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

APPROVED City Council Work Session Minutes
June 10, 2020
5:00 P.M.

1. **THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER** at 5:02 P.M. by Mayor Palmquist.

2. **ROLL CALL:** Council Members Nelson, Ross, Wroblewski and Perkins, and Mayor Palmquist. **Quorum Present.**

ALSO PRESENT: City Administrator Ron Moore

3. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion/Second: Ross/Wroblewski. To approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0-0.

4. **CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS**

A. Regulations Regarding the Discharge of Firearms

Moore summarized that the Council, at its June 3 work session, discussed options for addressing concerns regarding the discharge of firearms, and particularly residents using their property in a manner similar to a gun range, in that they discharge a high number of rounds per day several days per week. The Council directed staff to draft an ordinance amendment that included the following elements:

- new language in the firearms discharge ordinance regarding the number of rounds that could be discharged per day and per week, other than for hunting; as well as language that allows the owner of a homesteaded residential parcel to exceed the maximum number of rounds per day if allowed by the affected neighbors.
- Add a definition of “gun range” that involves the discharge of firearms whereby firearms discharge occurs more than one day per calendar week and whereby more than 20 rounds are discharged over any 24 hour period.
- Add language in the nuisance/noise ordinance that adds a definition of public nuisance noises and prohibits such noises.

Moore indicated a draft ordinance amendment that reflects the requested elements was attached for the Council’s consideration, discussion and feedback.

The Council discussed the draft ordinance amendment and directed the draft ordinance should include the following provisions

- Include language in the firearms discharge ordinance to limit the number of rounds that can be discharged (other than for allowed hunting) to 20 rounds per day and one day per month
- Include a definition of gun range that involves target shooting, skeet shooting and similar activities, and the discharge of more than 20 rounds per day and more than one day per month
- Create an exception for clay pigeon shooting from the limitation of rounds per day and per month in both the firearms discharge ordinance and the gun range definition. The exception is to allow up to 100 rounds once per month over a maximum period of two hours, if the shooting area is 1320 feet from the nearest neighboring property line.

B. 30th Street Improvement Project

Moore explained that the Public Works Committee met on Monday, June 8 to discuss the 30th Street Improvement Project with a potential contractor. The purpose of the meeting was to better understand the experience and capabilities of the contractor regarding the main elements of the reclamation project. The contractor is Executive Contracting. This contractor did significant subbase repairs with a mill and overlay on five sections of 50th Street several years ago that turned out very well. They also did the mill and overlay on River Road several years ago that turned out very well. They have substantial experience with mill and overlay and reclamation projects on

55 County roads, and have acted as reclamation subcontractors for larger general contractors on larger road
56 improvement projects.

57
58 Moose indicated the Public Works Committee is comfortable with the contractor's experience and ability, and is
59 recommending the City Engineer move forward with a price quote package to obtain price quotes for the
60 reclamation of 30th Street from Nybeck to the bridge, which is the worst segment of 30th Street.

61
62 The Council agreed with the Public Works Committee's recommendation.

63
64 C. Ordinance Amendment to Restrict Barbed Wire Fencing

65 Moose explained that, in response to concerns regarding the use of barbed wire fencing in residential settings, staff
66 drafted an ordinance amendment that amends the existing fencing ordinance to prohibit barbed wire fencing in the
67 VHS-C and VHS-R zoning districts; and to prohibit barbed wire fencing in the Rural Residential and Agriculture
68 zoning districts, except on property used for rural agriculture that includes livestock, when it is demonstrated that
69 the fencing is required to confine the livestock.

70
71 The Council asked Moose to confirm whether all existing barbed wire fencing would be grandfathered and
72 allowed to remain.

73
74 (Council member Nelson was disconnected from the meeting at 6:50).

75
76 **5. ADJOURN –**

77
78 **Motion/Second: Ross/Wroblewski. To adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m.**
79 **Motion carried 5-0-0.**

80
81 Respectfully submitted by:

82
83 _____
84 Ronald J. Moose, City Administrator

85
86 **Approved by Council on July 21, 2020 as (check one): Presented: X Amended: _____**

87
88 **Signed by Mayor Bill Palmquist _____ Date _____**