

The January 8, 2018 Wahkon Planning Commission Meeting, comprised of City Council, was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 5:00 pm. Planning Commission members present were Christine Bjornson, Tony Button, Kim Tyson, and Ronda Bjornson-Main. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Tyson to approve agenda. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes: 12/11/17 Planning Commission Meeting: Motion by Tyson, seconded by Button to approve meeting minutes. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Continued Public Hearing: Meshigun Point Properties (MPP) PUD Amendment: Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Button to open the public hearing. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Developer Chip Frederickson requested continuation to 2/12 in order to discuss project with DNR representative involved with original PUD approval and has signed extension allowing extra days for final zoning decision. Interested citizens were notified by clerk.

Gary "Shooter" Frederickson is aware of the extension but requested a moment to update council, give historical background, and work on relationships; his son Chip is his partner. Gary has been in the lumber business over 44 years and part of Wahkon over 50 years. Wendell Frederickson build original marina and it was rebuilt 2002 – 2005 during which time DNR stated the marina was privately owned. This project is his passion with planning beginning in 2007 and first triplex sold in 2011. Recession delayed the project and he has learned things along the way. Owners need more garage space and additional parking for visitors. Project was redesigned by replacing last triplex with a single unit and all future garages will be larger, which should lessen traffic and parking, especially in front Dupre and Roberts' properties. Recent DNR review requires setbacks to be met from the lake and marina, leaving a 20' strip. Pervious pavers were installed in existing driveways at great expense, but per DNR they won't be credited even though they were originally. Tax base has improved substantially and will into the future as units are built. Drainage hasn't been a problem currently using directional swells. They have the only fire hydrants in town to protect their units, as well as private homes on the entire point. Planning Commission members can contact him individually with questions and he is hopeful everyone can work together as problem solvers.

Reichel hopes this project can move forward but nothing can be decided tonight due to requested extension. Gary will likely have legal representation at 2/12 meeting. City attorney will have time to draft legal paperwork after 2/12 public hearing based upon planning commission recommendations for adoption at 3/12 council meeting.

Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Tyson to continue MPP PUD Amendment public hearing to February 12th at 5:00 pm to be held in the Wahkon Community Hall per developer Frederickson's request. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment: Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 5:27 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The January 8, 2018 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.

CITY GOVERNMENT ANNUAL REORGANIZATION: Mayor read her recommendations. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson-Main to make the following 2018 commissioner appointments and designate city representatives as recommended by the Mayor. Bjornson-Main, Acting Mayor & Wastewater Commissioner; Reichel, Weed Inspector; Weinreich, Assistant Weed Inspector; Button, Street & Sidewalk Commissioner; Tyson, Municipal Buildings Commissioner; and Bjornson, Park Commissioner. First National Bank (FNB) 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 Hendrickson (S.E.H) Inc., Engineers; National Joint Powers Alliance (NJPA) Zoning Administrator; David Drown Associates Inc., Financial Advisors; and Oberfeld Insurance, Insurance Agency. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Reschedule November Council Meeting Due to Veterans Day Observed Holiday 11/12: Motion by Button, seconded by Tyson to reschedule November regular monthly council meeting to Tuesday, 11/13/2018 at 6:00 p.m. due to Veterans Day observed holiday on 11/12. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Council agreed to have planning commission meetings on the fourth Monday of the month, as well as necessary special meetings for specific workshop issues.

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

- A) Meeting Minutes: 12/11/17, 11/13/17 & 9/11/17 Council
- B) City Hall Closed Mon. 1/15 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- C) WAVE 7th Annual Beef Chili Cook Off & Community Input Meeting, Sat. 1/27 @ Mugg's
- D) Center Point Energy Proposed Rate Increase Public Hearings Notice
- E) David Drown Associates, Inc. Public Finance Advisors Confirming Engagement Letter
- F) 2018 IRS Standard Mileage Rate 54.5 Cents from 53.5 Cents: New Wahkon Rate
- G) 2017 League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) Property/Casualty Dividend \$615
- H) Charitable Gambling Report: 11/2017 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$484.92
- I) Treasurer's Report 2017 Year End Unaudited Ending Balance \$742,956.17
- J) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report
- K) Disbursement Register 1/8/18 Date Range 12/12/17 – 1/8/18 Total \$19,199.19

PUBLIC HEARINGS & PETITIONS: Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians Acct #94 Sewer Usage Determination: Todd Moilanen, Brownfield Coordinator, was present and doesn't dispute the 6.5 usage fees for the resort at 508 Broadway at this time but is requesting how to disconnect the resort and get usage down to one in the future. Should all lines be glued? This month city will begin process of developing new equivalent dwelling unit (EDU) ordinance with city engineer at special monthly meetings. Disconnect requirements will also be determined. Currently there is a moratorium on any reductions or disconnects until finalized. Also questioned if model townhome located across from the resort, currently not connected but being charged one usage fee, could be used as storage. These issues will be placed on the April agenda, giving them requirements to begin necessary work in the spring.

REPORTS: Wastewater (WW): Weinreich: There are pump issues and he'll be contacting WW Goetsch to take apart check valves. Force main air release valves should be serviced annually and they can do it the same day if weather allows. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Button to authorize up to \$2,000 to service force main air release valves. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Special council meeting on 1/22 at 6 pm with city engineer Dave Blommel to discuss EDU ordinance. These special meetings will be council work sessions to review specific topics.

Snow Plowing: Weinreich has surgery scheduled and should only be gone a few days. Ross Habeck is available to plow the streets. Jason Minenko with the City of Isle was notified in case there are WW issues.

Community Toy Drive: Button & Bjornson thanked everyone who helped and donated to the drive. WAVE Committee's next project is to clean up new park land this spring and volunteers will be needed.

Community Hall: Tyson has seen frost on the base boards behind the council table and asked Weinreich to look behind them to evaluate options. Bring info to 2019 budget meeting.

Reichel apologized for not squelching an audience comment at the last meeting that Tyson lied about her sewer connection in the quilt shop/boat repair business. Tyson originally stated this business was on a separate parcel from the house. Her argument was it is mostly used by her and her husband and not open to the public, due to its location in the back. None of the council is trying to get rich by serving their community. Concerned citizens should get on the ballot please.

Isle Fire Dept. Wahkon Report: Old School Apartment Fire & Inspection: Chief David Miller was present. Fire occurred 12/20 and inspection report with 12 items was read aloud. Mille Lacs County (MLC) contacted the Red Cross which provided some assistance. Apartments were out of heat for about a day and a half. Owner Roger Jorgenson has been in contact with Miller and is working hard to get items accomplished; working with credible contractor to redesign the boiler system and have backup system. Safety railing has been installed. Looking at best options for smoke detectors. In 2014 Isle FD made a tour of the building in preparation for an emergency, which was very useful in this case. As a fireman himself, this fire has really motivated Jorgenson. Miller complimented his efforts thus far and has confidence the issues will be resolved. Council's number one concern is safety of residents, asked to be kept informed, and thanked Miller and the Isle FD for all they do for our communities. New fire department building is close to completion.

Sheriff's Report: MLC Deputy Tony Erholtz was present and responded to the fire; there were 13 calls for service last month in Wahkon. He commended the Isle FD for their service the day of the fire. Council appreciates his attendance at meetings when available. There are no pressing matters he is aware of and invited anyone to contact him with questions or concerns.

House addressing was discussed, which is vital for emergency services. City still has house numbers available; reflective numbers are best, which these are not. Clerk recalled researching blue address signs, but thought they were only allowed in townships. Council asked clerk to double check.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Lake Mille Lacs Scenic Byway Designation Letter of Support Example: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Tyson to send letter of support for Lake Mille Lacs Scenic Byway Designation. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS: IT Computer Services & New Computer: MN Computer Systems Inc. (MCSI): Jake Treptau was present. Previous provider of IT services is no longer in business. Mora is closest but doesn't make house calls. MCSI leases Wahkon their copier and expanded into IT services. Per Treptau refurbished computers are 3-5 years old; we purchased this one 1/2016 for \$275. Operating system and hardware are obsolete and more prone to hacking and problems. Not realistic to spend money to fix it up. Time is money and delays cost money. Could purchase computer for big box store for approximately \$400 and it would last approximately 3-4 years. MCSI custom builds computers with better hardware. For IT services strongly recommend onsite backup system for \$950 to ensure city is up and running in one business day, should a problem occur. If dependent upon Carbonite for backup data it could be 4-5 days. City could sign waiver of liability. Computer and backup system cost can be paid over time, less detrimental to the budget. IT services include quarterly onsite visits as well as help when needed via remote access. Several options for computers were provided. Bjornson-Main has been happy with services MCSI has provided her company. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to authorize purchase of custom built desktop with Microsoft Office Home & Business and backup equipment for \$2399.96 payable through 36-month lease option of \$76.32 per month and one-time application fee of \$75, as well as IT services for desktop and backup equipment for \$60 per month. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Treptau also checked laptops, one of which was donated by MLC after local Wi-Fi hotspot program ended. All are functioning at this time. Desktop computer shouldn't be salvaged for use, as it is only a matter of time before it stops completely. Council would like information on digital agendas using iPads for 2019 budget meeting.

Mille Lacs Area Health Foundation 2018 Donation Request: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Button to donate \$1000 from the Charitable Gambling (CG) Fund to Mille Lac Area Health Foundation toward greatest need. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Morrison County Animal Humane Society (MCAHS) 2018 Annual Impound Contract/Agreement: Volunteers can be reimbursed mileage to bring in strays. There aren't any local options; their location is in Little Falls. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Button to sign the 2018 annual impound contract with MCAHS for \$315 to be paid from Charitable Gambling (CG) Fund. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Premier Pyrotechnics Early Purchase/Additional Product & Date of Shoot: Heard complaints last year they weren't seen as well with new shoot location at Bare Ass Beach. Maybe this year people will better accommodate new location as there is no other viable option. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson to early pay \$3850 for fireworks in order to receive additional product, plus 10% for Premier Pyrotechnics to do the display on July 4th. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Button, and Reichel. Opposed: Bjornson-Main. Motion carried.

Small Cities Assistance Program CD & Additional Funds: Originally received \$11,157 in 2015 from the State designated for street and ditch improvements. Invested into one-year CD with FNB, that was renewed for additional year with upcoming maturity on 1/15/2018 for \$11,248.30. Another round of assistance was authorized for \$7306, with final payment received 12/2017. FNB interest rates are still low for CDs, one year .65% and 3 years 1.15%. LMC partners with PMA Securities with better rates ranging from 1.76% up to 2.2% depending on number of years. Goal is to increase these funds for a future large street project. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Button to invest small cities assistance funds of \$18,554.30 into a 3-year CD for 2.2% through PMA Securities. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Forum: Button requested another transfer from CG Fund to Dock Fund, in order to increase the fund for a future dock. Very first transfer was recently made for last quarter 2017 and next transfer amount will be decided at April meeting for first quarter 2018 based upon balance of CG Fund at that time.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Tyson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:24 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The January 22, 2018 Wahkon Special Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm and was properly posted. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main and Christine Bjornson; Tony Button participated via telephone with external speaker, which could be heard by council and the public. Councilmember Kim Tyson was absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, as well as, City Engineer Dave Blommel from S.E.H. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) Future Ordinance & Water Meters Discussion: These topics were noted separately on the agenda but both were discussed together. Dave Blommel has been with S.E.H for 14 years and his specialty is USDA. He has worked with many small towns including Onamia and Ogilvie. Preliminary engineering report (PER) of our wastewater (WW) system is 85% completed with end of March deadline. This meeting is beginning of discussion on how best to charge for WW in a fair manner based upon his initial findings. Current Sewer Ordinance doesn't give template on how to charge businesses, discussed at several past meetings, and there is a moratorium on reducing account usage fees until a better system is implemented.

Gallons that flow through lift stations are tracked via Omni system but this data can be affected by age of pumps, blockages, and many other factors. Annual calibrations aren't very scientific to properly document system intake and the only reason Blommel is comfortable using this data is because of the excellent work WW Operator Weinreich does in maintenance and his wealth of knowledge of our system. Based upon our 5-year average, it costs \$0.0075 per gallon to collect and treat WW; 60% operations and maintenance and 40% debt service. Today's usage fee is \$34.61 (one EDU) and equates to 151 gallons per day per residential user. "That flow is higher than I would have anticipated for residents of Wahkon, but it is not unreasonable. The current charge is remarkably close to what it should be, given the limited resources available to staff. Without more reliable flow measurement, the current billing methodology is as good as it can be." His memo gave three options. (1) Traditional billing approach using water meters and preliminary calculations indicate a base fee of \$14 per month per EDU and about \$5 for ever 1,000 gallons used. Pending WW project could include installation and would be USDA funding eligible. (2) Calculated billing utilizing the more recently approved MN Rules 7081.0130 flow and waste concentration determination for sizing subsurface treatment systems, included in the memo, relaying on commercial establishments to self-report number of restaurant meals served, accurate hotel bed counts and number of gas station patrons. Each business would need to be reviewed separately requiring substantial staff time for inspections and follow-up. (3) Unchanged billing wherein the current discussions regarding fairness will continue. Resorts and businesses are closing more frequently which will force rates up for other users. Blommel recommends option 1 and this would be outlined in the PER as his professional opinion. USDA representative informed Clerk and Mayor that meters would be requirement for grant funds. Council agreed with Blommel to proceed with option 1.

Data will be re-evaluated over the next few years to assure finances are sufficient to run and improve the system and pay debt. If resorts and businesses continue to be sold and closed up, that will be major factor as well. Integrity of old laterals should be investigated and replaced if needed. Property owners should be given incentives to improve their lateral lines, be environmental sound in their WW usage and charged according to actual use. Disconnect and reconnect fees need to be formulated as well. The aquifer from which Wahkon obtains water is federally named and recognized by the EPA needing protection for future generations.

Per the State, owners should be expected to pay at minimum 1.5% of the median household income per utility. Wahkon's rate is a bit higher, which gives evidence of need for grant funds and should get us closer to the top of the list. Meters for Wahkon and MLIR will be included in the PER and are grant eligible.

Jeff Bertelson and Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians were informed future ordinance would include detailed requirements as to what it would take to remove connections and reduce usage fees. Council wants these requirements available at April council meeting. At minimum, any connection must be capped in such a manner that it can't be opened in middle of night. Most properties when initially connected don't have diagram of lateral installation, especially the old resorts. Some fee should be applied if sewer is available as well as disconnect and reconnect fees. Integrity of line should be factor when determining whether to re-connect and for I&I reasons. Blommel and Weinreich will fully discuss necessary disconnect requirements and bring back to council.

Currently equivalent connection (EC) fees paid in the past continue with the property. Example: Meshigun Point Properties (MPP) development didn't pay any EC fees based upon what was originally paid in the 1970's. Once disconnected shouldn't a reconnection fee or a new EC fee be applicable? Weinreich brought up Petty lateral line that crossed another private property that he believes should be accessible to other properties due to size capability, but Petty states it is private. Best policy per city engineers and attorneys is that developers pay to construct new utility lines and streets and then turn them over to the city in order to ensure proper maintenance. City hasn't followed this in the past, example MPP utility lines are their responsibility.

Today a meter costs about \$250 and the city would own them. Second meter could be purchased to document outside water use that wouldn't be billed. PER is only the beginning and Blommel estimated meter install couldn't occur until 2020. Need to know all the facts to present to the citizens about meters, especially whether Wahkon will receive grant funds. Council agreed an interim ordinance is appropriate at this time to address issues such as disconnects and reconnects but not a full EDU ordinance based on gallons until formal decision is made for meters through proper public hearings. As more information is gathered ordinance will change accordingly. Blommel believes average resident's bills would be reduced if metered and commercial accounts would see increase. Facts on average gallons used per everyday activity are available and should be part of a future public hearing on meters.

Snowplow Truck Possible Purchase: Weinreich originally discussed with Street Commissioner Button a possible option to bid on a snowplow truck from City of Milaca, however, things have now changed. For one, the new plow he saw on it has now been replaced with an old plow and likely it will exceed \$10,000. Nothing has been budgeted for this and Weinreich is willing to continue as is. He'll investigate options and discuss at budget time. He reminded council it was seven years ago the previous plow truck died in sub-zero weather with immediate need for replacement.

Set Next Special Meeting Date: Monday, February 26 at 6 pm with engineer Blommel.

Adjournment: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Button to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Meeting adjourned at 7:14 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The February 12, 2018 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main and Christine Bjornson; Tony Button participated via cell phone with external speaker, which could be heard by council and the public. Councilmember Kim Tyson was absent. 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. Bjornson-Main questioned item I, as two dates were noted as without WAVE volunteers, thus payment wasn't required. One date was Friday of Wahkon Days, we don't do the meat raffle due to lack of volunteers; Reichel said her team would be willing to do it this year. The other date we didn't have volunteers scheduled in error. Ronda and Christine said they did help, but Mugg's owner did majority. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Bjornson to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

A) Meeting Minutes: 1/22/18 & 9/19/17 Special Council & 10/9/17 Council

B) WAVE Chili Cook Off & Community Meeting 1/27/18 Results Memo

C) City Hall Closed 2/19 Presidents' Day

D) Special Council Meeting Mon. 2/26 @ 6 pm: Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) Ordinance Discussion with Engineer

E) W.A.V.E Wahkon Prom Dance 8 - Midnight @ Wahkon Inn Sat. 4/28

E) Wahkon Clean Up Day 8 - 11 am Sat. 5/5

G) Donation Thank Yous: Initiative Foundation & Mille Lacs Area Health Foundation

I) Charitable Gambling Reports: 12/2017 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$1395 to WAVE for Mugg's Meat Raffle Workers; 10% Fund \$141.61

J) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance: None until after audit

K) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report: None until after audit

L) Tax Settlement Report \$3,840.39

M) Disbursement Register 2/12 Date Range 1/9 - 2/12 Total \$312,378.30, Less Transfers Total \$111,347.30

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution No. 2018-0212 Authorizing Membership in the 4M Fund: Council authorized investment of the street aid funds received from the State at last meeting and they were made, however a formal resolution is required to be passed within 60 days. Clerk questioned investor why statement was received indicating a loss of \$45.29. City paid a premium on the CD above the investment amount of \$18,000, 2.35% interest will be paid quarterly with maturity on 1/25/2021. Remaining street aid funds just under \$600 have been placed in 4M Plus Fund, 14-day restricted money market fund, as amount is too small to purchase a CD. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to adopt Resolution No. 2018-0212. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS: Wastewater: Weinreich: WW Goetsch hasn't returned his calls for lift station #2 repairs that were approved. Quality Flow will be doing the work. New impellers were installed but pumps are still not functioning properly so they'll work on the check valves.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich: When plowing he prefers to turn around on the north side of Radisson Avenue but Paul Larson has a fish house/shed, dumpster, and parked vehicles within the 35' right of way (ROW). This side has best visibility while the south side has a deep ditch. Dumpster and shed have been on the ROW for a long time and in years past he was

able to pull in just enough to turn around, but not at all this year. Clerk wrote note on sewer bill at beginning of winter asking him to contact Weinreich, but he never did. Building was not permitted per Weinreich. Council directed a letter be sent giving Larson until 3/1 to remove all items from the ROW.

Transportation Summit: Roeschlein attended a two-day summit in Mora last year paid for with an Easter Seals grant issued to Kanabec County & Timber Trails to ascertain transportation needs of Mille Lacs and Kanabec. Transportation Resources for You (TRY) committee began thereafter. Prior to this summit, Catholic Charities held workshops to build communities and empower families to assess Mille Lacs area needs, of which transportation was one. The Onamia Area Transportation Taskforce (OATT) was formed and has been meeting ever since. No other group besides TRY has shown interest and they are comprised of members from the northern part of MLC. TRY and OATT will combine forces and based upon the recommendation of Timber Trails, use the \$80,000 remaining grant funds. Easter Seals must approve this change. Council agreed there is a huge need.

Zoning: NJPA February report indicated Meshigun Point Properties (MPP) decided to go back to original PUD. PUD Amendment was formally withdrawn by developer and 2/12 planning commission meeting with their continued public hearing was cancelled. Permit will be approved contingent storm water plans (infiltration basin) be completed after structure is built. Clerk to verify city attorney has sent developer letter that PUD amendment has been withdrawn.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Independence Day Fireworks Date of Display: Premier Pyrotechnics can't do our shoot on 7/4 as hoped. Are there other companies? Yes, but Isle & Wahkon have used them for years and are extremely satisfied. Believe a company recently closed. Council thought Friday 7/6 but Isle Days is 7/5 – 7/8. Do we really need fireworks when Isle will have them on Saturday? Per votes received at chili cook off, fireworks are important, along with continuing Wahkon Days. For many years display was always on the fourth, but that was when the Isle FD did them for us. Now we contract for an operator and businesses have requested date work for vacationers. Check with Premier to see if there is anyone else we could contract with for 7/4. Button suggested Sunday 7/1. Motion by Reichel, seconded by Bjornson to have fireworks display on Thursday 7/5 unless we have opportunity to do it on Wednesday 7/4. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Opposed: Button. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS: Wastewater (WW) Questions: Katrina Chang Murphy wasn't present but submitted questions via email regarding usage fee determination and sewer contractors dumping into the city system without being charged. Weinreich has informed council of allowing outside contractors to dump holding water into the system as a means to flush dead ends of which we have about one dozen and he tracks dates, manholes, and gallons. Such flushing is even more important today with all the "flushable" wipes being used that cause blockages in lines and pumps. Dumping only occurs in the spring when contractors can't get into the fields and is the same strength as what a citizen generates; it doesn't include sludge from holding tanks. Last time this was discussed per meeting minutes, was May 2014. Murphy email states a truck load is 9,000 gallons, this is inaccurate and per Weinreich the largest load would be 3000. City tanker truck could be filled up with well water to flush dead ends, costing electricity, employee and vehicle insurance, gas, employee wages, and repair and maintenance. It would require three of our loads to equal one of theirs. It costs the city .0075 cents to treat one gallon of WW or \$22.50 to treat 3000 gallons. He estimated city cost of \$33.46 per hour and each city load would take about 1.5 hours; city cost for three loads \$150.57 compared to \$22.50 to treat a contractor's load. This partnership is also a great networking tool, as contractor readily answers our call for help and sometimes doesn't charge mileage.

Mille Lacs Island Resort (MLIR) allows Nelson's Sewer Service to dump into their WW lines, of which they fully own and operate. They send all WW to Wahkon and we charge them by usage fees. Nelson's contacts the city prior to dumping with number of gallons. This topic will be discussed at the upcoming annual meeting in the spring.

Council began working with city engineer Dave Blommel in January to develop new WW ordinance at their monthly special meetings held the fourth Monday. Preliminary engineering report (PER) will be finalized soon and submitted to USDA and other agencies for grant funding. USDA will require meters which would be the fairest way to charge, based upon actual use. City is collecting sufficient revenues at this time for the system. Residents are subsidizing commercial users as they pay a bit more than what an average household would generate. Currently there is a moratorium on disconnections and fee reductions. At the April council meeting, disconnection requirements will be known, per Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe and Jeff Bertelson request. Future WW ordinance will be ever changing, dependent upon number of disconnections, usage fee reductions, other business closures, whether grant funds will be received for system repairs, etc. Clerk will answer Murphy's questions and assure her that council is working on this aggressively.

Claims on Private Property: Debra Lawler wasn't present. Mayor stated she is very sorry this situation is causing her stress. City has a right to maintain a platted and dedicated alley according to the League of MN Cities (LMC) "Acquisition and Maintenance of City Streets" of which a few pages were included in the agenda and highlighted sections were read aloud by clerk. Wahkon Plat has dedicated language, which the Mayor read aloud. Citizen Tom Jackson questioned the difference; platted is when streets and alleys are visible on the plat map and dedication is the language of the plat indicating that all streets, alleys, parks, etc., are dedicated for public use forever. Weinreich put out lath indicating where the alley begins at the outer edge of 3rd Street ROW. The handicap ramp is within the street ROW; not that we are asking her to move it at this time, but it isn't actually on her property. If the alley wasn't there, some parcels would be landlocked. Per memo, it isn't best practice to allow private citizen use of a public ROW. Lawler requested her questions be answered by the city attorney. Per Street Commission Button, the memo specifically grants authority for ROW maintenance and council are the caretakers for the public. He is almost to the point that when the city surveys that we have more than a steel marker in the ground, but a more visible permanent above ground marker indicating ROW to the abutting properties. For example, lath showing park areas were removed within a few weeks. Mayor doesn't believe attorney needs to answer her questions at the taxpayer's expense. Button states we don't need to do it at this time as we have other needs. Bjornson-Main and Bjornson agreed. Council directed clerk to send letter with LMC memo pages.

Jackson explained history of this property as his in-laws owned it and he lived there for a while. The alley was turf and never plowed when Lawler purchased it. Some golf carts used it and property owners from 4th Street asked Jackson if they could use it back in the day. Jackson would rake out the ruts. Lilac bush was likely planted by Doctor Swennes approximately 110 years ago and was fully removed. Mayor thanked him for his input and explained how under the new meeting guidelines, discussions with audience members should not occur unless during the open forum. Reichel herself used the alley for years as owner of Walleye Dundee's. City has never given up the ROW and has begun to maintain it for drainage and visibility. Only way to divest public's interest in platted and dedicated ROW's is through the vacation process.

Computers, Investments and Balancing Bank Statements: New computer was installed but the old version of state accounting program wouldn't transfer over so there are two computers being used in the office. Backup system required for IT services through MCSI was functioning at their office but not here, possibly damage by a static electric charge, requiring another trip to install. Button

questioned if building itself needs to be grounded? Check with MCSI. City purchased newest version of state accounting program but it hasn't been activated yet as it requires much preparation; codes have changed from old to new. Audit will be conducted soon and thereafter clerk will focus on getting the new program running. Historical data from 2007 through 2017 will likely only be available in paper due to the two programs not being identical. Also, the new 4M investments will need to be entered and clerk is awaiting instructions from our accountant. Until the above work is completed treasurer reports won't be forthcoming.

Wahkon Days 2018: Scheduled for August 15 – 19. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Bjornson to contract with Hangfire for \$1700, authorize necessary street and alley closures, and annual celebration events will not be applicable to Noise Ordinance restrictions. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Paula Maxson & Patti Packer are willing to help with Wahkon Days.

Whole Community Long-Term Recovery Workshops: Wahkon is on the list of USDA cities and as such can attend. City has discussed emergency plans before and have old plan on book shelf. MLC plan has expired and needs to be updated prior to adoption. Clerk and Weinreich will attend 3/1 workshop in Onamia and see if it warrants participation in future workshop meetings.

Establish State Fire Escrow Account: Per LMC cities can establish a fire escrow account with the state by passing a resolution at no cost to the city. "Basically, this allows a city to recover the costs of clean up if a building in the city is damaged or destroyed by fire and the owner walks away from it." Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Bjornson to have city attorney draft necessary resolution establishing a fire escrow account. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Open Forum: Clerk explained currently there isn't much of a personnel policy relative to worker's compensation and because of that, Weinreich needed to use his sick bank hours for the three days he was off for his knee surgery. Sample from LMC is very lengthy and covers many topics; city has one-page ordinance. LMC would issue check to the city to compensate for payroll, but the first three days aren't covered, unless he is off 10 days or more. Can we do this without an ordinance? Reichel stated we are blessed with the best employees. Other issues not outlined in said ordinance have been implemented by motion and/or council agreement, ex: paying Button for meetings he participates in via telephone. Bereavement time and jury duty are other issues needing future clarification. Clerk to get examples of personnel policies from other cities. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson to replenish Weinreich 24 sick bank hours used during his three-day absence relative to his surgery from work comp injury. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The February 26, 2018 special meeting of the Wahkon City Council was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm and notice was properly posted. Councilmembers present were Christine Bjornson and Ronda Bjornson-Main. Councilmembers Tony Button and Kim Tyson were absent. Employees Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein were present, as well as, City Engineer Dave Blommel from S.E.H. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Equivalent Dwelling Unit (EDU) Future Ordinance: Blommel supplied council with a detailed memo regarding new connections, request to revise billing, request to change or discontinue use. His calculations were in accordance with MN rules 7081.0130 Flow & Waste Concentration Determination for Other Establishments. Residential would be 1 EDU and commercial users would need to provide data of projected use in order to categorize the new user in accordance with the table. Calculated flow would be divided by 150 gallons to determine EDU; 150 gallons per day is generous. Do we want to charge new customers based on the code or do we wait to do it all at one time? At this time, wastewater (WW) receipts are sufficient for operation and maintenance. Future force main replacement and other large repair costs are unknown, USDA and other grants are being solicited, and number of disconnects that occur will be factors in determining future rates. USDA will take six months to review our application and additional months to draft contract. Details will be generated over time while gathering information. Water meters would be fairest billing system with approximately 50% base rate and 50% usage; the less you use, the less you will be charged. Earliest construction or install of meters would be 2019. There is currently a moratorium on usage fee reductions. Commercial users are slightly supplemented by residential user fees per engineer. Council agreed to leave Ordinance 2010-1 as is until more information is obtained on expenses, grants, disconnects and reductions or when substantial data is known through meters.

Katrina Chang Murphy is hopeful an EDU ordinance would be adopted promptly as she disagrees with current billing of three usage fees. Blommel calculated her bill based upon data she provided in a previous memo; one EDU for the residence and 3.37 for the motel/hotel, for total of 4.37 EDU.

There is a property with two fish houses not connected to WW even though it is available. Property has non-conforming use rights as use occurred prior to new zoning ordinance. Per owner they use a chemical toilet. Consider charging a base fee when WW is available for connection.

Disconnections: Council fully agreed with engineer recommendation. Reduction to one EDU requires physical disconnection as close to main as possible. May be temporary or permanent but must require excavation to reconnect and service lateral must meet city standards. Continued use of structure may be allowed for storage. Reconnection would not require payment of SAC fee. No outside sanitary sewer service may be provided to the parcel at any time. Reduction to zero EDU is a permanent disconnection from the system requiring demolition of all structures on the previously served parcel. Future connection would require payment of a new SAC fee.

Blommel will help staff draft letter to Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Indians relative to their inquiry on disconnections for the model townhome and the resort properties. Removal of all old service lines is best and allows for install of new lines in the future. Even if cap was installed in manhole, buildings upon the property require a fee.

City fee schedule will need to be updated and Blommel suggests it be updated annually. Check with City of Rockville. Add "revise WW billing fee" to cover staff and engineer time. Add "I&I fee" when evidence is found thus creating incentive to fix the problem. Also consider, WW availability fee.

Set Next Special Meeting Date: Monday, March 26th at 6:00 pm. Council agreed to review personnel policy as recommended by our city attorney Kyle Hartnett who will be in attendance. Clerk to provide him with policies from surrounding communities and League of MN Cities template. Currently city has two one-page ordinances for holiday and personal paid leave. Need details on work comp, bereavement, jury duty, sick time, etc.

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

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The March 12, 2018 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Christine Bjornson and Kim Tyson; absent were Ronda Bjornson-Main and Tony Button. 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 Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) Meeting Minutes: 1/8/18 & 2/12/18 Council & 2/26/18 Special Council
- B) Special Council Meeting Mon. 3/26 @ 6 pm: Personnel Policy Review with Attorney
- C) Mille Lacs County (MLC) Assessor's Informational Meeting Wed. 4/4 @ 10 am
- D) W.A.V. E Wahkon Prom Dance \$10 Donation, 8 - Midnight @ Wahkon Inn Sat. 4/28
- E) Wahkon Clean Up Day 8 – 11 am Sat. 5/5
- F) East Central Energy Rate Adjustment
- G) MLC Opportunity Zone Application Support
- H) 2019 Project Priority List (PPL) for Clean Water Revolving Fund (CWRP) Submission
- I) Charitable Gambling Reports: 1/2018 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$ 509.67
- J) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance: None until after audit
- K) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Report: None until after audit
- L) Savage Communications Franchise 2018 Report \$2,379.53
- M) Disbursement Register 3/12 Date Range 2/13 – 3/12 Total \$34,817.16

PUBLIC HEARINGS & PETITIONS: Snow Plowing Petition: Business owners Lori Niesen from MSM and Lisa Heairet from The Look by Us were present. Mayor gave summary of how things are different today compared to previous years. Middle turn lane is new. Isle MnDOT office/shop isn't staffed as it was before the fire and they spoiled us by allowing piles. Today Cambridge office oversees our district and doesn't allow snow piles. Niesen brought pictures of how traffic was driving in the turn lane due to drive lanes not plowed entirely. Weinreich brought this to MnDOT's attention and next snow they did better. Niesen explained how that was a busy weekend and the City looked terrible; Weinreich confirmed he has never seen it that bad in his 22 years. City plow truck wasn't up to par as repairs are needed. City of Isle was cleaned promptly as they have staff and equipment. Weather forecast was changing and Habeck was waiting to plow township so he did the same for Wahkon. It is understood now that prompt removal is our goal and all expenses are reimbursed from MnDOT. Priority removal rate may be necessary; clerk stated rates must be approved each year prior to snow season. Laurie from the Wahkon post office submitted complaint directly via MnDOT website. Weinreich and MnDOT have discussed his plan to have snow storage areas with taller windrows in front of closed businesses. If too tall, cones and signage will be displayed. Niesen and Heairet only want the town to look good and their patrons to have safe access.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution No. 2018-0312 "In Support of East Central Regional Development Commission (ECRDC) Conducting Phase 1 Planning for Establishing Regional Transportation Coordinating Councils (RTCC)" MnDOT will provide financial and technical support to an organization to develop a structure and operations plan for a RTCC for Pine, Isanti, Chisago, Kanabec, and Mille Lacs counties (Region 7E) in order to formalize and increase coordination between providers and service agencies. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to adopt Resolution No. 2018-0312. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2018-0312A “Establishing a Fire & Explosion Loss Escrow Account Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 65A.50” This initiates a trust account to receive proceeds from final insurance settlements to ensure structures are replaced, repaired or demolished. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to adopt Resolution No. 2018-0312A. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Clerk must notify MN Commissioner of Commerce.

REPORTS: Wastewater: Lift station #2 is still not operating at full capacity even after some repairs. Need to jet about 1000 feet of line preferably before spring rains. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to authorize up to \$1500 for jetting sewer line at LS #2. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich discussed importance of signage on designated snowmobile and ATV trail from Soo Line Trail onto Meshigun Avenue and 2nd Streets. Vehicles going to Mugg’s are parking atop groomed trail. No parking on this side of street? Upon Street Commissioner Tony Button’s return, this will be discussed as well as removal of Ash tree on 2nd Street E. Trail should be safe for travel and to bring riders into town. Approximately \$750 for signage.

Transportation: Easter Seals remaining \$80,000 grant will be given to the Transportation Resources for You (TRY) working with Onamia Area Transportation Taskforce (OATT) to begin a volunteer driver program to service the north parts of ML and Kanabec counties. Funds must be expended by year end and committee is meeting weekly to get the program off and running with future sustainability as its goal.

Laptop: Died during meeting, clerk will investigate further and if necessary obtain bids.

Fabulous Community: Reichel expressed her gratefulness to our fabulous community where if you need help, you just have to ask.

Zoning: March report from NJPA noted a few calls but no permit applications.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Radisson Street/Larson Encroachments: Letter was sent and his vehicles weren’t parked in the right of way (ROW) so Weinreich was able to turn the snowplow truck around these past few snowfalls. Fish house and dumpster are still in ROW and another letter will be sent requiring items be relocated onto his property when weather conditions allow. Keep on agenda until resolved.

Old School Apartments Fire Update: Jorgenson sent letter stating he hired an engineer to design new boiler system, which will occur after heating season is over. Heating company that installed current system made number of errors, which will be rectified. In the interim, floor was rebuilt and heat shield added. “A number of items listed by the fire department have been complete and they have been back to review some of what has been accomplished.” Clerk will forward letter to Fire Chief David Miller and discuss inspection findings. If Miller is able, have him attend next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: Family Pathways Support & Presentation: Brandon Goranson was present to discuss their programs; food shelves, domestic violence services, youth program and aging services. They operate several thrift stores, which generated 56% toward their budget. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to donate \$500 to Family Pathways from Charitable Gambling Fund. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Soo Line Caboose #6: Button requested this be on the agenda and Dale “Pete” Peterson was present. Button is willing to drive to where the caboose is located on his way home; \$10,900 is price for complete caboose with estimate of \$10,000 to ship. Pete is an avid railroad enthusiast and per his research this caboose came through Wahkon. He provided picture of a similar caboose. Would be great tourist draw to bring back this history, which established Wahkon. Tyson recently sold her caboose and questioned the shipping fee as there was \$16,000 permit required from overhead large electric supplier and other permits needed to lift wires in route to Lakeville. This is travelling much further. Ellen Ruth Park is possible location; Tyson would insist alley be vacated. Is the park big enough with boat? How would it be funded? Land would need preparation to support the weight. Pete has worked with other projects such as this and offered his assistance. His biggest regret was not adamantly protesting when the railroad depot was sold and moved. Council agreed there isn’t much to discuss until Button can be present with further details.

Isle School District (ISD) #473 “Resolution Establishing Combined Polling Places for Multiple Precincts & Designating Hours During Which the Polling Places Will Remain Open for Voting for School District Elections Not Held on the Day of a Statewide Election”: ISD contacted clerk as they were behind schedule in designating a location due to new election rules not allowing them to utilize the IREC anymore. Mayor was contacted and agreed Wahkon polling place could be used. City of Isle never responded to ISD calls. Resolution was approved by the school board on 2/26. Council is glad we are working together. Without specific designation ISD would have been required to have judges in every polling place within their district.

Whole Community Long-Term Recovery Workshop Phase II: Weinreich and Roeschlein attended Phase II, a two-hour meeting and found it very informative. Received four-page document that will be vital to begin planning. Phase II is seven-hour training to specifically focus on a community plan of action with a team of 6–10 persons. Initiative Foundation would come to Wahkon and cover all expenses. Reichel, Weinreich and Roeschlein would be interested. Clerk to reach out to others in the community and bring back to council next month. Communities participating would have chance to be selected to receive \$10,000 if they can match \$10,000 to begin an emergency fund as Phase III.

MN Rural Water Association (MRWA) Annual Membership: Ruth Hubbard has retired and there is a new financial person to contact. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to renew our annual membership to MRWA from April 2018 – April 2019 for \$250 from General Fund and to donate \$25 to their equipment fund and \$10 to Lyle Trautman scholarship fund form Charitable Gambling Fund. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

2018 Fire Service Contract with Isle FD: Same price as last year, which has been the same for several years now. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to renew annual contract with Isle FD for fire protection services beginning 3/1/2018 for \$9375.04 to be paid in four equal installments and to delegate to the City of Isle the authority to bill and pursue collection of charges. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The March 26, 2018 Wahkon special Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Christine Bjornson and Ronda Bjornson-Main, absent were Tony Button and Kim Tyson. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. City Attorney Kyle Hartnett was also present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review Employee Personnel Policy Draft: Document is over 60 pages and based upon League of Minnesota's template. Current policy is one page and per LMC an in-depth policy to follow covers the city for human resource issues and attracts great employees. Weinreich will likely retire in 3 – 5 years. Council and staff reviewed policy draft before the meeting and went page by page discussing sections. Draft gives clerk/treasurer lots of responsibility and authority. Currently council has ultimate authority; clerk and council agree it should remain as such. Attorney stated Wahkon runs more like a township due to its small size. Email accounts for employees and council should be @cityofwahkon.com as utilizing personal email accounts would open all emails up for review in legal proceedings. City hall hours are posted 9 to 1 even though clerk works approximately 7.5 hours average. Council agreed hours will be 9 to 4, Monday through Friday. Job descriptions should be updated. Call out pay was discussed; at minimum employee should be paid two hours if called out. Passwords will be kept in safety deposit box in case of emergency. Both employees have 40 hours of banked sick hours and would like to earn hours per pay period in case of lengthy recuperation; payout would be 0% upon leaving the city. Protective footwear is required per draft, attorney will see if it can be removed. Attorney will make changes as directed and forward second policy draft.

Set Next Special Meeting Date & Topic: Employee reviews will be conducted at 4/9 council meeting. April 23rd at 6 pm will be next special meeting to review second personnel policy draft and city attorney will not attend. Goal is to adopt policy at the May council meeting; no public hearing is required.

Adjournment: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Bjornson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The April 23, 2018 Wahkon Planning Commission (PC) meeting, comprised of the Wahkon Council, was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 5:30 pm. Planning Commission members present were Kim Tyson, Tony Button, and Christine Bjornson. Member Ronda Bjornson-Main was absent. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. Wahkon Zoning Administrator Darrin Welle was also present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to approve agenda. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes: 1/8/2018 Planning Commission Meeting: Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to approve 1/8/2018 minutes. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business: Proposed 2017-1 Zoning Ordinance Changes: Signs for Existing Businesses: Signs flat against building don't require permit. Signs perpendicular to building require conditional use permit (CUP), \$500 fee and \$2000 escrow. Katrina Chang Murphy erected such a sign and was given a violation letter. Upon review, clerk contacted Mayor, who agreed something should be done to alleviate the burden of an additional CUP for an existing business. New business would require CUP and at that time all signs would be discussed, but current regulations require existing businesses with an approved CUP to go through this process. Perpendicular sign extending over a privately-owned porch and/or land requires CUP. PC agreed a simple permit should be required for existing authorized businesses. Want to promote and support businesses. Discussion ensued about size, mounting for high winds, and safety. Tyson brought up her sign example; CUP required to enlarge it, to relocate it or replace it a certificate of compliance is required. Weinreich noted that Wahkon Inn sign barely misses truck when plowing sidewalks. Katrina Chang Murphy stated safety should be an issue and aesthetic is per individual taste. City should help us grow our businesses to succeed and draw people to town.

Christine Jameson introduced herself as a new business "Pineapples Place" located at 160 North Main. She attends festival and events depicting 1840 and earlier history. Her daughters will run the Wahkon shop. She posed many questions regarding what signs are allowed currently. Temporary signs during the day are allowed with clear space for sidewalk users.

PC instructed Welle to outline all sign possibilities in new zoning section. He'll investigate lighted trailer signs regulations. New free-standing sign would still require CUP. Signs less than 16 square feet regular permit, not more than 5' from building with at least 10' clearance. Allow banners 14 days or less.

Accessory Structures for RV Properties: Greg & Teresa Ebnet have a RV connected to all utilities and want a storage building for mower, tools, bikes, etc. Current regulations don't allow accessory structure without a primary structure; interim permit or variance would be necessary. PC agrees storage buildings would prevent blight and allow people to properly maintain their property. Size was debated and 160 square feet was agreed upon. Buildings over 100 square feet must have a foundation.

Lot Split Recording Time Frame: This came to light with Joe & Midge Robinson's lot split when it wasn't recorded within one year and per city attorney it was still valid and thus recorded. New regulations would state it must be recorded within one year.

Fencing: This section needs further clarification. Two feet from alley lot line and 12' from road surface. All fencing must be maintained from owner's property without trespass.

Other: Nothing else discussed. Welle will draft changes per PC direction and send to city attorney for review. Public hearing will then be scheduled.

Adjournment: Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Button to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

4/23/2018 Sp CC

5/14/2018 CC

6/11/2018 PC

The June 11, 2018 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Kim Tyson, Christine Bjornson, and Tony Button; absent was 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 Button to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

- A) Meeting Minutes: 03/26/2018 Special Council
- B) League of MN Cities (LMC) 2019 Dues Letter: Zero increase
- C) Sacred Heart Church Temporary 3.2 On Sale Liquor License for 8/12/18 Bazaar
- D) LG220 Application for Exempt Permit: Mille Lacs Equal Rights Foundation (MERF) 9/19/18
Raffle: Acknowledged with no waiting period
- E) Charitable Gambling Reports: 4/2018 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$55.89
- F) Treasurer's May Report Ending Balance \$603,997.13
- G) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Reports
- H) Disbursement 6/11 Register Date Range 5/15 – 6/11 Total \$62,842.82

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Ordinance No. 2018-1 "An Ordinance Amending the City of Wahkon Zoning Ordinance" Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Tyson to adopt ORDINANCE 2018-1 AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY OF WAHKON ZONING ORDINANCE. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2018-0611 "Resolution Authorizing Publication of a Revised Zoning Ordinance and Fee Ordinance" Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to adopt Resolution No. 2018-0611. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2018-0611A "Resolution Approving 2018 Election Judges for Both the State Primary and General Elections" Motion by Tyson, seconded by Button to adopt Resolution No. 2018-0611A. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Going back to two shifts instead of three. Election judges are: Christine Bjornson, Elaine Freichels, Glenice Peterson, Barb Stone, and Sandy Weber; head election judges Karrie Roeschlein and Deanna Nordstrom.

REPORTS: Wastewater (WW): Weinreich is doing his best to continue having MN Rural Water Association training in Wahkon. Lodging is at McQuiods in Isle now that our hotel is closed, with training at Wahkon Inn banquet hall this Wednesday and Thursday.

Stabilization pond bank needed immediate repair to protect clay liner which was completed. Sewer Commission Bjornson-Main was notified. One more planned discharge by month end.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich: Street light on Summit and 1st St W. was installed. Ditching on 3rd St. E and along Hennepin Ave. was improved; MLC wetland specialist Dillon Hayes was informed. R.C. Habeck will give quote to reset culvert under Hennepin for creek dug within 4th St. E. right of way (ROW) draining to the lake; 2' high on one end and 1' high on the other. Water comes from outside corporate limits as well. Per MLC Lidar there is 4' drop from Hennepin to the lake. Street Commissioner Button believes future work is required to properly drain properties for development. Lack of maintenance can cause wetland areas and leaving water standing in ditches will build up with silt. Discuss at 2019 budget meeting.

Anderson and Roeschlein driveway culverts were replaced as part of this ditch improvement. Larson's existing culvert was used and laid at proper elevation. Button questioned if Larson should be charged contractor fee of \$750 as a permit wasn't authorized at time of install (per clerk's research) and it was at wrong elevation. Gary Larson spoke with clerk at city hall; commended the ditch work and stated it should have been done a long time ago. When he installed culvert, there wasn't correct elevation to follow and he was pretty sure he had a permit. He won't pay nor can we assess him as proper notice wasn't provided. Weinreich noted that usual policy is owner pays to install original driveway and city pays to improve drainage. Had to relocate Larson's as it would have impeded drainage.

Veterans Park & 1st St. W. Sidewalks: Weinreich: Both projects will be done. Three different contractors involved for sidewalk project at park to include tree removal, wall repair, sidewalk and stair replacement. Sidewalk will be replaced as it is, removing enough soil for curb and gutter. Can't address all drainage at this time without further study and the sidewalk needs replacement immediately for safety. It has been delayed a year already. Park plan provided by city engineers S.E.H was design only, not drainage of North Main and Highway 27. Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD) has been authorized to find grant funds for city wide Stormwater plan, but none have been available. Discussion included an underground chamber for drainage.

City hall will be closed at 3 pm tomorrow and closed Friday.

Button: Thank you Dick & Sharolyn Jacobson for weeding flower beds at Veterans Park and Midway Garden Club for planting flower barrels. Will need professional tree removal on newly acquired park land before volunteers can implement a trail. Par 3 frisbee golf course maybe?

Tyson: Heavy rains over holiday weekend made the county culvert collapse. MLC doesn't have funds for Soo Line Trail drainage improvements. Weinreich said it was half full of muck which he cleared as best he could. Drainage needs to be improved all along the trail to beaver sign. Trail is owned by MLC but others entities are involved, MLDS, cities of Isle, Wahkon & Onamia. Tom Jackson asked where the water will go? With no proper drainage it would be pushed up to Roeschlein or Anderson property and sit there. Weinreich will discuss with MLC.

Zoning: June report listed four approved permits and deck built without permit violation was corrected. Zoning ordinance amendments will be drafted and presented at next planning commission meeting. NJPA has changed their name to Sourcewell; phone number is the same, email is different.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: City WW Force Main Break Update: Johnson/Fure: Clerk read Johnson email that nothing further needs to be done. Weinreich had wells tested by A.W. Research Labs at city cost and results were safe. Johnson also had his water tested at MLC site in Wahkon with same results. There was a claim open through League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT) as Johnson originally thought his concrete was damaged by contractors repairing the break but after speaking to Weinreich he was informed there were snow banks preventing this. LMCIT will close the claim. Clerk will mail well lab results to property owners promptly.

NEW BUSINESS: Minnesota Association of Small Cities (MAOSC) 2018-2019 Membership Renewal: Motion by Button, seconded by Tyson to renew MAOSC membership for \$212.70. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Horses @ City Parks and/or Beaches Memo: Clerk heard from Bare Ass Beach patron who believes having horses at the beach is a danger which should be regulated with signage. Stevens Road accesses this beach and is the corporate line between Wahkon and Isle Harbor Township with most of the use on our side. Both entities maintain the property, Weinreich picks up the trash and weeds and township lays gravel on the road. Weinreich likely spoke to this person onsite as well but didn't find feces or any remnants from horse trailer in his daily rounds. Nor was anyone else under distress about the horses. Council agreed that one complaint doesn't warrant signage. Beach is very clean with some patrons raking it. R.C. Habeck will be adding class five on behalf of the township soon.

Sally Doran Memo: Doran died recently and a celebration of her life and 60-year marriage to Pat will be held in Robbinsdale 7/22. As Pepperberry's owner she organized businesses for weekend events drawing people to Wahkon. She was a member and president of Wahkon Civic Association, instrumental in charitable gambling funds used to improve the community and many events, including Wahkon Days. Pat Heinsen explained how her passion for a clean & safe community ensured clean up day was provided to residents. Civic sponsored several before the city took over. It would be a great tribute to her if we honored her through this venue. She continued fighting blight even when she moved to Florida. Motion by Button, seconded by Tyson to name future clean up days as "Sally Doran Memorial Clean Up Day". Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Clerk to contact TCI Signs for a sign to be proudly displayed.

Settlement Request Before Filing: Katrina Chang Murphy Attorney Mahoney Lefky LLC Letter: Mayor received letter mailed to her home which was forwarded to LMC. "Ms. Murphy has retained us to bring a civil rights and discrimination suit naming the City of Wahkon and several City officials for damages caused to her by the unconstitutional taking of her property and contract rights and denying her due process in securing licenses and permits over the past few years. She has been discriminated against and harmed as an Asian woman over 65. Her damages are real and significant. The harm to her is so severe and drastic that it has affected her health and businesses and she is being driven from her home and businesses. If the City continues its unlawful conduct the harm and damages will likely increase. Ms. Murphy has directed us to file an action to recover her damages and repair her reputation. We have prepared the complaint and are ready to proceed at her direction. We are sending this letter to see if the City is willing to reach a mutually satisfactory settlement before we file. We are prepared to discuss this with City officials or a designated lawyer to meet and confer to reach a settlement." This is for information purposes and will only be discussed further with LMC.

Open Forum: Please limit to approximately 3 minutes. Council will likely place issue on next month's agenda to fully review prior to making a decision. Pat Heinsen stated that horse and dog feces are a health risk to humans and asked if there was signage at the beach? Per Weinreich he doesn't see feces thus requiring signs at this time. If purchased they could end up in the lake. Doggie bags are available at the other parks.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The June 25, 2018 Wahkon Special Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:00 pm and notice was properly posted. Councilmembers present were Kim Tyson, Tony Button, Christine Bjornson, and Ronda Bjornson-Main. Employee Karrie Roeschlein was present. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review Council Pay Ordinance Draft: City attorney Kyle Hartnett provided a two-page ordinance leaving the meeting amount to be decided by council. Clerk provided samples from other cities with populations ranging from 347 up to 864, which is Onamia; Isle was also included. Beginning in 1995 mayor received \$55 and council \$40 for regular meetings and both received \$10 for special meetings. Ordinance 2000-4 increased meeting pay to \$60 and \$45 respectively with special meeting rate of \$15 for 2001 and added another \$5 to all rates effective 2002. Current Ordinance 2008-2 began in 2009 paying mayor \$90 and council \$75 for any meeting attended; special meeting rate was omitted. Not noted in the current ordinance but applied is that meetings back to back constitute one meeting pay. Draft goes a bit further and states "...shall not receive payment for attendance at more than one meeting in a single day." Current pay per inflation calculator is worth \$105.54 and \$87.95 respectively. Onamia pays \$200 per month to mayor and council. Mayor conducts meetings.

Council agreed no one becomes a councilmember to get rich. Pay should partially compensate time and energy it takes to review minutes and agendas, research topics, and hear citizens concerns on the street, in the grocery store, etc. Want to show appreciation and entice citizens to run for office. Council agreed there should be pay for Individual councilmembers representing the city at consultations with staff and professionals (engineers, attorneys, etc.); example: annually Reichel and Bjornson-Main meet with Mille Lacs Island Resort. Don't want blanket language making any organizational meeting attended; must be approved by council as something that warrants Wahkon representation. Ordinances require public hearing before adoption and this one wouldn't take effect until 1/7/2019 when newly elected council is in place. Clerk is working with First National Bank of Milaca to implement electronic deposit of payroll.

Currently one councilmember pays 100% of the health insurance premium as part of the MN PEIP insurance pool; the two city employees' premium is paid for by the city. Does the county board get offered insurance? Would be great incentive to get people involved in government.

Section relative to interactive television and attendance by other means was discussed fully. Button participated via cell phone and speaker during a few meetings this past winter as he was down south. Many residents go south and it would be nice to give them ability to participate while away. After a couple meetings, Clerk realized it wasn't allowed without (1) being visible to those here in Wahkon and (2) posted meeting notice was to note address of public location in case someone wanted to sit with Button. Clerk had originally read the emergency section which allowed audio only. Council agreed the public notice opens members to theft as it is advertising that no one is home in Wahkon. Draft ordinance allows for not meeting the full requirements of Statutes section 13D.015 for meetings besides regular and special city council meetings. What if someone is recovery from surgery or is ill, can they skype from the hospital or their home? Must the public be allowed to sit with them? Clerk to ask attorney to elaborate more on these rules as council is of the firm belief it is more important to have participation.

Council agreed with Bjornson-Main's recommendation to pay the mayor \$150 and council \$125 for meeting attendance and \$50 for city representation pay if approved by council.

Set Next Special Meeting Date & Topic: There are six months left in the year to conduct special meetings. Clerk is busy preparing for elections and Wahkon Days, thus would prefer not having one in July. She is also taking vacation on the usual special meeting date in August. Budget is done through a special meeting in September, November meeting date is Monday after Thanksgiving and December's would be Christmas Eve. Next large project is to fully review new MN Basic Code (MBC) of ordinances, which will take several meetings to get through. Should the newly elected council be part of that process? It would get them vested in the rules if they took part and there would be no reason to blame previous council. Council agreed future special meetings will be for planning commission and other topics that warrant attention, but to leave MBC review for 2019.

Katrina Chang Murphy: Council was about to adjourn when Murphy asked to poise questions. Mayor indicated that technically there wasn't a section for public input but to go ahead. Murphy questioned if she should continue as there wasn't a section and she didn't want to be out of line. Council agreed she could continue. How many meetings can members miss? There is nothing in this draft ordinance addressing that and per clerk it is very difficult to enforce and remove someone when citizens elected them to office. Murphy suggested council face the audience. Tables were pushed together as this was a working session to review the ordinance. She also stated during regular meetings when tables are in a U shape, audience is disconnected from council and by facing them it would be more welcoming. How much is the special meeting fee if she asks to be on the agenda? Special meeting fee is to have a meeting and noted on the fee schedule. In the past, Murphy has sent clerk request to be on the agenda and she was put under new or old business. City of Isle puts citizen requests under public forum section and only if council agrees the issue will be placed on an upcoming meeting agenda. Explained how a public hearing is required and public input will be taken then for this draft ordinance. Bjornson-Main reiterated proposed council pay also covers councilmember's time beyond attending a meeting. Murphy questioned how to contact councilmembers as she only sees them at the bar. Tyson stated she isn't always at the bar and Murphy said, "maybe you're not." Discussion continued explaining the different council meetings with explanation that all meetings are open to the public but not all allow public input. Clerk interrupted and explained how council rebuttal back and forth with Murphy was deemed to be bullying her per an opinion given in the office from a citizen. There is a critical need to have all meetings functioning properly. Audience has three minutes and should not be interrupted. Thereafter council decides if subject requires follow up. Should next special meeting be with Pam Whitmore of League of MN Cities regarding presentation of proper meeting etiquette to council and the public? Clerk will check for availability during regular monthly council meeting as more people attend.

Adjournment: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Tyson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk-Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The July 9, 2018 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:01 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Kim Tyson, Tony Button, and Christine Bjornson. 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 Button to approve consent agenda as written. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

A) Meeting Minutes: 6/25 Special Council

B) City of Onamia Donation Thank You

C) Wild & Free Wildlife Rehabilitation Program Donation Thank You

D) MN Rural Water Assoc. Training in Wahkon Thank You

E) MN House of Representative Sondra Erickson Letter

F) Mille Lacs County (MLC) Public Hearing Notice; Small Cities Grant Fund Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding & Fair Housing Act for Isle & Wahkon; Tues. 8/7 @ 9 am

G) Charitable Gambling Reports: 5/2018 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$779.47

H) Treasurer's June Report Ending Balance \$548,707.39

I) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Reports

J) Disbursement 7/9 Register Date Range 6/12 – 7/9 Total \$26,430.46

REPORTS: Wastewater (WW): Weinreich: Pond discharge is finished.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Ditches: Jeff Bertelson driveway is being washed out requiring work in the right of way and were informed by Weinreich a permit is required. Last fall city removed old non-functioning culvert per their request. Past city engineer and Ross Habeck have looked at the ditch. Drainage from Lake Shore Blvd, Schubert Ave. and Hwy 27 all converge in this area draining to the lake. Need plan of action but all ditch funds have been expended. Put on list for 2019 budget discussion. Weinreich will look at their driveway after next rain and take pictures. Rains have been heavy for past two summers.

Tyson has drainage issues with water to her quilt store and in heavy rains inside. MLC owns Soo Line Trail but has no budgeted funds for drainage. Drainage should extend to the beaver sign. MnDOT changed drainage from highway a few years ago and agreed to remedy wet slew at the curve. Weinreich will request onsite visit with Dillion Hayes, MLC wetland specialist. Council may speak to county commissioners of drainage and safety needs but will wait to see what Hayes can do.

Marge Hoyt wasn't present but showed pictures of her ditch filled with rain water to Reichel, Button and Roeschlein. Very shallow ditch on south side of 4th St. W which was improved along with alley two years ago. Rains have been heavy and frequent since then and finally grass has taken. She'd prefer to mow it as before and believes more water is flowing to Main Street/Hwy. Water flows from Hwy and sidewalk over 4th to the lake. Old culverts and tanks were removed in this area as well. Ditch budget has been depleted. Ditches save street integrity more than drain tile. Button and Weinreich will go onsite again.

Blacktopping will be finished soon by Rocon Paving. NCR will do 1st St. W & Veterans Park sidewalks first or second week of August, to be finished by Wahkon Days. Ross Habeck will coordinate his work schedule. Wahkon Presbyterian Church will pay their portion. Military flag banners are deteriorating. Tyson will see if they can be repaired or should be replaced.

Roeschlein: Business Retention & Expansion (BR&E) techniques 5-hour workshop will be conducted free of charge by U of M through MLC in Isle for Wahkon and Onamia as well. Will inform everyone once date is confirmed.

Transportation Resources for You (TRY): Clerk attends meetings in Onamia and group focuses on lack of transportation for northern ML and Kanabec counties. Mayors from Onamia and Milaca are involved along with Mille Lacs Health System (MLHS) and others. Part time director was hired and volunteer drivers are needed. Easter Seals \$80,000 grant will end 12/31 and goal is sustainability into the future.

WW Repair Assessment: Bjornson-Main inquired if city would consider repairing private lateral and assessing the property owner. This has been done in the past with Taggart for home on Lake Shore Blvd. Would need agreement signed; assessment interest rate is 8%.

Zoning: Darrin Welle was on vacation and next month there will be a report for two months. Prior "after the fact" issues have been resolved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: MN Dept of Administration State Historic Preservation Office Letter Re: 2019 Sanitary Sewer Improvements: "Based on available information, we conclude that no buildings or structures eligible for or listed in the National Register of Historic Places will be affected by this project. Please note that the Mille Lacs Tribal Historic Preservation Officer has assumed the majority of Section 106 review responsibilities for Federal undertakings located within the reservation boundary. Since this Federal undertaking is located within this area, the federal agency is required to consult with the Mille Lacs Tribal Historic Preservation Office as well." Reichel would like a respectful letter of response sent indicating the position of the City, Mille Lacs County and State of Minnesota that the 61,000-acre reservation was disestablished through the 1913 supreme court ruling. Every time they say it exists we should refute it. State Governors Pawlenty & Dayton have signed letters stating this. Dept. of Interior recent M Opinion is the reservation exists but once it gets into court, evidence will be supplied to the contrary. Reichel explained how she conducted research at the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington D.C. and copied two maps from 1962 and 1992 of Indian Lands depicting no such reservation. The City was given a 1928 State of Minnesota map from U.S. Dept. of Interior without said reservation. If we do nothing we should expect nothing. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson to send letter disputing the existence of a 61,000 reservation. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Clerk to contact city engineer to see where said letter should be sent.

Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD) Stormwater Management, Clean Water Fund Grant Proposal Update: Motion was carried unanimously back in 4/2017 to begin this process, however grants haven't been available. Lynn Gallice from MLSWCD is hopeful there will be funds soon. She is contacting city engineers as their input will be necessary for the grant application which would pay 75% of a city wide Stormwater plan.

NEW BUSINESS: Wahkon Notice of Filing for City Offices 7/31 – 8/14: The city clerk of Wahkon will accept affidavits of candidacy for the 11/6 general election beginning Tues. 7/31 and ending Tues. 8/14 at 5 pm. Filing fee is \$2.00. City offices to be filled: mayor; 2-year term and two (2) council members; 4-year term. Deadline for candidates to submit affidavits of withdrawal is Thurs. 8/16 until 5 pm.

Local Economies & Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI); Ken Pentel Director of the Ecology Democracy Network Email: They are seeking to change the way we measure the MN economy. "I believe that using the GDP as an economic measurement tool puts local and rural regions of Minnesota at a structural disadvantage, whereas the GPI lends itself to local economic stability." League of MN Cities (LMC) has no stance on this pro or con. Council agreed they can't support this at this time. How would it affect us? Would need layman terms applicable to Wahkon.

Soo Line Trail Weed Cutting Request: Friends of the Soo Line Trail pay volunteer's MLDS membership fees to run their equipment to clean the bike trail. City of Isle employees clean it monthly during the summer. Clerk Roeschlein coordinates cleaning schedule. MLC and the cities of Wahkon, Isle and Onamia have interest in keeping the trail safe. Weinreich used tool cat side mower to cut weeds in Wahkon. David Oslin used MLDS mower and did all the rest after this memo was written. At this time no need to request use of city tool cat mower and Weinreich's volunteer hours.

Dust from ATV's is bad. Tyson can't open her windows at home or the shop. Applying calcium chloride is very expensive. They need to slow down while in town. Button noticed both DNR and MLC Sheriff's Dept. on the trail checking registration and such. Council agreed trail is a definite asset to our city. Would be nice to have actual numbers of riders. Another trail has equipment to count cell phones. MLC has been unsuccessful recently for grants. Need to finish blacktopping from outside of Wahkon to Onamia as it becoming narrow and deteriorated.

Automated Clearing House (ACH) Application with FNB Milaca: New personnel policy requires electronic deposit of pay checks and this is the first step. Motion by Button, seconded by Tyson to move forward with contract agreements for ACH processing through The First National Bank of Milaca requiring two signatures for each payroll up to a maximum file amount of five thousand dollars (\$5,000). Approved signers are the same as currently designated on all city accounts with FNB, Mayor Sandy Reichel, Acting Mayor Ronda Bjornson-Main and Clerk-Treasurer Karrie Roeschlein. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Framing of Maps: Beautiful 1928 State of Minnesota map from U.S. Dept. of Interior was given to the City. Two maps from 1962 and 1992 of Indian Lands Reichel copied at the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Washington D.C. All of which don't depict the 61,000-acre reservation. Bill Konze donated a hand drawn railroad map of Wahkon that should be preserved. Estimate of \$225 - \$325 for poster size frames ordered online. Council agreed to obtain estimate from new Isle framing business and obtain his professional advice on how best to protect the maps. WAVE Committee will be asked to help with cost at their next meeting.

Utility Connections Required Memo: Two parcels with RV's have exceeded 14-day rule thus requiring utility connections to electric, water and sewer. Matthew Hoyt property's previous owner/relative believed he couldn't connect to sewer and his usage fee was stopped in 10/2004. In 6/2015 letter was sent to Matthew correctly explaining he could connect to sewer main in the alley. No reply until he came to city hall in 2016 asking about a deck permit. He explained a recent purchase of a large poly tank to fit underneath the RV which would be pumped regularly and he supplies the city with invoice copy.

New Zoning Ordinance 2017-1 allows RVs on undeveloped parcels but if used for more than 14 days all utilities must be connected. Sewer ordinance adopted in 2005 states "The owners of all houses, buildings or properties used for human occupancy, employment, recreation or other purposes from which wastewater is discharged....; provided the public sewer is within 200 feet of the structure generating the wastewater."

James Zumwalt was informed this spring of requirements and hasn't connected yet. He stopped at city hall on 7/9 to explain his plan of getting connected at the end of August after working his 28-day schedule in ND as he'll have 10 days off. Tom Johnson is still the owner of record as the contract for deed hasn't been recorded per MLC.

Council agreed Zoning Administrator Darrin Welle will send letters to Zumwalt/Johnson and Hoyt. City attorney will need to advise on timeframe for connection as Sewer Ordinance mentions 365 and 180 days. Letters to be provided to council in their next meeting agenda.

Open Forum: Please limit to approximately 3 minutes. Council will likely place issue on next month's agenda to fully review prior to making a decision. Tyson won't make the 8/13 meeting. Wanted council aware she purchased 1966 Mustang with collector plate that will be stored under a tarp in their yard until they begin restoration.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson-Main seconded by Tyson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:59 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The August 13, 2018 Wahkon City Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:02 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Tony Button, and Christine Bjornson; absent was Kim Tyson. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein; city representative present was Heidi Peper from S.E.H, city engineering firm. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

- A) Meeting Minutes: 6/11 & 7/9 Council Meetings
- B) MN Public Utilities Commission Public Hearings Re: Frontier Communication Services: See notice for actual dates and locations
- C) Primary Election @ Wahkon Community Hall 7 am – 8 pm Tues. 8/14
- D) Wahkon Days: Wed. 8/15 – Sun. 8/19
- E) City Hall Closed Mon. 8/27 – Wed. 8/29 & Labor Day Mon. 9/3
- F) Isle Sportsman’s Club Banquet & Raffle 9/29 @ Wahkon Inn:
- G) Charitable Gambling Report: 6/2018 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$798.12 for 10% Fund, \$500 Kids Fishing Contest & \$1,595 WAVE Meat Raffle Work
- H) Treasurer’s Report Ending Balance \$701,777.14
- I) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Reports
- J) Mille Lacs County (MLC) Tax Settlement Report \$145,746.02
- K) Disbursement 8/13 Register Date Range 7/10 – 8/13 Total \$42,522.63, Less Transfer Total \$35,120.13

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Resolution No. 2018-0813 Accepting 2018 July Fourth Celebration Donations: Clerk read the list of generous donators. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Bjornson to adopt Resolution No. 2018-0813. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS: Wastewater: William Hoyt WW Connection Required Letter & Response: Letter was sent requiring RV connection within 365 days, which was reviewed by city attorney. Hoyt’s written response was to request two years’ time, removal of two trees in alley and wondering if city has plan to vacate Chippewa Ave Hoyt admitted to clerk he dumps gray water on the ground. He does have a poly tank under the RV which is pumped regularly. There was misinformation previously that no sewer main existed nearby, but there is a line in the alley. Weinreich will verify tree location, but at this time there is no need to remove healthy trees as alley width is sufficient for slow traffic. Hoyt brought in his trailer with the trees there and removing it shouldn’t be problematic. Platform deck was built for the RV. There are plans for a walking path on Chippewa Ave to the City Park thus city won’t begin vacation process. Council agreed one year is sufficient time to connect. Clerk to send letter.

Complaint: ATV & Golf Cart Underaged Drivers: Tom Johnson has safety concerns with children driving golf carts, ATVs, side by sides, motor cycles and mopeds around town. Asking council to be proactive with regulations before someone is hurt. Bjornson researched state rules; drivers under 10 only on private property with parent’s permission, 10-11 on public property with parent, 12-15 can operate on public property with safety certificate and with adult, 16-17 with driver’s license can operate alone. Cities usually draft their own regulations but currently there are none. Some golf carts

are loaded with kids not obeying traffic rules. With the Soo Line Trail located here, City appreciate ATVs, side by sides, snowmobilers and golf cart business patrons. Need rules for everyone's safety. Council plans on beginning review of basic code of ordinances in January and will discuss implementing regulations which according to MN Statute 169.045 could include a city permit, proof of insurance, restrict hours from sunrise to sunset unless using lights, and displaying slow moving sign.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich: Ponds were inspected by MPCA and he is waiting for written report. Weeds will need to be sprayed at ponds before discharge. Rocon Paving will finish before Wahkon Days. Dillion Hayes at MLC discussed plan to replace culvert including aprons on Soo Line Trail and 1st Street E, which will help drain water to the east. Keith Vanderpoel will soon finish replacing trim on shop garage doors.

Isle Harbor Township spent a lot of money improving the road to Bare Ass Beach. Council agreed to send thank you letter. City and township corporate line is in this area. Weinreich makes sure it is kept clean as it is used a lot. Council agreed a sign similar in style to other park signs be installed, which Button will make. Beach has always been known as Bare Ass Beach and that is what the sign will state. No need to add Wahkon or Isle Harbor Township. Weinreich has sent pictures of the DNR property for possible improvement for parking and picnic tables. Heidi Peper of S.E.H was also informed and will look for funding opportunities.

Button stated WAVE Committee is planning for Old Fashioned Sunday in the Park during Wahkon Days and hopes to begin cleaning Chippewa trail and new park property lot this fall.

Zoning: August Report had two approved permits. Zoning Administrator Darrin Welle is working on violation where an RV has been there for more than 14 days thus requiring utility connections. Letter was sent 7/27 to Johnson, still named on property, and Zumwalt the current owner, which was reviewed by city attorney. Weinreich looked in property file for old sewer diagrams.

Stormwater: MN Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR) Stormwater Management Plan & Grant Application Update: Heidi Peper (S.E.H) & Lynn Gallice from Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSWCD) were present. Grant application wasn't submitted as the program wasn't offered in 2017 as previously discussed and authorized by council, but now it is. Application is due at the end of this month, highly competitive and money is limited. Estimated plan cost has increased to \$45,000 and grant would pay 75% directly to city through MLSWCD. BWSR needs assurance the plan won't sit on a shelf and not be utilized for future improvements. Cost includes outreach to citizens, property owners and businesses on benefits of stormwater management. City employee and office expenses would be considered in kind and our portion would need to be budgeted, \$17,444 for 2019. It is a three-year grant and other grants could be applied for to accomplish projects, such as clean water funding. Plan would be basis for development, including Main Street Beautification 2023 project. Said plan would have a long shelf life unless there are major changes. County updates theirs on average every ten years. Great budget tool as the plan would give area analysis for projects. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to move forward with BWSR application. Ayes: Bjornson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: MN Dept of Administration State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO): City Response Letter Re: 2019 Sanitary Sewer Improvements: City letter concluded with “It would behoove all parties involved to stand up to federal over reach into state affairs by continually expressing the position of the State of Minnesota that the reservation has since been disestablished and refuting their claim that it exists. This would show support to Mille Lacs County and the City of Wahkon giving hope that this matter will be fully resolved within the proper legal channels. It is with this desire the City of Wahkon sends this letter to SHPO in order that our voices will not be squelched in protecting the constitutional rights of our citizens.”

United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) 7/27 Letter to 18 Tribes Re: 2019 Sanitary Sewer Improvements: Per Peper when accepting federal grant funding letters must be sent to all interested parties allowing 30-day comment period. Tribes were located in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Oklahoma, Montana, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska.

Misleading Editorial in Yesterday’s Mille Lacs Messenger: Proper Economic Resource Management (PERM) 8/2 EM: Well written letter to Mille Lacs Messenger mailbag regarding editor Vivian LaMoore’s opinion column “Co-management for peace and friendship” summary of nine years of legal happenings after Mille Lacs Band government sued Minnesota in 1990. PERM believes it was misleading and dodges historical facts. “Editor LaMoore failed to list the many DFL and Republican legislators who wisely defeated that 49-page settlement bill. She never mentioned the many conservation groups and prominent Minnesotans who rightfully opposed it.”

Wahkon Notice of Filing for City Offices 7/31 – 8/14: PLEASE consider being a candidate.

Mayor commended DJ Framing on the new maps and Button for installing them in the community hall. Maps are (1) 1909 hand drawn railroad map, (2) 1928 State of MN and (3) Dept. of Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Land 1962 and 1992.

NEW BUSINESS: MN Department of Transportation (MnDOT) Lake Mille Lacs Scenic Byway Designation: “The Lake Mille Lacs 68-mile Scenic Byway is the state’s 22nd byway.” “Partnerships were key to getting this historic and popular recreational lake designated as a scenic byway.” “The good work of the two development commissions and the support of the Lake Mille Lacs communities made this happen to ensure this northern Minnesota gem will be enhanced and preserved.” Byway includes highways 169, 27, 18 and 47 and Shakopee Lake Road.

League of MN Cities (LMC) Proper Council Meeting Procedures Presentation: 9/10 Special Meeting Time? Council agreed on 5 pm. Regular monthly council meeting will follow at 6 pm.

Open Forum: Please limit to approximately 3 minutes. Council will likely place issue on next month’s agenda to fully review prior to making a decision. Katy Draper, Director of Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe Affairs, invited everyone to an open house at their Wahkon office on Saturday, 10 am to 1 pm during Wahkon Days. Button and Roeschlein had previously met with Draper and others at their office for a Mille Lacs Band Corporate Venture presentation.

Katrina Chang Murphy: Questioned why all ordinances aren't on the city website? Hopefully this can be accomplished in the future through ordinance codification. Clerk will email her zoning ordinance with recent amendments, which should already be online. She wondered what has been accomplished since 12/2017 regarding wastewater usage reduction? USDA funding has been procured for the plan on wastewater system needs, one of which will be to replace the force main. Moratorium on usage fees is still in place until a new billing system can be initiated, likely with installation of meters so it will be fair to all and based on actual usage. Previously city engineer calculated Murphy should be charged four fees instead of current three based upon figures supplied by her. Council thanked Murphy for her concerns after approximately eight minutes; open forum is limited to three. She was invited to attend the upcoming meeting protocol presentation on 9/10 by LMC.

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

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The September 10, 2018 Special Wahkon Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 5:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Tony Button, Kim Tyson, and Christine Bjornson. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. This special meeting was called by the council and was properly posted. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Workshop: Meeting Management facilitated by League of MN Cities Insurance Trust (LMCIT): Pamela Whitmore: Whitmore and Dan Greensway provided council and staff with Meeting Management 101 presentation including agenda and policy samples from other cities. As a workshop, no public comment was allowed and Whitmore stated this at the onset. Council's goal is to conduct better meetings, in particular regarding citizen participation.

Being a small city, dialogue between council and citizens has occurred in the past, but over the past few years it sometimes becomes overrun by citizens reiterating the same topic or belaboring past actions. Want to allow public comment but not to the detriment of a well-run meeting. Some councilmembers feel personally attacked and have expressed their discontentment to attend such meetings. As some own businesses this can affect their professional lives as well. Unruly meetings are detrimental to the election process as potential candidates don't want the frustration. Being a councilmember is already a thankless and low paying community service job.

Cities aren't required to follow Robert Rules of Order but best practice is a written meeting policy outlining rules for citizen participation, including time allotment. Policy should be made available on city website and at each meeting. Sign-up sheets are useful in organizing citizens that want to speak on a particular agenda item. Sheet is given to Mayor and citizens are called up at the appropriate time. Policy should outline how a citizen may have a topic placed on the agenda; Isle council must authorize topics, usually for the following month.

Tensions arise when citizens don't feel heard and listening is key. Council should not engage with the citizen to debate or explain, but only to listen. After their allotted time, they should be thanked for their comments and participation. Some cities have a time for the Mayor to address past concerns and their follow up from the previous meeting as a means to keep citizens informed. Citizens want to be heard and validated. However, meetings are for council to do the necessary work for the month. Citizens should also realize that projects and/or issues can take months or even years to address. Other topics are on-going and never seem to be fully resolved due to extenuating factors. Councils change every other year which can slow progress until everyone is working as a unit and up to speed on community issues. Whitmore commended council on their desire to hold this workshop, their ability to work together as a unit, and proactiveness to make their meetings better as some presentations are geared specifically for infighting among councilmembers.

Adjournment: Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson-Main to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The September 10, 2018 Wahkon Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Sandy Reichel at 6:05 pm. Council members present were Ronda Bjornson-Main, Kim Tyson, Christine Bjornson, and Tony Button. 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 Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to approve the consent agenda with exception of removing item B to be discussed further per Button's request. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

A) Meeting Minutes: None at this time

C) City Hall Closed Thurs. 9/13 – Fri. 9/14

D) Transportation Resources for You (TRY) Open House, Tues. 9/18 @ Wahkon Inn, 5 – 7 pm

E) Mille Lacs County (MLC) Waste Tire Collection 2018, Thurs. 9/27 @ North Maintenance Facility 6713 State Hwy 27 Wahkon, 2:30 - 6:30 pm

F) Mille Lacs Area Health Foundation 8th Annual Fall Fundraiser, Autumn Harvest Wine & Beer Tasting Event, Fri. 9/28 @ Eddy's Resort, 7 – 9 pm

G) LG 555 Isle Lions Club \$250 Wahkon Days Donation

H) Charitable Gambling Report: 7/2018 Mille Lacs Drift Skippers (MLDS) \$841.36

I) Treasurer's Report Ending Balance \$695,109.99

J) Interim Financial Monthly Analysis Reports

K) Disbursement 9/10 Register Date Range 8/14 – 9/10 Total \$27,277.19

B) MN Board of Water & Soil Resources (BWSR) Accelerated Implementation Grant Application Submitted for Citywide Stormwater Management Plan: Lynn Gallice of Mille Lacs Soil & Water Conservation District (MLSCD) wrote the grant application with assistance from city engineering staff and it was submitted. Should know grant recipients by year end. Button explained how important this future plan will be for development. Staff and himself met with MnDOT representative regarding 2023 Main Street Beautification project and it will be instrumental for planning purposes. DOT has one million dollars allocated for Wahkon in 2023. Full project costs will be forthcoming after public input and council meetings to formulate details. Financial responsibility is determined by right of way (ROW) jurisdiction. Small city street aid funds from the State were invested and earning interest but more funds should be budgeted over the next five years in preparation. Bike path lanes and connections to trails are important DOT factors. Expensive improvements for bicyclists are well and good but there are needs in rural communities for ATVs and snowmobiles, which aren't addressed. They generate substantial income to the State in taxes and registration fees contributing to such improvements while bicycles do not.

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS & POLICIES: Ordinance No. 2018-2 Setting Salaries of the Mayor & City Council Members: Subdivision 3 Multiple Meetings states members shall not receive payment for attendance at more than one meeting in a single day. Example: two members may meet with Mille Lacs Island Resort in the morning and then attend council meeting, which should warrant two payments. Council has always followed one payment only for consecutive meetings. Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to adopt Ordinance No. 2018-2 contingent on amending subdivision 3 allowing multiple meeting pay in one day if authorized and not consecutive. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Mayor will receive \$150 and councilmembers \$125 per meeting, both will be paid \$50 for council authorized attendance or appearances on behalf of the City, effective 1/7/2019.

Resolution No. 2018-0910 Accepting Donations Toward 2018 Wahkon Day Festivities & Thank You Letter: Received \$2290 for Wahkon Days, \$200 in coins for coin hunt, and \$500 to Wahkon Area Vision Effusion (WAVE) Committee for Sunday in the Park. Clerk read list of donators names and noted many that gave prizes, certificates and volunteered were too numerous to be listed. Council agreed it was a great event and we couldn't do it without all the support. Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Tyson to adopt Resolution No. 2018-0910. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS: Wastewater: Weinreich: There is a lot of water in the ponds. Ordering more alum as one application isn't enough this year. Excavation of new lateral at 2000 Lake Shore Blvd will close the street from 9 am to noon tomorrow.

Employee, Committee & Councilmember Updates: Weinreich: Contractor finished trim on garage doors in the shop. Still trying to get quotes to replace the last few old hall and office windows. Both sidewalk projects are underway. Will need to fix boulevard on 1st Street W due to ruts and reseed. North Central Paving will blacktop Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe's model townhome WW connection on Broadway. They require using local contractors. North Central will also lay blacktop on North Main near Veterans Park sidewalk project. Weinreich is working on finding contractor to install railings on the park steps which will be extra. Button recommends they be core drilled. Need new wheels on pier, which will be fully discussed at budget meeting.

Encroachment: Roeschlein: Pop up tent trailer was later found to be fully on city ROW of Radisson and 5th Street E, not at all on Abel Hein's property. Clerk sent email apologizing for sending out the letter. Originally Weinreich didn't measure for 5th Street ROW. Once sheriff's department and county attorney's office became involved it was necessary to ascertain whether it was a city issue or private property. Still working with MLC on getting it removed after issuing ticket and allowing a certain amount of time. Trailer was brought in by Joe Eventrout, Sierra's boyfriend last spring. Her deceased father's property is approximately 300 feet further south. Abel Hein stated no one has permission to park anything on his property. Tent portion is sticking out of the ends of the trailer.

Parks and Trails: Button would like to work with Bjornson before her term ends at year end on the new park land and Chippewa Trail. He also has a lead on 60' caboose that may be donated, requiring funds for the transport from Brainerd only.

Zoning: Report dated 8/31 had two items. Item #2 regarding RV not connected to utilities has more information that Welle was unaware of as Mr. Zumwalt discussed this with the clerk. Connections will be made this fall as he spends several weeks working out of state each month. Clerk will update Welle.

NEW BUSINESS: League of MN Cities (LMC) & MN Mayors Association (MMA) Membership Dues: In the past Wahkon hasn't been an MMA member. Council discussed benefits of networking with other mayors on meeting procedures and such. Fee of \$30 is well worth it. Motion by Tyson, seconded by Button to approve membership fees of \$396 LMC and \$30 MMA. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

Special Budget Meeting Date & Time? County deadline is 10/2. Council agreed to call for a special meeting for Mon. 9/24 at 6 pm. This will be a workshop meeting without public comment.

Closing of 2nd St. E. Request for Mugg's Autumn Fest Sat. 9/29: Motion by Bjornson-Main, seconded by Button to authorize closure of 2nd Street E on 9/29 for Autumn Fest. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Tyson, seconded by Bjornson-Main to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor

The September 24, 2018 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, Tony Button, Kim Tyson, and Christine Bjornson. Employees present were Chris Weinreich and Karrie Roeschlein. Council called this meeting as a workshop to review budgets and public notice was properly posted. Meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

REVIEW GENERAL & WASTEWATER 2019 BUDGETS: Clerk guided council through each line item of both budgets. Proposed budget reflects keeping levy the same as last year. General Fund has a healthy balance at this time, over the recommended 50-75% of expenditures. Likely from budgeting funds and not using them all, example, hall roofing. Bjornson-Main questioned if that reflects badly within the audit. Per our auditor, finances are good and he commended council on spending less than projected. Buffer could be used for additional blacktop or other large expenses. Unexpected calamities could use it up quickly.

We have approximately five million in street assets and it is important to take care of them. Many areas are very bad off. Possible plan of action could be to seal coat them first and repave another year. Possible use of buffer will be fully discussed in the spring when blacktopping quotes are known. 1995 International plow truck runs well. Plow blade may need to be replaced, approximately \$7,000 which isn't in the budget. Large font street signs are required and are being purchased on as needed basis.

MN Department of Transportation (MnDOT) has earmarked one million dollars for Wahkon Main Street Beautification 2023 project. City will pay a percentage, which is unknown at this time until further planning is conducted. Having the buffer will help offset this expense down the line. Small cities street aid grant funding won't be enough, which has been invested and earmarked for 2023.

Center railing will be installed at Veterans Park to conclude this year's project to replace old sidewalk along with curb and gutter. Railing should be core drilled. Also core drill for flags on Main Street sidewalk. Tree was removed from cracked wall, which will need a face lift. Professional contractor to lay split field rock would run \$25,000, matching the Stone Bridge. Use volunteers? They are getting older. Nothing budgeted at this time for the wall.

Council wants zoning fees to cover actual cost. Clerk to include copy of Sourcewell's invoice for Darrin Welle's zoning services along with monthly report. Not all charges are relative to a specific zoning application; ordinance review, violations, and citizen questions. Weinreich zoning hours are higher than last year and he is no longer the zoning administrator. Clerk has meeting hours noted here for cheaper work comp rate but will work on breaking that out to properly reflect zoning hours only.

There was a large claim for an injury that occurred while fixing a force main break, which has adversely affected work comp premiums in all departments. First large claim in clerk's 25 years. Approved purchase of Varidesk, a stand-up desk for the clerk. Healthier than sitting all day and proactive in preventing work comp issues. Clerk will update time sheet to better reflect Weinreich's office, meeting, and training time for cheaper work comp rates.

Fuel oil must be purchased in Isle, discussed outside tank in the future. Sand & salt could be mixed onsite in the yard if it was covered. Can city erect temporary structure in Meshigun 70' right of way currently being used as a city yard? Would need to discuss with zoning administrator and city attorney.

Clerk will separate her health insurance from other insurance after budget meeting as report was already printed. New CTAS accounting system wants separation.

Motion by Button, seconded by Tyson to adopt proposed budgets as is with General Fund receipts \$279,984 and disbursements \$277,950; Wastewater Operating Fund receipts \$224,375 and disbursements \$145,740. Remaining projected WW receipts of \$78,635 will partially pay \$83,983 bond payment requiring remainder from WW Emergency/Improvement Fund. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-0924 “APPROVING FINAL 2018 TAX LEVY COLLECTIBLE IN 2019”
Motion by Button, seconded by Bjornson-Main to adopt Resolution No. 2018-0924 approving final levy amount of \$247,020. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Levy was held the same as last year. However, this doesn’t mean citizen’s property taxes for city portion will be exactly the same as factors such as market values, legislative reclassifications, and overall city tax base affect it as well.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion by Bjornson, seconded by Tyson to adjourn. Ayes: Bjornson, Tyson, Bjornson-Main, Button, and Reichel. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:35 pm.

Karrie Roeschlein, Clerk/Treasurer

Sandy Reichel, Mayor