

The City of Cannon Falls met in a regular session on Tuesday, October 1, 2013, at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Robby Robinson and Council Members Bill Duncan, Jay Sjoblom, Morris Mattson, Rodney Holst, LeRoy McCusker, and Merlyce Johnson. Also present were Aaron Reeves, City Administrator; Lanell Endres, Assistant City Administrator; Dave Maroney, Community Development Director; Brenda Voshalike Ambulance Director; and Jeffrey McCormick, Police Chief.

- Call to Order Mayor Robinson called the City Council Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
- Roll Call All members were present.
- Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Robinson led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approval of Amended Agenda City Administrator Reeves reported that Item 8A has been resolved and does not require Council action. Council Member Johnson moved, seconded by Council Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to approve the amended agenda, minus Item 8A.
- Public Input Tom Schramske, 305 North Oak Street, Cannon Falls, had questions about the current street improvement project. He expressed concerns regarding the completion date along with landscaping and water runoff issues on his property. Administrator Reeves stated that someone from Public Works will contact Mr. Schramske to work on resolving his concerns. Mr. Reeves reported that the project has exceeded the anticipated completion date and that financial penalties have been instituted. He added that there is a project warranty period, during which time further improvements can be requested.
- Rev. Barbara Martin, 306 Ridgecrest Drive, Cannon Falls, representing the Community Churches Interaction Council (CCIC), reported on the purchase of a Peace Pole to replace one in Minnieska Park that had been washed away in a flood. Council Member Duncan expressed concern about the installation of a religious or political monument on city property. Rev. Martin described the message on the Peace Pole, "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in 8 different languages as having no religious affiliation. Council Members Duncan and Johnson suggested that the Peace Pole be installed on private property, such as church grounds. Council Member McCusker stated that he does not view a Peace Pole as a religious symbol and does not believe this would be a stepping stone to requests for other types of monuments. Council Member Mattson and Mayor Robinson agreed with Council Member McCusker, stating that they do not view a Peace Pole as a religious or political symbol. Council Member Duncan expressed concern about a "ripple effect." City Administrator Reeves clarified that these types of requests are evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Rev. Martin added

that the Veterans Memorial Committee Chair has been consulted on a potential location for the Peace Pole. Mayor Robinson suggesting discussing this further with the Veterans Memorial Committee and VFW representatives. Administrator Reeves stated that City staff will provide further assistance. Council Member Duncan recommended, following these discussions, that this issue be brought back to the City Council for final approval.

Public Hearing:
Introduction and
First Reading of
Ordinance 332,
Permitting
Annexation by
Ordinance-Moline
Property

Community Development Director Maroney stated that the public hearing has been scheduled for consideration of a petition for annexation of approximately 52 acres of land located just south of the new Mayo Clinic Health System site and east of Highway 52. He described the property location, including rights-of-way for County and MnDOT related street improvements. The balance of the land, if annexed, would be subject to requests for rezoning, subdivision platting, etc., by the property owner. The Cannon Falls Township board and adjacent property owners have been notified about the public hearing. A tax base sharing formula calculation needs to be completed and approved by both the City and the Township.

Mayor Robinson opened the public hearing. Council Member McCusker inquired about road configuration and right-of-way acquisition. Mr. Maroney clarified that rights-of-way have already been purchased by the County and State. Council Member Johnson asked about the location of utilities. Mr. Maroney stated that utilities have not been planned at this point, other than the fact that utilities will be extended to the edge of the hospital property and can be extended from there to this property. Mr. Maroney stated that as soon as a development plan is received from the property owner, a utility plan will be developed with the City Engineer. Council Member Duncan asked Mr. Moline about development planning. Brent Moline replied that this property, which has been in his family since 1875, could be developed for mixed use commercial purposes, although no definite plans have been developed. He indicated that he will be working with the City on a development that would coincide with the new hospital. Council Member Johnson asked whether the property would be located within the hospital district. Mr. Maroney described the zoning district annexed as a medical campus and stated that some or all of this property could be requested to be rezoned accordingly in the future. Council Member McCusker asked about green shale concerns. Mr. Moline stated that soil samples have been tested and he is aware of challenges.

Following discussion, Mayor Robinson closed the public hearing. A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council

Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to approve the first reading of Ordinance 332.

Consent Agenda

- A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending September 25, 2013
- B. Meeting Minutes for September 17, 2013, City Council Meeting
- C. ~~BDPI Grant Application Approval~~ Pulled by Council Member McCusker
- D. Resolution 2037, Accepting a Donation for the Purchase of a LUCAS CPR Compression Device for the Ambulance Department
- E. Resolution 2038, Accepting a Donation for the Fire Department
- F. Burn Permit Request
- G. Cannon Cruiser Car Club Annual Requests
- H. Disposal of Excess Property
- I. Disposal of Forfeited Vehicles

Council Member Johnson moved, seconded by Council Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda as submitted, minus Item C, BDPI Grant Application Approval.

Council Business:
Closed Session for
Preliminary
Consideration of
Allegations Against
Two City
Employees

As stated, this item has been removed from the agenda, as this issue has been resolved and does not require Council discussion or decision.

BDPI Grant
Application
Approval

Mayor Robinson reviewed the letter received from Positively Minnesota stating that the City has been approved for a \$15,000 grant through the Business Development Public Infrastructure Grant Program. Council Member McCusker discussed concerns related to the approval of this project, when there are more urgent needs related to relocation of sewer and water lines underneath the river and the current condition of the bridge. He inquired about the proposed location of the storm sewer and holding pond and parking issues. Community Development Director Maroney reviewed the project, describing the current drainage problems, proposed mitigations, and long-term street improvement planning. Council Member McCusker noted the significant pedestrian traffic in the area and asked about sidewalks. Following discussion, Council Member Johnson moved, seconded by Council Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to approve the BDPI grant and project funding proposal.

Reports:
Staff

Police Chief McCormick discussed Homecoming Week challenges. Citizens should report any suspicious behavior to the Police Department, who will ensure that antics not get out of hand and that

property is not damaged. Any toilet paper collected will be turned over to the local food shelf. He also reviewed parking restrictions and overflow parking areas during the football game, with additional officers on hand to provide assistance.

Mayor and Council Council Member Duncan provided a report from the Public Works Commission. The East Side project is behind schedule but should be completed by the end of the month.

Council Member McCusker expressed appreciation to Public Works for the new no-parking sign. He commented on the upcoming Mediacom meeting on October 22. Administrator Reeves stated that any public comments received from those who cannot attend will be passed along to the Cable Commission.

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 15th day of October, 2013.

Lyman M. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Aaron S. Reeves, City Administrator