

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, April 4, 2017, in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Pro Tem Morris Mattson and Council Members Cedar Abadie, Mike Dalton, Ken Carpenter, and LeRoy McCusker; Mayor Robby Robinson was absent. Also present were Ron Johnson, City Administrator; Greg Anderson, City Engineer; Tom Bergeson, Public Works Director; and Jeffrey McCormick, Police Chief

- Call to Order Mayor Pro Tem Morris Mattson called the City Council meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.
- Pledge of Allegiance Mayor Pro Tem Mattson led in the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Approval of Agenda A motion was made by Council Member Dalton, seconded by Council Member Carpenter and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda as submitted.
- Public Input There was no public input.
- Consent Agenda
- ~~A. Just and Correct Claims—Accounting Period Ending March 30, 2017~~
This item was pulled by Council Member McCusker.
 - B. Meeting Minutes for March 21, 2017, City Council Work Session
 - C. Meeting Minutes for March 21, 2017, City Council Meeting
 - D. Resolution 2269, Authorizing Acceptance of a Monetary Donation by Tom Pettigrew for the Library
 - ~~E. Summer / Fall Event Street Closures~~
This item was removed from the Consent Agenda and discussed during the Council Business portion of the meeting.
 - F. Set Council Work Session
 - G. Hire Unscheduled Part-Time Employee
 - ~~H. HCMC Paramedic Program Agreement~~
This item was pulled by Council Member McCusker.
 - I. Confirm Appointments to Park Board

A motion was made by Council Member Dalton, seconded by Council Member Carpenter and unanimously carried, to approve the Consent Agenda, minus Items A, E, and H.

Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance 351, Approving Mediacom Minnesota LLC's Cable Franchise Application and Agreement; Adopt Ordinance; Approve Summary Publication of Ordinance

City Administrator Johnson commented that the First Reading of Ordinance 351 was approved by the City Council during the Council meeting on March 21. He indicated that a motion was now required to approve the second reading and adoption of Ordinance 351 and approve the summary publication of the ordinance.

Bob Vose, Attorney with Kennedy & Graven, provided background information regarding the franchise agreement.

A motion was made by Council Member McCusker, seconded by Council Member Carpenter, to approve the second reading and adoption of Ordinance 351 and approve the summary publication of the ordinance. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

Just and Correct
Claims – Accounting
Period Ending March
30, 2017

Council Member McCusker commented that budget line items seem to be frequently adjusted. He encouraged other Council Members to review the budget information and provide input.

A motion was made by Council Member McCusker, seconded by Council Member Carpenter and unanimously carried, to approve the just and correct claims for the accounting period ending March 30, 2017.

HCMC Paramedic
Program Agreement

Council Member McCusker asked where the HCMC Paramedic Program was leading. He stated his preference for the Cannon Falls Ambulance Service to remain a local service. He complimented Ambulance Director Tim Malchow for showing initiative but expressed concerns about the proposed agreement. Administrator Johnson commented that Director Malchow was unable to attend the meeting but indicated that this item could be carried over to the next meeting, during which Director Malchow could provide additional information.

Council Member Dalton commented that he saw no reason to defer action with regard to this item. He stated his understanding that the proposed agreement would provide an opportunity for HCMC paramedic students to participate in ride-alongs with the Cannon Falls Ambulance Service in order to further their training with regard to ambulance calls that occur in a rural setting. Council Member McCusker asked if this would result in additional responsibilities or increased stress for Ambulance Department employees. It was stated that this would not add to their workload. Police Chief McCormick provided additional background information. Mayor Pro Tem Mattson commented that the two groups would share knowledge. Council Member Dalton commented that Cannon Falls EMT students also participate in urban ambulance service ride-alongs. Council Member McCusker suggested approving a trial agreement, to be reevaluated in six months.

A motion was made by Council Member Dalton, seconded by Council Member McCusker, to approve the agreement with a request that the Ambulance Director report back to the Council in six months regarding how the process was working, so that any concerns may be addressed. Council Member McCusker asked about insurance considerations. Council Member Abadie clarified that there were no outstanding insurance questions. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

Summer / Fall Event
Street Closures

Mayor Pro Tem Mattson referenced a revised schedule of events for proposed street closures. Chief McCormick provided additional background information, stating that he recently received confirmation of a VFW event in June.

A motion was made by Council Member Dalton, seconded by Council Member Abadie and unanimously carried, to approve the summer / fall event street closure schedule.

Staff Reports

City Engineer Anderson provided an update regarding the bidding process for the Alexander Court project. He reported that nine favorable bids were received and indicated that information would be forwarded for Council review and approval during the next Council meeting.

Public Works Director Bergeson provided a reminder with regard to the hydrant flushing schedule. He referenced a toilet leak test kit, stating that he has obtained 200 kits from the DNR. He encouraged residents to periodically make sure their toilets were not leaking. He added that residents with questions may contact the Public Works Department.

Chief McCormick provided a reminder with regard to increased bicycle and pedestrian activity as the weather improves.

Administrator Johnson reported that Samantha Meyer, the planning/zoning employee in collaboration with Goodhue County, began her employment on April 3. She will be working with the Planning Commission and concentrating on zoning ordinance updates initially.

Administrator Johnson reported that Nicole Miller, the new Library Director, will begin her employment a few weeks later than anticipated on April 24, as a result of a housing issue.

Council Member Dalton reported that he planned to attend the Chamber of Commerce meeting on April 6, along with Community Development Director Dave Maroney.

Council Member Abadie reported regarding a recent Public Works Commission meeting, describing it as a very productive meeting. She reviewed discussion of the connection of the Mill Towns State Trail to existing trails in Cannon Falls in terms of balancing a number of concerns, including safety, expense, temporary versus permanent, and availability of sound and reasonable routes. It was decided to focus on a trail route through the upper portion of Hannah's Bend Park. She reviewed the timeline for trail improvements, with a tentative plan for completing this work by the end of April. She reported that share the road signage would also be established to encourage mindfulness and safe practices along Sixth Street near the Fairgrounds. She summarized the development of a Hannah's Bend Park temporary route with directional signage toward Downtown and connecting to the Cannon Valley Trail along with signage along Sixth Street. She reported that eventually one of these two routes or potentially an alternate third route would be designated as a permanent solution to connect these trail systems.

Council Member Abadie reported that DNR representatives would be in town on June 2 to participate in a ribbon-cutting ceremony. She added that the DNR will be instrumental in helping to develop the permanent trail connection solution. She encouraged residents to attend the ceremony and show their support for the trail connection.

Council Member McCusker suggested April 13 at 6:30 p.m. as the date and time of the first Park Board meeting. Administrator Johnson indicated that this date and time should be fine and will contact the Park Board members.

Council Member McCusker referenced his prior suggestion for scheduling a closed session during an upcoming City Council meeting for discussion of a personnel issue.

Council Member McCusker referenced recent conversations he has had with the City Attorney and with MnDOT. He commented that, had he known sooner, he could have assisted in locating housing for the new Library Director.

Council Member McCusker referenced inquiries he had received from citizens and indicated that he advised residents to talk with the appropriate City staff. He commented with regard to feedback he

received regarding his behavior, indicating an apparent misunderstanding about his intentions. He indicated that he had attempted to schedule a meeting with Administrator Johnson to discuss these issues but had so far been unable to do so. He commented that he does not want to become involved in conflicts with City staff and feels that this situation is preventing him from carrying out his responsibilities as a City Council Member. He expressed his intention to resign from the City Council if these issues couldn't be resolved. He apologized for his part in causing the current situation.

Council Member Carpenter reported that the interchange at Highway 52 and County Road 42 will be reconstructed and to expect significant delays during this project. He reported that access to Highway 52 from County Road 42 will be cut off and that both bridges will be torn down. He reported that as early as next week Highway 52 traffic will be routed down the off-ramps and back up the on-ramps.

Mayor Pro Tem Mattson inquired with regard to the scheduling of a closed session during the April 18 City Council meeting. Administrator Johnson stated his understanding that Mayor Robinson plans to talk with Council Member McCusker prior to scheduling a closed session.

Council Member Dalton asked about the process for scheduling a closed session in terms of whether a Council Member can call for a closed session or whether this was a decision made by the Mayor. Administrator Johnson indicated that he was not certain of the process and would have to research this further. He stated his understanding that a majority of Council Members would need to vote to enter into a closed session and that this process was governed by the City Code. The notification process was discussed. Council Member McCusker indicated that the City Attorney recommended that he request a closed meeting. He commented that closed meetings were held when he served on the Council in the past and that these were sometimes necessary. Council Member Dalton commented that the closed meeting process will need to be conducted legally and include the proper notifications. Council Member McCusker recommended scheduling a closed meeting as soon as feasible.

Council Member Dalton reported that the 9:30 a.m. coffee group that meets at Brewster's has agreed to donate \$375 toward the cost of trail signage.

Council Member Carpenter asked whether MnDOT had provided any communication regarding County 24 road work, commenting that MnDOT agreed to provide a two-week notice so that information can be published in the newspaper. Administrator Johnson reported that he has received no updates.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 18th day of April, 2017.

Lyman M. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ronald S. Johnson, City Administrator