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**PROCEEDINGS OF THE AFTON CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF AFTON
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

APPROVED City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2017
Afton City Hall
3033 St. Croix Trail
Afton, MN 55001
7:00 P.M.

1. **THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** at 7:00 P.M. by Mayor Richard Bend

2. **THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – was recited.

3. **ROLL CALL:** Mayor Richard Bend, Council Members Nelson, Richter, Palmquist, Ross. **Quorum Present.**

ALSO PRESENT: Todd Hubmer & Nick Guilliams (City Engineers), City Administrator Ron Moore, City Attorney Fritz Knaak, and City Accountant Tom Niedzwiecki (for last portion of the meeting), City Clerk Julie Yoho

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** – [some agenda items were discussed out of sequence]

A. Agenda for the Regular City Council Meeting of August 15, 2017

Council member Ross suggested moving item 9C8. up to 9C1. Council member Palmquist requested adding item 9C10. “Discussion on burying power lines”. Mayor Bend indicated items 9C1, 2 & 3 will be held until Tom Niedzwiecki arrives.

Motion/Second: Palmquist/Richter To approve the agenda as amended for the August 15, 2017 Regular City Council Meeting. Motion passed 5-0-0.

5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. Minutes of the June 29, 2017 Special City Council meeting.

Motion/Second: Palmquist/Richter To approve the minutes of the June 29, 2017 Special City Council Meeting. Motion passed 4-0-1. (Mayor Bend abstain due to absence)

B. Minutes of the July 13, 2017 City Council Work Session

Motion/Second: Palmquist/Richter To approve the minutes of the July 13, 2017 City Council Work Session. Motion passed 5-0-0.

C. Minutes of the July 18, 2017 Regular City Council Meeting

Motion/Second: Ross/Bend To approve the minutes of the July 18, 2017 Regular City Council Meeting. Motion passed 5-0-0.

D. Minutes of the July 24, 2017 Special City Council Meeting

Motion/Second: Ross/Palmquist To approve the minutes of the July 25, 2017 Special City Council Meeting. Motion passed 5-0-0.

6. **PUBLIC INPUT** –

Susan Winsor, 15269 42nd St. Susan expressed concern over excessive motorcycle noise & requested that existing laws be enforced.

Paul Sundstrom, 15885 34th St.; Expressed concern over excessive motorcycle noise

54 Claudia Kaul, 15621 42nd St.; Concerned about motorcycle noise. Claudia stated that when the road construction
55 started it was much quieter due to less traffic. She suggested that placing speed signs up the hill would help with
56 excessive speed.

57
58 Teresa Lewandowski, 5888 Trading Post Trail S.; Teresa stated that the traffic analysis road study done on the
59 Carlson PLCD was not representative since the study was done during a holiday week combined with road
60 construction. Feels there is typically more traffic, and will be even more if development takes place.

61
62 Kathy Bolton-Iverson, 3632 St Croix Tr.; Concerned about motorcycle noise. Kathy also is concerned about the
63 lack of sidewalk by her house which is an ongoing issue with the County.

64
65 Greg Adler, 752 Indian Trail; Expressed concern that with the new pavement on Indian Trail, there has been an
66 increase in speed. Also there is no center or side stripe, the sightlines are bad, tree removal & mowing are needed.
67 He would like to see a lower speed limit and new signs.

68
69 Lucy Rogers, 4608 St Croix Trail; Concerned about excessive motorcycle noise, feels it has gotten worse every
70 year.

71
72 Bob Zeidel, 3055 St Croix Trail; Concerned over loud vehicle noise, not just motorcycles.

73
74 Julie Zeidel, 3055 St Croix Trail; Concerned over loud vehicles as they accelerate through town. Feels there is an
75 increase in speeding also.

76
77 Kathy Graham, 5912 Trading Post Trail. Comments regarding the Carlson PLCD Engineers Report which was
78 done in July: sightlines were examined for 25mpg, vs 30 mph; there are contradictions in the email vs. the Speck
79 report and previous reports. She also has concerns on the roadway grade of 8%; may be difficult to achieve. There
80 will be 200 car trips per day with new development.

81
82 Randy Graham, 5912 Trading Post Trail. Concerns over vehicle noise.

83
84 Dee Dee Armstrong, 3085 St Croix Trail; Stated that the Stillwater School District is looking at purchasing the
85 truck training facility for use as a bus depot.

86
87 Bake Baker, 15674 37th St.; Concerns over motorcycle noise.

88
89 Kathy Delaney 14906 50th St.; Concerns over noise and speeding, would like to encourage the council to pass the
90 ordinance and enforce it.

91
92 Bob DeMaster 15250 Afton Hills; Concerns over noise in downtown area.

93
94 Anne Knutson; Concerns over noise, not just motorcycles. Would like to see speed limit signs moved further down
95 on Hwy 18 as you head north out of town.

96
97 Council Member Ross pointed out that a number of emails regarding the excessive noise issue are included in the
98 packet.

99
100 **7. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS -**

101 **A. Sheriff's Monthly Report**
102 **None**

103
104 **B. Tom Niedzwiecki, Budget Report**

105 Tom provided information on the financial report and supplemental detail of expenses paid out in July.
106 He also provided an updated balance sheet on the street improvements, pavement projects, and Downtown
107 Improvement Project.

108

109 **C. Lower St. Croix Fire District Report**

110 Council Member Nelson noted that the time allocation of the new full-time Fire Chief position is 80% fire.

111

112 **8. CONSENT AGENDA**

113 **Motion/Second: Palmquist/Richter. To approve the consent agenda as presented, including Resolution**
114 **2017-42. ROLL CALL: all aye, motion passed 5-0-0.**

115 **A. Just and Correct Claims**

116 **B. 4M Fund Transfer – July – Resolution 2017-42**

117

118 **9. CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS**

119 **A. Planning Commission Report –**

120 1. City of Woodbury Comprehensive Plan Amendment, Stonemill Farms 16th Addition, Project No. 24-
121 2017-00255 (discussed with item 2 below)

122

123 2. City of Woodbury Comprehensive Plan Amendment, The Glen at Valley Creek, Project No 17-2016-
124 00225

125 Planning Commission Chair Ronningen provided a summary of the Planning Commission’s comments
126 regarding the City of Woodbury’s proposed Comprehensive Plan amendments for Stonemill Farms 16th
127 Addition and The Glen at Valley Creek. The Planning Commission didn’t receive the actual text for the
128 Comprehensive Plan that will be sent to the Met Council. The Planning Commission recommended that
129 the City Council convey concerns to the City of Woodbury about the effect of increased water
130 consumption on the aquifer and the City of Afton’s water supply. She also noted that members of the
131 Planning Commission favor neighborhood commercial vs. more housing.

132 Mayor Bend indicated that the City should draft a letter expressing concern over the water supply for the
133 record.

134 Council member Richter agreed that the findings from Planning Commission adequately state the
135 concerns over water usage.

136 Council Member Nelson stated he has concerns on how it may affect the trout stream and suggested
137 copying the DNR.

138 **Motion/Second: Richter / Palmquist. To send comments to the City of Woodbury on the proposed**
139 **Comprehensive Plan amendments noting the City’s concerns about the impact of increased water**
140 **consumption on the aquifer, and its impact on Valley Creek; along with fact we did not get the**
141 **actual proposed language. All aye passed 5-0-0.**

142

143 3. Comprehensive Plan Update

144 Planning Commission Chair Ronningen indicated there will be a draft for the Council to review by the
145 end the year.

146 Council member Palmquist stated he would like to see the tracked changes in the document.

147

148 **B. Engineering Report – (Engineer Staff Report & Council Update)**

149 1. August Staff Report

150 a. Proposal from WSB for core sampling of 2018 Streets

151 Council Member Ross reported that a proposal was requested from WSB to provide the cost of
152 core sampling for 7.5 miles of streets needing improvements. The samples determine whether
153 the existing pavement and subgrade are adequate for a mill and overlay; or if they will require
154 reclamation which is a higher cost. The cost for core sampling is \$3,460.

155 City Engineer Nick Guilliams stated that the core samples can be done this fall or in May. They
156 can be done now even if the road isn't being paved for 3 years, to help plan for costs. Thickness
157 and base is what is measured.

158 General discussion was held regarding the timing for the samples in relation to paving. It was
159 decided to wait until next summer (2018) to determine the best time to do the core samples.
160

161 b. City Engineer Review of Carlson PLCD Access Plan Road Intersection

162 City Engineer Guilliams reviewed survey and design information provided by the developers
163 engineer and found that the location and design appear to meet sight distance requirements and
164 layout requirements. A formal review will be completed as part of the preliminary plat application
165 review.

166 Council Member Richter asked if it is typical to evaluate using 25mph which is less than posted
167 speed.

168 Guilliams replied they typically evaluate at posted speed or 30 mph.

169 Council Member Richter asked why the questions on grade, width and composition that were
170 asked last month were not addressed.

171 City Engineer Todd Hubmer answered that this is still concept level review and that more details
172 still need to be provided.

173 Administrator Moorse stated that the bulk of the Preliminary Plat application was just received
174 and is being reviewed for completeness.
175

176 2. Downtown Village Improvement Project Update

177 a. Kathy Bolton-Iverson, 3632 St. Croix Trail.

178 Administrator Moorse reported that Bolton-Iverson has had several concerns regarding the
179 Downtown Project and her property. She worked with Squire House Gardens to find four trees
180 at a wholesale cost to replace the perennial garden that was graded over. Council had not
181 previously provided authorization to pay the cost of planting the trees. She will be working with
182 the County and City Engineers on the sidewalk issue.

183 **Motion/Second Palmquist/Nelson To direct Staff work with Tri-County to plant trees along
184 37th Street by Kathy Bolton-Iverson's property. Motion passed 5-0-0.**
185

186 3. 2017 Pavement Management Project Update

187 a. Change Order No. 3, 2017 Pavement Management Project

188 City Engineer Guilliams stated he doesn't have cost estimate yet.
189

190 C. Administration –

191 1. Pay Voucher No. 4 from Geislinger and Sons, Inc. for the Downtown Improvement Project

192 **Motion / Second Palmquist/Richter To approve payment of Pay Voucher No. 4 for the Downtown
193 Village Improvement Project from Geislinger and sons Inc. in the amount of \$851,496.77. Motion
194 passed 5-0-0.**
195

196 2. Pay Request No. 5 from Ellingson, Inc. for the Wastewater Treatment System Project

197 **Motion/Second Palmquist/Ross To approve payment of Payment Request No. 5 from Ellingson, Inc.
198 for the Wastewater Treatment System Project in the amount of \$145,193.72. Motion passed 5-0-0.**
199

200 3. Pay Voucher No. 2 from Park Construction Co for the 2017 Pavement Management Project

201 **Motion/Second Bend/Ross To approve payment of Pay Voucher No. 2 for the 2017 Pavement
202 Management Project from Park Construction Co. in the amount of \$271,819.09. Motion passed 5-
203 0-0.**
204

205 4. Town Square Park Restroom Project Update

206 Administrator Moose provided an update on the project. The footings, foundation and block walls are
207 up. Estimated completion in September.

208

209 5. Jim Cox Architectural Fee for Deputies/Garage Facility

210 Administrator Moose stated that the Council approved \$2500 for preliminary design, and indicated that
211 if the project cost estimate was over \$100,000 triggering the competitive bidding process, the Council
212 would consider additional design costs at that time. Jim Cox is requesting \$4,800 plus expenses.

213 **Motion/Second Palmquist/Bend To approve Jim Cox’s Architectural Fee in the amount of \$4,800**
214 **plus expenses. Motion passed. 5-0-0.**

215

216 6. Street Improvement Planning

217 Council will discuss this item at their meeting on Thursday.

218

219 7. Schedule Council Work Sessions

220 Second budget work session will be scheduled for early September.

221

222 8. Vehicle noise ordinance

223 Administrator Moose stated that the Council had authorized the City Attorney to work with Council
224 member Ross and the Sheriff’s Department to prepare an ordinance providing for more stringent
225 regulations regarding motorcycle noise. A draft was included in the packets, with a supplemental handout
226 tonight which changed the text to read “motor vehicle”.

227 Council member Ross said he’d worked with the Sergeant from the Washington Co. Sherriff’s office and
228 Fritz Knaak to discuss measuring and enforcing noise. The Sherriff does not have an effective way to
229 quantify noise. This ordinance test procedure does that and it is enforceable.

230 **Motion/Second Palmquist/Ross To adopt Ordinance 5-2017 regulating noise with the addition of**
231 **section 22-7 “Exceptions”.**

232 Discussion

233 Council member Richter stated he feels this ordinance is overkill. The City currently has rules that are not
234 being enforced.

235 Council member Nelson stated that noise is subjective on the part of the Deputy, and speed is part of
236 problem.

237 Mayor Bend questioned if the vehicle doesn’t have a RPM meter, how it can be tested. This is a complex
238 issue.

239 Council member Palmquist stated that this ordinance provides guidelines and sends a message.

240 Council member Ross stated that through conversations with the Sergeant; enforcement is difficult. With
241 a decibel meter and a test procedure, it can be enforced.

242 Mayor Bend agreed that this is a problem that needs to be worked on, that needs a broad approach; we
243 don’t have a solution yet.

244 **Motion Vote: 2 Aye, 3 Nay. Motion fails.**

245

246 **Motion/Second Palmquist/Ross To purchase decibel meters to give to Deputies for use enforcing**
247 **current ordinance.**

248 Discussion

249 Council member Nelson stated again that the focus should be on speed; he suggested flashing speed signs
250 and moving the current speed signs further out of town.

251 Mayor Bend stated that a work session on this topic is needed.

252 **Motion Vote: 2 Aye, 3 Nay. Motion fails.**

253

254 9. Park Bench Donation for Town Square Park

255 **Motion/Second Bend/Palmquist To accept donation of \$1,200 for a park bench from Judy Louis**
256 **and Linda Hanner in memory of their parents Elton (“Blackie”) and Amy Hancock.**

257 Discussion

258 Council Member Palmquist suggested the City identify locations that people can choose from in the future,
259 as there is limited space in Town Square Park for benches and tables.

260 **Vote: Motion passed 5-0-0.**

261

262 10. Discussion on Burying Power lines

263 Council member Palmquist received a letter today regarding burying power lines in town. A

264 **Motion/Second Palmquist/Bend To authorize staff to expand current rules for burying power lines**
265 **in subdivisions to include any new or moved lines in the city. Motion passed 5-0-0.**

266

267 **E. Committee Reports**

- 268 1. Public Works - none
- 269 2. Personnel – will schedule meeting soon
- 270 3. Parks – Town Square Park restroom
- 271 4. Heritage Preservation Commission / Design Review – none
- 272 5. Natural Resources and Groundwater – none

273

274 **10. COUNCIL, CONSULTANT, AND STAFF REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, AND UPDATES**

- 275 A. Ward 1 Council Member Palmquist - none
- 276 B. Ward 2 Council Member Richter - none
- 277 C. Ward 3 Council Member Ross - none
- 278 D. Ward 4 Council Member Nelson – brushing needed along roads
- 279 E. Mayor Bend – Valley Branch library will be having a meeting on Sept. 5 with the County to discuss
280 expansion
- 281 F. City Attorney Knaak – none
- 282 G. City Administrator Moorse - none

283

284 **11. ADJOURN –**

285 **Motion/Second: Bend/Palmquist. To adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 5-0-0.**

286

287 Meeting adjourned at 10:26 PM

288

289

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291

292

293 Respectfully submitted by:

294

295

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298 _____
Julie Yoho, City Clerk

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302 Approved by Council (July 18, 2017) as (check one): Presented: Amended: _____

303

304

305 Mayor Richard Bend _____ Date _____