

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, August 5, 2014, 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 Ron Johnson, City Administrator; Lanell Endres, Assistant City Administrator; Dave Maroney, Community Development Director; Greg Anderson, City Engineer; Tom Bergeson, Public Works 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.

Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Robinson led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda as submitted.

Public Input Diane Louge, 31924 County 24 Boulevard, Cannon Falls, expressed concerns regarding the proposed closing of the County 24 intersection at Highway 52, requesting that the City be proactive and assertive in working with MnDOT on this issue. She expressed her concern that if the intersection was closed before the traffic study had been completed, it would never reopen. She suggested an interim compromise until the study was completed. She cited public safety concerns as well as economic impacts on businesses in the area. Council Member Mattson and Mayor Robinson commented, stating that the City had been proactively working on this and would further consider this issue from a public safety standpoint.

Public Hearing: Resolution 2089, Certifying Unpaid Utility Charges to be Collected with Taxes Assistant City Administrator Endres provided background information regarding the unpaid utility charges, stating that any additional payments would be processed prior to information being forwarded to the County. Mayor Robinson opened the Public Hearing to take input on the proposed utility charges assessments. No one came forward to speak. Mayor Robinson closed the Public Hearing. A motion was made by Council Member Duncan, seconded by Council Member Johnson and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2089, Certifying Unpaid Utility Charges to be Collected with Taxes.

Public Hearing: Second Street SW Street Improvement Project City Administrator Johnson provided background information regarding the Second Street SW proposed improvement project and explained the process. He reported that two bids were received, with the low bid of \$83,178. Potential assessment options were reviewed. The options were to assess a per unit amount or assess by the linear foot. City Engineer Anderson provided rationale for the higher than expected bid amounts, including the relatively small scope of the project. Council Member McCusker commented on the current busy

construction climate. Council Member Duncan commented on the assessment impact of the higher bids.

Mayor Robinson opened the Public Hearing. The following person spoke with regard to the proposed assessment:

Royce Anderson, Church Council President of First English Lutheran Church, inquired with regard to assessments for this project. He stated his understanding that the project would not be subject to assessment, as the street was improved less than 20 years ago. Administrator Johnson clarified that City Code stipulates a 15-year period during which properties cannot be re-assessed for street improvements, with curb and gutter improvements having a 20-year prorated life span. This project would be assessed at 19/20 for curb and gutter replacement, and 100% for street improvements. Royce Anderson commented that the problem was caused by the water main being buried too shallow.

Greg Anderson further commented regarding the circumstances leading up to the necessary street improvements and described curb and gutter repairs. Administrator Johnson added that the cost of the water main portion of the project would not be assessed to affected property owners. Council Member McCusker requested clarification of the assessment calculations, and Administrator Johnson provided additional information, indicating that two property owners own more than one parcel. Mayor Robinson closed the Public Hearing.

A motion was made by Council Member Duncan, seconded by Council Member Johnson and unanimously carried, to adopt Resolution 2091, Ordering Improvement and Awarding Bid.

Consent Agenda

- A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending August 1, 2014
- B. Meeting Minutes for July 15, 2014, City Council Meeting
- C. Resolution 2090, Authorizing Acceptance of Monetary Donation for the Fire Department
- D. Administrative Clarification – 3rd/Cannon Street Improvement Project
- E. Sign Retroreflectivity Policy
- F. ~~Promote Sula Kyyra, Jr., to Full-Time EMS Supervisor Pulled by Mayor Robinson~~
- G. Resolution 2092, Denying Preliminary Plat for Mulvihill Phase 2
- H. Quit Claim Deed for Nybo Property
- I. Liquor License Violation & Call Public Hearing – Sol De Mexico
- J. Winery Liquor License

- K. Hiring of Tony Haan for Full-Time Public Works Maintenance I
- L. Hiring of Trevor Sullivan for Full-Time Police Officer
- M. Application for Payment No. 1 from S.M. Hentges for 2nd Street SW Water Main Improvements

A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda, minus Item F.

Promote Sulo Kyyra, Jr., to Full-Time EMS Supervisor

Mayor Robinson clarified the effective date of the promotion of Sulo Kyyra Jr to full-time EMS Supervisor was July 29, 2014. City Administrator Johnson provided additional information regarding the start date. A motion was made by Council Member Johnson, seconded by Council Member Duncan and unanimously carried, to approve this employee promotion.

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Maroney provided a meeting schedule update, stating that the next Planning Commission meeting would be held on September 8, 2014.

Ambulance Director Voshalike reported on her service as a member of the EMS Honor Guard, and noted that she would participate in funeral services for Mendota Heights Police Officer Scott Patrick. She thanked the Ambulance Department, the VFW, and the City for their assistance in this regard.

Public Works Director Bergeson provided an update with regard to new playground equipment at Troll Haven Park, which was funded through park dedication funds and matching grants.

Police Chief McCormick provided an update with regard to community events and street closures, including the upcoming dedication of the Veterans Memorial. He reported that he and Officer Edwinson would be attending funeral services for Officer Patrick. Two Police Reserve Officers would also be providing assistance.

Assistant City Administrator Endres reported on the filing period for City elections. The office of Mayor along with two Council Members for a 4-year term and one Council Member for a 2-year term would be on the ballot.

Mayor and Council Reports

Mayor Robinson and City Administrator Johnson expressed condolences and pledged support to the family of Officer Patrick and the City of Mendota Heights.

Council Member Duncan expressed concerns related to street parking near river access points. Police Chief McCormick acknowledged increased parking usage near the river as well as near trail and park access points. He suggested working with MnDOT on possible solutions as well as working with the canoe rental company on alternate shuttle locations. Council Member McCusker further commented on the parking situation and recommended further discussion.

Council Member McCusker reported with regard to a recent public meeting, during which County 24/Highway 52 intersection issues were discussed. He commented on public safety concerns and possible solutions. He added that discussions were continuing.

Council Member Mattson inquired regarding issues related to speeding along County Road 17. Public Works Director Bergeson and Police Chief McCormick reported on recent discussions and directed patrols. They commented on challenges related to public perception along rural roads and cost factors. Council Member Mattson expressed concerns related to safety and the number of young residents. Mayor Robinson suggested further discussion. Council Member Duncan commented with regard to suggested trail improvements, which were deemed cost prohibitive.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 19th day of August, 2014.

Lyman M. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ronald S. Johnson, City Administrator