

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, August 21, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Robby Robinson and Council Members Morris Mattson, Cedar Abadie, Bill Duncan, Ken Carpenter, John Althoff, and Derek Lundell. Also present were Lanell Endres, Interim City Administrator; Greg Anderson, City Engineer; Samantha Meyer, Zoning Assistant; Nicole Miller, Library Director; Mike Althoff, Public Works Director/Fire Chief; and Joe Berg, Police Lieutenant

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

Public Input Babe O’Gorman, 26980 Michael Avenue, Cannon Falls, referenced past discussion of the citizen-at-large position on the Public Works Commission, noting his interest in this position. Mayor Robinson indicated that this topic would be discussed later in the meeting.

David Anderson, 1859 Woodland Drive, Red Wing, introduced himself as the Live Well Goodhue County Coordinator, the local initiative of the Statewide Health Improvement Program. He stated that he had been working with a group of residents on a bike initiative to make it safer, easier, and more enjoyable for students to bike to and from school; for children, families, and seniors to bike to and from community destinations; and for residents and visitors to bike to local businesses.

Mr. Anderson noted that the group had been working within six areas: Evaluation, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, Engineering, and Equity. He stated that since April the focus had been on evaluation – learning what the residents, children, parents, and visitors think and what could be done to make it safer and more enjoyable to bike in Cannon Falls.

Mr. Anderson shared information about a 10-mile bike ride planned for September 15 called the Historical Slow Roll through Cannon Falls.

Delaine Nelson, 224 Limestone Road, Cannon Falls, stated that when they built their home in 2014 they needed to get the City’s approval on the size and the style of the home. She expressed concerns

about a home that was being built next to theirs in terms of drainage, erosion, and the potential impact on their property value. She stated her understanding that no elevation change permit was filed. She stated that the rules and regulations should be respected and that the land should be returned to its natural slope and an appropriate home constructed.

Council Member Duncan requested additional information. Zoning Assistant Meyer indicated that a grading and drainage plan must be provided to the City Engineer for approval. She noted that this plan was provided by the builder earlier in the day and had not yet been reviewed. She noted that, if changes needed to be made, they would have to be made before construction continues.

Council Member Duncan stated that he walked that lot and also had concerns. Zoning Assistant Meyer indicated that the City Engineer would analyze the situation and provide instructions. Council Member Duncan requested that City Engineer Anderson provide an update to the City Council during the next Council meeting. City Engineer Anderson indicated that he would evaluate the plan that was submitted earlier in the day. Council Member Abadie stated that this information should have been provided earlier and asked about penalties for failing to provide this information. Council Member Althoff asked whether the applicant was given approval to start construction. Zoning Assistant Meyer indicated that approval was given based on setbacks and zoning and that it was not known at that time that this lot was for a home with a walk-out basement. She clarified that not all single family dwelling permits go through the City Engineer for approval.

Ms. Nelson invited Council Members to view the home that was being constructed in terms of its scale in comparison to her home.

Mayor Robinson commented that City Engineer Anderson would do an evaluation and provide an update to the City Council.

Steve Tatge, 300 Limestone Road, Cannon Falls, echoed comments about the home that was being built on 200 Limestone Road, noting that this home did not even have a basement. He expressed concerns that the proper approvals were not obtained. He commented that this was a nice neighborhood and there were other lots for this type of home. He stated his opinion that this walk-out lot should not have been filled in for this home to be built.

2018

- B. Meeting Minutes for July 30, 2018, Special City Council Meeting
- C. Meeting Minutes for August 7, 2018, City Council Meeting
- D. Appointment of Elizabeth Zimmerman to the Library Board
- E. Hire Luke Swanson for the Fire Department
- F. Hire Spencer Flodeen for the Fire Department
- ~~G. Resolution 2375, Conditional Use Permit for Jerry and Carol Krie on Hemlock Drive~~
This item was pulled by Council Member Althoff
- H. Resolution 2376, Accepting Donation of \$1,000 from Invenergy Cannon Falls LLC to the Police Department
- I. Resolution 2377, Accepting a \$5,000 Grant from MN Department of Natural Resources to the Fire Department
- J. Approve Concept of Separate Assessment Agreement

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

Roundabout Signage
Proposal

David Olson, 6705 295th Street East, Cannon Falls, provided background information regarding the roundabout signage. He referenced a meeting about signage that included representatives of MnDOT, Goodhue County, Cannon Falls Township, and the City of Cannon Falls. He indicated that plans were made to erect signage to direct people around the roundabouts. He indicated that Goodhue County wanted to make sure that the people of Cannon Falls were in favor of this signage prior to proceeding. He noted that there may be a slight cost to the City toward the signage, stating his understanding that Goodhue County would be covering the majority of this expense. He described the proposed signage and noted that MnDOT would have final approval of the signage in the area of the roundabouts.

Council Member Mattson asked about signage indicating the historic Downtown area and listing frontage road businesses. Mr. Olson clarified that detailed drawings were not available from Goodhue County and that the map was provided to help show the placement of the signage and what the signs would possibly look like. He noted that some people wanted the signs to state "Downtown Business District" and other people were in favor of "Historic Business District," noting that this difference of opinion had delayed the project for almost a year. Mayor Robinson commented that Goodhue County Engineer Greg Isakson was willing to provide assistance, as long as MnDOT approved the project.

Council Member Duncan stated his understanding that only a couple

of the proposed signs require MnDOT approval. Mr. Olson agreed with this statement. He added that too many signs created confusion.

Council Member Abadie asked about west frontage road businesses. Mr. Olson expressed agreement that there were frontage businesses on both sides of the highway.

Council Members expressed agreement with moving the project forward. Mayor Robinson reviewed next steps in terms of bringing back the final plan for approval.

Council Member Althoff indicated that he pulled Resolution 2375 in order for the neighbors to provide input. He noted that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Conditional Use Permit, with conditions.

Resolution 2375,
Conditional Use
Permit for Jerry and
Carol Krie on
Hemlock Drive

Bruce Johnson indicated that he lived on Hemlock Drive, south of the building site. He asked whether the conditions of approval were suggestions or requirements.

City Engineer Anderson provided additional information and rationale for his comments as detailed in the staff report. He stated that he viewed the proposed conditions of approval as requirements, especially pertaining to drainage. He referenced the recommendations of the Planning Commission and clarified that he had not approved the final drainage plan. The inspection process was discussed.

Council Member Duncan expressed concerns about drainage. Council Member Althoff noted that the Planning Commission recommended approval of the Conditional Use Permit, with the conditions as detailed.

Mr. Johnson asked whether the conditions will be required and verified on inspection.

City Engineer Anderson referenced drainage plans and the driveway grade, noting that options were provided in this regard. He stated that the applicant would be required to provide additional information.

Mr. Johnson reiterated his request for the conditions to be required, inspected, and approved. He stated that if the project was not done right, there would be adverse impacts to his property. Council Member Abadie stated her understanding that the conditions would have to be met, noting that options have been suggested for meeting

some of the conditions.

Catherine Barsness, 6526 Cedar Hills Drive, Cannon Falls, stated that her property was north of the Krie property under discussion. She expressed concerns about tree removal without any notice. She stated that the rules and regulations have not been followed. She requested that the City Council make sure that the applicants were held accountable for their actions. She stated that the driveway was at a 30% grade and expressed agreement with the concerns about drainage. She asked whether the proposed conditions were suggestions or requirements. She expressed concerns that the applicants would not follow through with suggestions due to the increased cost. She stated that the actions of the applicants would impact the entire neighborhood.

Mayor Robinson requested clarification of the proposed conditions of approval of the CUP. Zoning Assistant Meyer clarified that a Conditional Use Permit detailed the conditions that must be met.

Council Member Abadie asked about specific conditions relating to the driveway and drainage. Zoning Assistant Meyer indicated that the applicants must follow the City Engineer's requirements and obtain approval of the final drainage plan. City Engineer provided additional information. He stated that the drainage cannot go onto private property and needed to be contained on the property or go into a drainage easement.

Council Member Duncan requested clarification that an occupancy permit would not be issued until all of the conditions have been met. Zoning Assistant Meyer expressed agreement with this requirement.

Council Member Abadie suggested ensuring that no drainage was running off to adjacent properties. City Engineer Anderson stated that a plan would be provided by the applicants' engineer, indicating how the lot would be graded, where the building would be located, the building elevation, the driveway elevation, and the swale and drainage plans.

A motion was made by Council Member Mattson, seconded by Council Member Carpenter and unanimously carried, to table the adoption of Resolution 2375 until a site plan was submitted and approved by the City Engineer.

Eastside street improvement project.

Mayor Robinson asked about the portion of the project involving the schools.

City Engineer Anderson indicated that he had communicated with School District Superintendant Beth Giese. He reported that a cul-de-sac would be built at the end of Minnesota Street. He noted that the sidewalk on the south side of Minnesota Street would extend around the cul-de-sac and tie into the sidewalk on the north side of Minnesota Street. Mayor Robinson asked whether this would add any cost to the project, and it was clarified that the cost would be split as planned.

Public Works Director Althoff discussed alley paving projects. He stated that water main repairs would be done within the next couple of weeks. He reported that the pool was closed for the season and stated that the Park Board would discuss pool operations.

Director Althoff discussed a recent water outage on the east side of town, which impacted residents and the schools. He reviewed a permitting process with MnDOT under Highway 19 and noted that water main repairs were anticipated to take place on August 23.

Council Member Duncan referenced past discussion of John Burch Park being closed at times. Director Althoff discussed the amount of time and money that was spent on maintenance of this facility. Council Member Carpenter provided additional information and discussed problems that have occurred when the gates have been left open. Council Member Duncan asked why the park could not be open in the fall, now that the baseball season was over. Council Member Carpenter stated that Cannon Falls Public School was getting ready for football season. Council Member Duncan agreed that the games should take priority but suggested that this public park be available for use by the public. Interim City Administrator Endres clarified that the School District was charged for use of the lights but not for the use of the field.

Fire Chief Althoff reported that the new rescue truck was expected to be delivered the following week.

Library Director Miller detailed an upcoming book sale. She reported that the Cannon Falls Public Library was awarded a Legacy grant through SELCO for bike racks. She discussed promotion of this project.

Lieutenant Berg discussed the bike ride on September 15, noting that there would be no street closures. He discussed the Toward Zero Deaths campaign, which focused on impaired drivers.

Interim Administrator Endres reported a good turnout for the Primary Election on August 14 in the City of Cannon Falls and in Goodhue County.

Interim Administrator Endres reported that staff was working on a new City website, with plans to launch the new website in the fall.

Mayor and Council
Reports

Council Member Abadie provided an update with regard to the new dog park, with plans to open in the fall. She noted that a ribbon-cutting ceremony would be held and that more information would be provided.

Council Member Carpenter reported that MnDOT would be painting the concrete passes underneath Highway 52 to get rid of the graffiti.

A motion was made by Council Member Mattson to make a special exemption to allow non-resident Babe O’Gorman to serve as a citizen member of the Public Works Commission. Mayor Robinson indicated that there were no resident applicants for this opening. The term length and appointment process were clarified. The motion was seconded by Council Member Althoff. Council Member Althoff asked whether a special exemption was granted for a non-resident member of the Police Commission. Police Lieutenant Berg indicated that he would research this question. Council Member Abadie commented that, if the Council approved the appointment of Mr. O’Gorman to the Public Works Commission, she would resign from the Public Works Commission. A vote was taken, and the vote carried by a vote of 5:1, with Council Member Abadie dissenting.

Mayor Robinson recommended the appointment of Babe O’Gorman to the Public Works Commission.

A motion was made by Council Member Duncan to approve the recommended appointment. He asked whether Mr. O’Gorman would be able to attend Public Works Commission meetings during the winter months. Mr. O’Gorman stated that he would adhere to the attendance requirements. The Public Works Commission meeting schedule was reviewed. The motion was seconded by Council Member Mattson. A vote was taken, and the motion carried by a vote of 5:1, with Council Member Abadie dissenting.

Council Member Abadie tendered her resignation as Chair of the Public Works Commission.

Mayor Robinson asked Council Member Mattson to Chair the Public Works Commission, and Council Member Mattson agreed to this appointment. Mayor Robinson asked Council Member Duncan to serve as the second. Council Member Duncan commented that the Personnel Committee and the Public Works Committee often meet at the same time. Mayor Robinson indicated that schedule adjustments could be made. With this knowledge, Council Member Duncan agreed to serve on the Public Works Commission as the second.

A motion was made by Council Member Carpenter, seconded by Council Member Lundell, to approve the appointment of Council Member Mattson as the Chair of the Public Works Commission, with Council Member Duncan serving as the second Council Member. All members present voted aye.

Mayor Robinson expressed appreciation for the smooth election process.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:19 p.m.

Adopted by the City Council of the City of Cannon Falls on the 4th day of September, 2018.

Lyman M. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lanell Endres, Interim City Administrator