

**MINUTES OF MEETING
DELLWOOD CITY COUNCIL
AUGUST 10, 2021**

The regular monthly meeting of the Council of the City of Dellwood was held at City Hall, 111 Wildwood Road, Willernie, MN on August 10, 2021.

The meeting was held by way of teleconferencing as provided by Minnesota Statute 13D.021. The U.S. Health and Human Services Department, on January 30, 2020, declared a Public Health Emergency in response to COVID-19. On March 13, 2020, President Trump declared COVID-19 to be a National Emergency. On March 20, 2020, Minnesota Governor Walz issued an Executive Order which is effective through July 2021. Mayor McGill has determined that an in-person meeting is not practical because of a health pandemic. Accordingly, no Members of the Council or City Staff were physically present at the regular meeting location. All Council Members were able to participate in the meeting, could hear each other and did discuss business which came before the Council. All votes were conducted by rollcall. Due Notice of the Meeting to be held by teleconference was duly given as required by law.

Present: Councilpersons – Scott St. Martin, Greg Boosalis, Deb Christopherson and Brady Ramsay, City Clerk Joanne Frane, Treasurer Brian Beich, City Engineer Cara Geheren, City Attorney Richard Copeland, City Planner Nate Sparks and Planning Commission Chairman Lin Lindbeck.

Also present: Blanche Hawkins, Julie Whitaker and Members of the Lake Links Trail Association Board-Steve Wolgamot

Absent: Mayor Mike McGill

Deputy Mayor Scott St. Martin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Public Comment: Mr. St. Martin noted that there were no persons present for public comment. He noted an addition to the **Agenda**, item No. 3, being the proposed Amendment #2 to the Washington County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Cooperation Agreement. Upon motion duly seconded, the Agenda for the meeting was approved with the addition of Item No. 3 noted above.

The following votes were taken:

Ramsay	Aye
Boosalis	Aye
St. Martin	Aye
Christopherson	Aye

Minutes: Upon motion by Christopherson, second by Ramsay, the Minutes of the July 2021 Council meeting were approved as submitted.

Ramsay	Aye
Boosalis	Aye
St. Martin	Aye
Christopherson	Aye

Update by Cara Geheren on the status of the Lake Links Trail: City Engineer Cara Geheren noted that at this stage, the City is in the initial project process. The City is not committed to anything at this point and can opt to stop the project at any time. Expenses up to the point of withdrawal from the trail project can be paid from the grant money but would not have to be paid back to the State.

The next action for the City to take would be to hire a professional consultant for performing preliminary design work. If acquisition of private land is needed for trail purposes, any cost is not included or reimbursable under the State Appropriation Bill. She said the City should solicit proposals from local engineering firms to do the preliminary design.

Mr. Copeland asked if Cara knew on what information the State based its appropriation to Dellwood of \$2.6 million. Cara replied that she was not sure, but any such information had to come from the Lake Links Trail Association.

Cara displayed a screen showing what MNDOT considers to be its right-of-way on Highway 244 in Dellwood. It varies from 66 feet to 35 feet and is generally based upon historical documents or usage. She also discussed the status of the trail project in other communities surrounding White Bear Lake. There are still significant issues in some of the Cities or the Township. She noted that engagement of the public in this project will be extensive. She is composing a proposed letter to be sent to residents whose properties may be affected, in particular those along Highway 244 between Meadow Lane and Highway 96. St. Martin stated that the letter should be sent to residents on both sides of Highway 244 as the preliminary design work by WSB mentioned the easterly side of 244 as being a possible trail route. He also stated that Cara's letter should include a copy of Mike McGill's previous letter to the residents.

Mr. Copeland asked if it was possible to stake or mark the right-of-way lines in order for residents to more easily understand where the limits of the trail would lie. Cara responded that she believes this will come later in the design process. Cara stated that she would get the letter to the City for review before sending it to residents. It should be sent this week in order to get feedback before the September 14th Council meeting. St. Martin remarked that any private land acquisition needed would definitely affect the location of the trail. Julie Whitaker noted that one private landowner holdout could stop the entire project. We need to know who the affected property owners are and where they stand. Also, when will the City discuss alternate routing? Cara replied that all of that will come about with the preliminary design work. Julie states that she believes a survey of residents at this time may be premature. St. Martin remarked that residents should be informed now as to where the project now stands, in spite of the lack of solid information. There is too much misinformation out there already.

LMCIT Liability Insurance: Mr. Copeland explained the options available to the City, but stated he was not certain as to what sort of coverage the City now has and whether the City has obtained excess liability coverage. St. Martin stated that this subject should be tabled to the September Council meeting in order to get the information needed.

Upon motion by Boosalis, second by St. Martin, this matter was tabled to the September 14, 2021 Council meeting.

Ramsay	Aye
Boosalis	Aye
St. Martin	Aye
Christopherson	Aye

Washington County Community Development Block Grant Cooperation Agreement: The next item of business was the Amendment No. 2 to the Washington County Community Development Block Grant Cooperation Agreement. Dellwood has participated in this regional program in the past. There is no cost to the City to participate. This Amendment is requested by CDBG. -Washington County Community Development Agency. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Council resolved to approve Amendment No. 2.

Ramsay Aye
Boosalis Aye
St. Martin Aye
Christopherson Aye

Claims and Receipts List:

The Claims and Receipts List for the month of July 2021 was reviewed and discussed. On motion by Ramsay, seconded by Boosalis, the Claims and Receipts List for July 2021 was unanimously approved as submitted. The following votes were taken:

Ramsay Aye
Boosalis Aye
St. Martin Aye
Christopherson Aye

Reports:

Ramsay noted the cost to remove the damaged tree near the intersection of Highways 244 and 96 was \$2,200.00.

St. Martin noted the report of Jack Kramer regarding Code violations. He also stated that at the September Council meeting the distribution of funds from the State will be discussed.

Beich noted that the City has received various funds including County Tax distributions, the American Rescue Plan Act of March 2021, and Small Cities Assistance for Roads. The balance in the City’s general fund is now \$894,182.

There being no further business, Christopherson moved to adjourn, and Ramsay seconded. The Council Members voted unanimously by rollcall to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m., and the following votes were taken:

Ramsay Aye
Boosalis Aye
St. Martin Aye
Christopherson Aye

Respectfully submitted,



Joanne Frane
Dellwood City Clerk / Administrator