

The Cannon Falls City Council met in a regular session on Tuesday, June 20, at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. Present were Mayor Robby Robinson and Council Members Morris Mattson, Cedar Abadie, Mike Dalton, Ken Carpenter, John Althoff, and LeRoy McCusker. Also present were Ron Johnson, City Administrator; Dave Maroney, Community Development Director; Nicole Miller, Library Director; 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 Althoff and unanimously carried, to approve the Agenda as submitted.

Public Input There was no public input with regard to items not listed on the Agenda.

Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation Presentation Tim Penny introduced himself as President of the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation (SMIF). He described the 20-County region served by SMIF. He discussed the work of SMIF in terms of early childhood programming, small business investment and economic development activities, co-sponsorship of an annual local foods festival, and assistance to small towns in the creation of community funds. He discussed a new small town grant program that will be available later this year. He referenced information that was distributed with regard to SMIF. The Mayor and Council Members expressed appreciation to Mr. Penny for this update.

Consent Agenda A. Just and Correct Claims – Accounting Period Ending June 15, 2017
B. Resolution 2286, Approving a Variance for 501 Colvill Street West
C. Resolution 2287, Approving a Conditional Use Permit for George on the Rocks, LLC
D. Approve Bid to Replace Retaining Wall

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

Corrected Meeting Minutes for May 16, 2017, City Council Meeting City Administrator Johnson provided background information and referenced a correction to the meeting minutes on Page 14, with Council Member Mattson seconding a motion by Council Member Abadie.

School Request of
City Contribution for
Tennis Courts

A motion was made by Council Member Abadie, seconded by Council Member Dalton and unanimously carried, to approve the corrected May 16, 2017, City Council meeting minutes.

Council Member Abadie provided background information with regard to the tennis courts, which are located on the Cannon Falls High School campus but are open to the public. She reported that these courts, which are well used, have fallen into disrepair, with half of the courts deemed too dangerous to be used for any purpose. She commented that without some type of intervention the Cannon Falls tennis teams would be forced to play all of their matches away the following year. She reported that the School District had been researching options to repair or reconstruct the tennis courts. A contractor had been located to provide a viable resurfacing solution, at an estimated cost of \$75,000. The School District set aside \$45,000 in funding, which could be allocated toward this project. Council Member Abadie discussed the urgency of the project. She described discussion by School District representatives and concerned citizens during a recent Public Works Commission meeting. She reported that the Fire Department has committed \$2,500 toward the project, bringing the shortfall to \$27,500. The Public Works Commission is recommending consideration of a City contribution of \$5,000. She referenced discussion during a recent School Board meeting related to interest in fundraising activities by community members to cover the funding gap. Council Member Abadie clarified that, if a contribution is approved by the City Council, funds would be made available upon the School District entering into a contract with the contractor to complete the project this year. Mayor Robinson commented that a \$7,500 contribution would result in a \$20,000 funding gap.

Council Member McCusker stated his opinion that the tennis court cracks appear repairable. He expressed concerns that the disrepair has come about as a result of neglect. He spoke in support of the requested funding assistance and suggested ongoing maintenance activities to maintain the repaired surface.

A motion was made by Council Member Abadie to allocate \$7,500 toward the tennis court resurfacing project. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carpenter.

Council Member McCusker suggested consideration of a higher amount. Council Member Dalton asked whether additional funding could be considered later on. Council Member Abadie clarified that

the School District may be able to temporarily allocate funds from other projects in order for the work to be completed this year. Council Member McCusker expressed agreement with Council Member Dalton's suggestion. Potential grant funding was discussed.

Tennis Coach Paul Norstad commented that these courts are used both by the schools and by the public, as there is no other place to play tennis in Cannon Falls. He discussed the condition of the courts and the grant funding process. Council Member McCusker discussed a potential future contribution toward the cost of court maintenance. Mr. Norstad commented that the City has not contributed toward tennis court maintenance or resurfacing for the past 17 years. Maintenance responsibilities were discussed. Council Member Abadie suggested that maintenance issues could be further discussed.

Mayor Robinson summarized the motion and second for the City to contribute \$7,500 toward the tennis court resurfacing project, adding that additional funding assistance may be considered in the future. Council Member Abadie added that the funds would be available upon execution of a contract by the School District with the contractor. A vote was taken, and the motion carried unanimously.

Staff Reports

Library Director Miller reported with regard to a recent visit to the Library by representatives from the National Eagle Center. She discussed the Summer Reading Program and upcoming Library activities. She commented that the Library Board recently approved participation in a homebound delivery service program called Libraries on Wheels, adding that volunteers were being sought to assist with this program.

Public Works Director Bergeson referenced Public Works Commission discussion of Mill Street parking concerns. Council Member McCusker inquired with regard to the need for a stop sign at the exit of the City parking lot. Director Bergeson reported that MnDOT has indicated no need for a stop sign in this location.

Council Member Dalton asked whether there would be a way to restrict the length of vehicles parking in the diagonal parking stalls along Mill Street, citing safety concerns. Council Member McCusker commented regarding the angle of these parking stalls. Council Member Dalton requested further discussion of this concern.

Lieutenant Berg further commented with regard to the question about a stop sign at the exit of the City parking lot. He referenced State

Statutes requiring vehicles to stop before entering a roadway, regardless of whether there is a stop sign.

Lieutenant Berg reported with regard to the recent North Star Grand Prix Bike Race event and the upcoming 4th of July Parade.

Mayor and Council
Reports

Council Member Althoff discussed the upcoming Cannon Valley Fair. He reported that this year the Fair will offer free parking and free admission on the 4th of July.

Council Member Carpenter discussed the status of two state parcels the city has requested a transfer of.

Council Member Mattson discussed a prior suggestion for pavement striping at the intersection by the stop light. It was suggested that Police Chief McCormick look into this.

Compost bids were discussed.

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 July, 2017.

Lyman M. Robinson, Mayor

ATTEST:

Ronald S. Johnson, City Administrator