. Seasonal or half usage fees and winter credits for snowbirds could be eliminated. Council agreed to discuss meters at the 6/26 special meeting. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Bjornson to remove fish house usage fee from both resorts and leave Beachside Resort usage fees as is for now relative to new RV sites. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, and Button. Opposed: Tyson. Abstain: Reichel. Motion carried. Could we add meters to resorts first? Maybe, but we need to have a base rate set to ensure we are collecting enough to pay for the system. Having meters would be a plus should city water ever be revisited. City doesn't require sewer inspection when property is sold.

Fireworks Memo: Council had previously indicated the Event Fund should be used for Independence Day fireworks; current balance \$12,470.26. Should donation letters still be sent? If we don't ask, people won't give. Companies outside the area that we do business with also donate. Council agreed to send out donation letters and if necessary will use Event Fund to cover difference, as we have in the past.

Blacktopping Quotes: Weinreich presented three quotes for blacktopping; Rocon Paving \$30,830, North Central Paving \$31,336, and Anderson Brothers \$29,735, which was the lowest. Two options were given for 1st St. W of which the least expensive small area option will be done, thus reducing all three quotes. Pot holes were filled early with cold patch this year. Budget is \$25,000. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to hire Anderson Brothers to do the paving. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Ditching Quotes: Seven bids were presented for various ditching projects; five from All American Construction, one from DeBoer Landscaping and one from R.C. Habeck Excavating. Council thanked Weinreich for doing his due diligence in obtaining quotes. Council agreed that Street Commissioner Button and Weinreich will decide what needs to be done this year. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Button to prioritize ditching projects and go as far as they can within budget. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Budget is \$10,000.

MN Assoc. of Small Cities (MAOSC) Annual Renewal & Legislative Update Memo: They do a lot for small cities and work closely with LMC. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to renew membership in the amount of \$212.70. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk Cell Phone Reimbursement Request: Other cities reimburse \$20–\$35 per month. Reichel explained how she appreciates being able to contact clerk after hours on questions that may arise. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Tyson to reimburse Clerk Roeschlein \$30 per month beginning with June. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Tyson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The June 26, 2017 Wahkon Special Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:06pm. Councilmembers present were Tony Button, Christine Bjornson, and Kim Tyson. Councilmember Ronda Bjornson-Main was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, as well as representatives from city engineering firm S.E.H, Jeff Ledin and Heidi Peper. Special meeting was called by the Mayor and was properly posted. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Veterans Park Feasibility Study: South Main Street Improvements Plan: S.E.H: Ledin suggested we rope off dangerous sidewalk when he heard someone fell during the Memorial Day service and asphalt the bad areas for now. Council originally wanted to replace sidewalk, but delayed it for this study. First plan focused on park interior, then after a workshop meeting, this So. Main St. plan was drafted to address the exterior. In 2023 MnDOT has Hwy 27 scheduled again and in conjunction could redo Main Street with lighting, sidewalks, etc. They also shared plans to relocate intersection at So. Main St. leading to Vets Park, creek would be relocated, and drainage ponds constructed on unused streets. With this in mind, 1/3 of the plan to the south shouldn't be completed until DOT plan is fully known, which is always changing. Public opinion is to leave the Vets Park wall alone. Steps currently don't meet ADA. It is difficult to design part of a plan, for example replacing the sidewalk, before adding the parking stalls.

Plan estimates range from \$302,573 to \$319,745, which doesn't include storm water drainage system to prevent run off from entering Lake Mille Lacs. City authorized ML Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD) to begin process of finding grants for city wide storm water drainage plan, thus it was removed from park plan. This is first time full council has seen this plan. Lake Mille Lacs isn't just a fishing lake anymore. Feasibility study for a scenic byway is underway and if approved, this area would draw people to town. Council reiterated it took Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) Committee four years of fund raising and countless volunteer hours for most recent park improvements, which shouldn't be changed. This was the reason why the plan was refocused to So. Main St. Once a formal plan is adopted, phases can be done, which may count toward city cost share.

Originally this feasibility study was \$10,000, but storm water was removed. Instead of receiving \$5,000 in grants, we received \$2,500 from Initiative Foundation, thus study was scoped back to \$7500. Peper is pursuing funding for the whole project, which could be combination of grants and loans. An outdoor grant deadline is 3/31/18, which may fit the boat landing improvement. With current legislature economic development grant/loan funding in the area, this project may be ripe for a bonding bill with support. There is a time and place for the details, but don't get bogged down in it now. There are many town improvements needed and citizens may not agree on spending additional money here. Project won't move forward unless funding is found that will work for us.

City Sidewalk Repairs & Replacements: Council agreed to asphalt patch Vets Park sidewalk to make it safe. Weinreich received one cement bid and is requesting more for 1st St. W. Wahkon Presbyterian Church originally installed sidewalk on ROW and are requesting it be repaired along with sidewalk replacement to the east. Bids will be reviewed at 7/10 meeting to determine if city will pay for it all or a percentage.

Adjournment: Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

6/26/17 PC Meeting Minutes Pending

7/10/17 CC Meeting Minutes Pending