

April 13, 2015

CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
MINUTES OF APRIL 13, 2015

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Sartell City Council was held on April 13, 2015 in the Council Chambers of Sartell City Hall. Mayor Sarah Nicoll called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Nicoll, Council members: Braig-Lindstrom, Hennes, Lynch, and Peterson  
ABSENT: None  
ALSO PRESENT: Mary Degiovanni, City Administrator  
Anita Rasmussen, Community Development Director  
Jim Hughes, Police Chief  
Brad Borders, Public Works Director  
Mike Nielson, Engineer  
Judy Molitor, Recording Secretary

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**AGENDA REVIEW AND ADOPTION**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER PETERSON AND SECONDED BY MEMBER BRAIG-LINDSTROM APPROVING THE AGENDA. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENT**

Danessa Sardmann, representing Centracare, 1406 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, St. Cloud, spoke against the tobacco ordinance as presented for approval by the Council tonight.

Robbie Schultz, representing the Bernick's Arena Board, suggested the Council consider bidding the surfacing of the parking lot at Pinecone Regional Park at the same time as the reconstruction of Pinecone Road for possible pricing advantages.

Heidi Benner, 254 Tradewind Avenue, is legally blind and spoke against the City installing the roundabout at the intersection of 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Pinecone Road.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

Steve Wischmann, representing Kern, Dewenter, Viere, LTD, the City of Sartell's Audit firm, presented a power point presentation on the City's audited financial statements for 2014. Mr. Wischmann complimented City Administrator Degiovanni for the great job she does as Finance Director and Administrator managing the City on a day-to-day basis.

As part of the Audit presentation, City Council was asked to approve fire relief actuarials to be funded from the Fire Department operating budget. Mayor Nicoll said she would abstain from voting due to family on the department.

April 13, 2015

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER HENNES AND SECONDED BY MEMBER BRAIG LINDSTROM APPROVING THE FIRE RELIEF ACTUARIAL EXPENDITURE.**

**UPON VOTE BEING TAKEN, THE FOLLOWING VOTED:**

**AYE: COUNCIL MEMBERS BRAIG LINDSTROM, HENNES LYNCH**

**NAY: NONE**

**ABSTAIN: MAYOR NICOLL**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

- a. March 23, 2015 Regular Meeting

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAIG LINDSTROM AND SECONDED BY MEMBER HENNES APPROVING THE MINUTES AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. March Building Permit Activity Report – Acceptance
- b. March Inspections Activity Report – Acceptance
- c. March Technology Report – Acceptance
- d. Approval of voucher payments
- e. ~~Approval of kennel permit~~
- f. Approval of SHPO required survey of Sauk River Regional Park
- g. Approval of Building Inspections Service Agreement
- h. Approval of Resolution Accepting Donations
- i. Approval of Landfill Reporting Proposals
- j. ~~Authorizing Sale of Property~~
- k. Calling a Public Hearing for NPDES Phase 2 Zoning and Subdivision Ordinance Amendments
- l. Calling a Public Hearing for a Rezoning and Preliminary plat

Items e and j were removed for separate discussion at the request of Council members Hennes and Peterson respectively.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER BRAIG LINDSTROM AND SECONDED BY MEMBER PETERSON APPROVING CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS A – L, REMOVING ITEM E AND J FOR SEPARATE DISCUSSION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Consent Agenda e**

**Approval of kennel permit**

Council member Hennes talked about updating the animal ordinance and possibly requiring fenced in yards if more than two dogs are allowed. He also talked about the possibility of adding the requirement to the animal ordinance of notifying neighbors within a specific radius when a kennel permit is brought before the Council for approval. His concerns include dogs running loose and owners not picking up after their animals.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER HENNES AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LYNCH APPROVING THE REQUESTED KENNEL PERMIT. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

April 13, 2015

**Consent Agenda j**

**Authorizing Sale of Property**

Council member Peterson spoke against the sale of the property and recovering only 50 cents on the dollar. He talked about the value of park land on the Mississippi and the possibility of future park development on this site.

Council member Hennes favors the sale of the property, especially with the City's investments in Rotary Riverside Park and Sauk River Regional Park. He favors putting the sale proceeds into Park District fund to help further develop Rotary Riverside Park and river pedestrian access.

Council member Braig Lindstrom talked about the return on the City's initial investment and that this river lot could be valuable to access the river for mutual aid water rescue as well a park area or other ideas we haven't explored yet and so we should have more discussion before selling.

Council member Lynch sees limited potential with this small lot and even though the City cannot recover the initial investment, he believes the sale of the property would allow the City to add amenities to Rotary Park.

Mayor Nicoll believes the City could wait a long time to recover the entire initial investment of this property and with a sale could put the money to better use, especially since there are no plans at this time to develop this lot.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LYNCH AND SECONDED BY MEMBER HENNES  
AUTHORIZING LISTING THE PROPERTY FOR SALE.  
UPON VOTE BEING TAKEN THE FOLLOWING VOTED:  
AYE: MAYOR NICOLL, COUNCIL MEMBERS HENNES AND LYNCH  
NAY: COUNCIL MEMBERS BRAIG-LINDSTROM AND PETERSON**

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**a. Vacation of Easements – Madison Crossing**

Community Development Director Rasmussen presented the request for vacation of easements at Madison Crossing and reviewed the conditions of approval.

Mayor Nicoll opened the public hearing at 7:54 p.m. There were no comments from the public or written comments received and the hearing was closed.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER HENNES AND SECONDED BY MEMBER PETERSON  
APPROVING THE VACATION OF EASEMENTS FOR MADISON CROSSING. THE MOTION CARRIED  
UNANIMOUSLY.**

**b. Final Plat – Grandview**

Community Development Director Rasmussen presented the final plat of Grandview and reviewed the conditions of approval.

April 13, 2015

Council members discussed traffic and favored extending the walking path from Pinecone Road to Victory Avenue and well as the addition of turn lanes.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER LYNCH AND SECONDED BY MEMBER HENNES APPROVING THE FINAL PLAT AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR GRANDVIEW. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**OLD BUSINESS**

**a. Dog Park Proposal**

City Administrator Degiovanni reviewed the dog park funding plan and the request to authorize initial improvements and have the DogPAC and staff work together on rules for the park. A special “thanks” was extended to all the volunteers who helped with this project.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER BRAIG LINDSTROM AND SECONDED BY MEMBER HENNES APPROVING THE DOG PARK PROPOSAL AS PRESENTED. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**b. Tobacco Use Ordinance**

Police Chief Hughes presented the tobacco use ordinance. Some minor wording modifications were made by the Council.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER HENNES AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LYNCH APPROVING THE TOBACCO USE ORDINANCE WITH THE MODIFICATIONS AS SUGGESTED BY COUNCIL. UPON VOTE BEING TAKEN THE FOLLOWING VOTED:  
AYE: MAYOR NICOLL, COUNCIL MEMBERS HENNES, LYNCH, AND PETERSON  
NAY: COUNCIL MEMBER BRAIG LINDSTROM  
MOTION CARRIED**

**c. Approving Plans and Specs and Authorizing Bids on Pinecone Road**

City Engineer Nielson presented a power point presentation on the plans and specs for the upcoming Pinecone Road improvements from 2<sup>nd</sup> Street South to 500 feet south of 7<sup>th</sup> Street North, including turn lanes and roundabout. Nielson also explained right-of-way and easements needed. Nielson requested approval for options of colored concrete on some medians as well as street light designs. Nielson reviewed the timeline for bidding, proposed starting and ending construction dates and detour options.

Council member Braig-Lindstrom asked what could be done to help visually impaired residents cross the roundabouts. Nielson talked about the variation in coloring between roadway and crosswalks, the median refuge and the truncated domes which are designed to assist visually impaired pedestrians sense the difference between road and curbing. Nielson also talked about the option of installing electronic signaling devices. Member Braig-Lindstrom expressed her concern of the high cost for the roundabout.

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER PETERSON AND SECONDED BY MEMBER HENNES APPROVING PLANS AND SPECS AND AUTHORIZING BIDS ON THIS PHASE OF PINECONE ROAD. UPON VOTE BEING TAKEN THE FOLLOWING VOTED**

April 13, 2015

**AYE: MAYOR NICOLL, COUNCIL MEMBERS HENNES, LYNCH, AND PETERSON  
NAY: COUNCIL MEMBER BRAIG LINDSTROM  
MOTION CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**a. Community Solar Garden Proposal**

Representatives of SolarStone provided a power point presentation outlining current solar energy legislation, visuals of how a solar garden would look, and proposed site within the City for possible solar garden. Future land use actions would require a conditional use permit and public hearing.

Consensus of the Council believes this program has merit and is worth pursuing. Council members Lynch and Braig Lindstrom volunteered to serve on a subcommittee to negotiate final terms to bring back for full Council consideration.

**b. Pinecone Regional Park parking lot**

City Administrator Degiovanni listed the various events hosted by Bernick's Arena and reminded the Council that their liaison to the arena Board, Council member Peterson, had requested this item be placed on tonight's agenda. Council member Peterson talked about the need for more parking at the Park for the events held at the arena. Arena visitors currently need to park on the grass for large events and Peterson asked if it would be possible to combine the Pinecone Road reconstruction with Pinecone Regional parking lot for better pricing.

Engineer Nielson explained the need for soil borings and storm water run off testing prior to construction and given the time constraints, he would need to do further work to see if it was even possible or cost saving to bid it with the Heritage and Scout Drive section of the Pinecone Road project. He could come back with a plan and cost estimate in about 6 weeks and Council by consensus was agreeable to that.

**DEPARTMENTS REPORTS**

**Police Department**

Police Chief Hughes presented his report.

**Fire Department**

The Fire Department report was included with the packet.

**Public Works**

Director Borders presented his report and updated the Council on the availability of compost stickers and Earth day clean up.

**City Engineer**

Engineer Nielson presented his report.

**Planning & Community Development Director**

Director Rasmussen presented her report.

April 13, 2015

**City Administrator**

Administrator Degiovanni presented her report.

**CITY COUNCIL UPDATE – MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

Council members gave updates on various meetings and community events.

**ADJOURN**

**A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCIL MEMBER PETERSON AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LYNCH TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:58 P.M. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Minutes By**

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**Judy Molitor**  
**Recording Secretary**

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**Sarah Jane Nicoll**  
**Mayor**