

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS  
ST. FRANCIS MN  
ANOKA COUNTY

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
JUNE 18, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The regular City Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Steve Feldman.

2. ROLL CALL

Members present: Mayor Steve Feldman, Councilmembers Jerry Tveit, Joe Muehlbauer, Robert Bauer and Rich Skordahl

Also present: Assistant City Attorney Dave Schaps (Barna, Guzy & Steffen), City Engineer Craig Jochum (Hakanson Anderson), City Administrator Joe Kohlmann, Community Development Department Kate Thunstrom, Police Chief Todd Schwieger, Public Works Director Paul Teicher, Liquor Store Manager John Schmidt, Finance Director Darcy Mulvihill, and Acct Tech/Deputy Clerk Lori Streich

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION TO APPROVE TONIGHT'S AGENDA BY MUEHLBAUER, SECONDED BY SKORDAHL; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. City Council Minutes – June 4, 2018
- B. City Council Work Session Notes – May 22, 2018
- C. Administrative Agreement between Anoka County and St. Francis for the use of Pollbooks.
- D. MN Waterfowl Assoc. Cedar Creek –Lawful Gambling @ SF American Legion 9/13/18
- E. Transient License – Jimmy's Express Concessions (Food Truck) @ St. Francis Bottle Shop
- F. Payment of Claims \$465,532.35 (ACH #230E – #231E \$180,168.58; Check #074308-#074375 \$285,363.77)

MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA BY BAUER, SECONDED BY TVEIT; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

5. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mike Rodger, 2770 232<sup>nd</sup> Lane NW said that it was brought to his attention that one of the candidates for Mayor has a husband that works on the fire department. Would there be a conflict of interest if this candidate were elected?

Assistant City Attorney Schaps said that if this is something Council would like them to look into, they can certainly can.

6. SPECIAL BUSINESS  
NONE

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS  
NONE

8. OLD BUSINESS  
NONE

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Assessment Policy
- B. HKGI – 2040 Comp Plan Preliminary Draft Review
- C. Outdoor Warning Sirens
- D. Water/Sewer Utility Rates – Ordinance 241, Second Series Amending the Fee Schedule 1<sup>st</sup> Rdg.
- E. Schedule a Work Session for Riverbank Lane/Kings Hwy Street Improvement

Kohlmann provided potential revisions to the assessment policy consistent with the work session that city staff held with the council on April 9th. There was a presentation several meetings ago discussing road and eliminating road assessments. If council is in favor with moving forward with this, the revisions are here for your consideration for approval.

Feldman said we have been working on this for quite a while. They had talked about leaving the rates the same and using that money for road improvements. One of the problems over the past years is the fact that this was not addressed and got ignored. In the meantime, the roads got worse which becomes more costly assessment wise to correct those roads. At this time, his opinion is that this would be a good thing to do because the roads are not getting any younger and this will be a continuous problem. There are a couple options in the overview for funding to do away with assessments. The city would allocate 2% of tax levy annually or do a franchise fee, which was done in Elk River with success. He doesn't like the idea of pulling bonds if not necessary. As he's stated before in past meetings, a \$166,000 valued home may have a property tax increase of \$50. The city would then take that \$50 and use it towards road improvements to do away with assessments.

In things to consider, #5 talks about a franchise fee to allow for payment from non-property tax paying entities to contribute to road improvements whereas the tax law exempts these properties. That would be post offices, libraries, and ISD #15 buildings. But #6 states that property taxes would apply to vacant lots where franchise fees will not. We will be taking a 1.3 million dollar transfer from the general fund reserve which would be needed to jump start any cash payment program. The general fund currently has 80%+ in reserves and this is far above the state auditor recommendation of 35-50%. The 1.3 million dollars bring that fund balance closer to auditor recommendations. We will take that as a shot of adrenaline for this fund and then with the 2% and the rate the same this year, we will have some funds to start funding the road improvements in the proper way and doing away with assessments. This is a real win-win for the public.

Skordahl said to be clear all this is doing in eliminating the assessment portion. This is just the first step. And it wouldn't eliminate someone living on a gravel road that needs to get their road paved for the first time. He wants to make sure that's clear because that's a pretty hefty bill and shouldn't be included here. He's in favor of this and feels that assessments can be pretty hard to deal with. There are a lot of neighborhoods in our city that haven't been faced with this and it can be sticker shock. He thinks this is a much smarter way to do it, the funding stream is predictable and we can implement and work a plan and know what we are going to be doing several more years from now. He thinks it's the right thing to do.

Kohlmann confirmed that this would eliminate the assessment for the road portion but not eliminate a utility improvement.

Bauer said that he's accustomed to the sticker shock because he's one of the residents that was recently assessed. He is for this plan to get city dollars allocated. In the short term he thinks that the way to go is with franchise fees and this 2% would go away. It's just where we are pulling the dollars from and getting the most participants that are using our roads is the best way to look at how we are spending your money. He thinks this is a good plan in moving towards road improvements.

Feldman agreed that this is a good start and the ultimate goal would be franchise fees.

Muehlbauer likes the idea of the franchise fee. He's read through the policy and said that now it's just a matter of cleaning up the language in regards to what was talked about in the work session.

Tveit said whether we go with a franchise fee or 2% it doesn't matter. As far as the assessment policy itself, he's split. He feels that for somebody on a city lot, without a lot of frontage, and a lot of people on their road, the assessment wouldn't be that much, compared to someone with a much larger lot. He tries to look at the fairness. Some people may have been assessed in the past, and now going forward others don't get assessed. With any policy change that's what may happen. He's leaning towards voting in favor because the funding stream is more predictable and easier to plan.

Feldman added that we can't grandfather in what the past was and we can't go back in and pay for past assessments, but we have to have a starting point. This council has discussed this with guidance of staff. You can't ignore a problem because it doesn't go away. It just gets worse. This one has gone on far too long. Passing on \$7,000-\$10,000 assessments to individual residents is a lot of money.

Another thing that this new council has put into effect is planning, preparing and looking out 10-20 years, and we are starting to see that through our development. Getting ahead of it is much better than trying to catch up to it. That's what this plan does and he thinks it's a good start.

Bauer said that it was his understanding during the work session that he paid an assessment and then 2% of his tax dollars were taken. After the year is over, he can go to the city and get his portion back. He asked Kohlmann if that was correct.

Kohlmann said that was talked about and Elk River did something similar because they did a franchise fee, they were rebating the franchise fee. That may be an option.

Assistant City Attorney Dave Schaps said that there are two things that city council would have to do to enact a franchise fee. First is to enact a franchise agreement. We have been in consultation with Centerpoint Energy in regard to putting together that franchise but that's language we need to modify. That will take a couple more months. It takes time to get through and get the proper language. The second portion of that would be bringing the franchise fee so the city council can consider the franchise fee. If the city council approves that, there would be a number of months before it can actually be implemented and collected. Then it would be remitted back to the city.

Feldman said he thinks the best way would be to allocate the 2% tax annually while city staff works towards implementing the franchise fee.

MOTION TO ADOPT TONIGHT'S ASSESSMENT POLICY BY MUEHLBAUER, SECONDED BY SKORDAHL; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

HKGI – 2040 Comp Plan Preliminary Draft Review

HKGI provided a power point presentation explaining the 2040 Comp Plan Preliminary Draft Review.

What they are asking for tonight is approval sending this out to adjacent jurisdictions for review. This is an approval of the entire plan. What you are basically saying is that you are at a spot where you feel comfortable sending this out to the cities around us, the water commissioner, the county, etc. They will take a look and provide their feedback. The same is going on for all of the surrounding communities to St. Francis. The plan will be updated and incorporate some of the planning and zoning input, council input, and the other jurisdictions. The plan will be available on the city's website and people will have the opportunity to provide input as well. Planning and Zoning will review the updated plan and hold a public hearing. City Council will then approve sending that plan to the Met Council for final review. Once approved by Met Council, it will be approved by City Council as an official city document. That would lead into zoning and subdivision ordinances.

Feldman said that through this whole process, which they've all been involved in, there are two things he's liked from their end and one is that they downgrade the projections of the Met Council, which he doesn't think are conceivable in the time frame. Theirs are more apt to come to fruition. He also likes that they understand that the ISD will not be moving anytime soon, so working around that is the best thing they can do. We are following our St Francis forward plan. We have a good mix of townhomes and residential, and now we have developments, rehab center and assisted living this year. We are seeing things come to light. His opinion is that the plan needs to go forward.

Tveit said we've been over this plan many times and he is more comfortable with it and thinks it's a good plan.

Muehlbauer agrees that it's a great plan and appreciates all the hard work. He thinks the most important part is getting the feedback from the people.

Bauer likes the plan and hopes that ISD #15 comes in line with our Comp Plan and starts working with the City and not against it. He thinks that's the best route to get that intersection at Hwy 47 is to work with the school and have the school work with the city. He hopes they are listening and they come together with our Comp Plan.

Skordahl congratulated HKGI on a lot of good work. Whatever we did at the beginning of this process where we had 1500 items of input. Hopefully we took notes and figured out how we did that. We received engagement and participation from the citizens and that was great. They did a couple unique things that he doesn't remember doing the last time, and it was just a simple thing of just standing back and looking at the map showing what could feasibly be done and where we can grow. He feels it a realistic good plan and is in favor of going forward.

Tveit said during one of the comment periods he had some citizens raise some question on the minimum lot size and he noticed on here that it was still 1 for 10 acres. What are the odds of changing that to 1 for 5? He knows that Met Council is really against that but there are several people out there that own just under 20 acres (like 19.9), and they can't subdivide because minimum lot size must be 10 acres. Could we do something to try to alleviate some of those issues?

HKGI said that the approach in terms of that is in Section 3-7, there's a section on flexible residential development. The reason Met Council sets those acres is they don't want to get to a spot where there are lots that are subdivided to the point where they can't continue to grow. There are some opportunities that are discussed in terms of clustering for developments or ghost platting. Those are things to make sure are incorporated into the subdivision ordinance and zoning when that comes up. By including it in the Comp Plan we are saying that we are open to looking at it to try to alleviate that exact issue.

Tveit said when we get to the updating of the ordinances and subdivisions, he would like to take a look at that.

Feldman said definitely looking into it is a good thing since we have had that issue a couple times now.

MOTION TO APPROVE HKGI – 2040 COMP PLAN PRELIMINARY PLAN REVIEW TO GO FORWARD BY TVEIT, SECONDED BY BAUER; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

#### Tornado Warning Sirens

Chief Schwieger explained that there has been some discussions on tornado warning sirens within the city. The purpose of an outdoor siren is to alert persons outside of potential danger. There is no nationwide requirement for outdoor sirens, so it's up to local communities as far as how many they want, where they want to put them, and how they want to pay for them. Typical sirens have a sound decibel of about 1-2 miles.

Weather goals outlined in the Anoka County mitigation plans specific to St. Francis are to increase awareness to disasters by continuing to improve our capabilities to prepare for, respond to and mitigate natural disasters. St. Francis is about 24 square miles, (about 12 miles wide). We currently have two federal 2001 outdoor warning sirens that were installed in 1996. The current locations of these are Roanoke Street, north of Ambassador Blvd, and Woodbine Street just north of 232<sup>nd</sup> Lane.

The proposed siren location would be at 237<sup>th</sup> Ave and the intersection of Nightengale Street. This area has seen substantial residential development since 1996. The total cost for the siren and installation would be between \$23,000 to \$24,000. He is waiting for an estimate from Connexus Energy to hook up the power.

Feldman said that what he is understanding from reading the packet is that staff had purchased the 1996 sirens through CDBG funding. Staff did contact the Community Development Manager at Anoka County who advised that there are currently no CDBG funds available for warning sirens. Staff also reached out to Anoka County Emergency Management and the Minnesota Department of Homeland Security of Emergency Management Division, who both advised that they are not aware of grant money for outdoor warning sirens.

City Administrator Kohlmann met with Feldman today and let him know that we did get a one time payment on the antenna over by the Liquor store, and there is also a lease with that. So, there is money available in our general fund and it's more than what this would call for. Feldman feels a need for it. He home was hit by a tornado in Andover in 2005, and the sirens helped a lot.

Bauer said he did some research after he read the packet. He looks at it like this, there's a need to put a red light at Pederson and 47. The city can't just go do that. The sirens are run by Anoka County, and if we made our presentation to the county board, maybe they can give us some funds to put this up. It's a little premature right now. He called Matt Look from Anoka, and he was unaware that there was a study that was done showing a need for a siren. There's a speed study for road work. He's wondering if they can do a siren study. He's for the siren, but maybe since our tax dollars are going to Anoka County, we could get some funds from them. He would like to table this until we can get more information and maybe some funding from Anoka County.

Skordahl said he agrees with Bauer a little bit. We've definitely grown and things have changed. When he moved into his house out here in rural residential, he thinks that he shouldn't expect to hear a tornado siren. He thinks the bang for the buck is to make sure you get the high density area around the ponds. We need more coverage on that side of town. For \$24,000 you want to make sure you get as many residents as you can. If you were to shift that siren south and approach Oak Grove, you could reach a lot of citizens around the ponds that aren't in our city. Might be better as a county problem to be solved rather than a City of St. Francis problem. He agrees that we need to do something but there's more investigation that we need to do. He didn't realize it hasn't been addressed since 1996. He likes the presentation and the map. It gave a good idea of what kind of coverage we do have. Let's look at some more options.

Muehlbauer likes the presentation and map as well. It definitely shows that there's a need for it. A majority of our tax dollars goes to public safety whether it's Fire Department or Police Department. He agreed with what Feldman said about it being something you hope you don't have to use. He has no problems at looking into other sources of funding. It doesn't hurt to ask.

Tveit said at the local government level, public safety is one of their #1 priorities. That's reflected in our budget and nearly everything they do. He is in favor of the siren, but not sure of the process in going about doing it as Bauer, Skordahl and Muehlbauer have indicated. Do we go through the county or is this just something that we do. There's a need, and if we do have a funding source available, he's not opposed to spending. He thinks this is money well spent. If there is other sources of funding available, or our county tax dollars could pay for it, then that's what should happen. He doesn't want us to assume the responsibility of the bill if we don't have to because \$24,000 could be spent in our city somewhere else. He's not sure how high up on the County's priority list this would be and if we can help move it up. If they don't budge then we should just do it. Either way it should get done.

Feldman agrees and thinks that the consensus of the council is that there's a need for it, it's just a matter of where the funding is. He would like to direct staff to reach out to the county or state level to see what we can do, and after we've done our due diligence and it still can't be done with grant money, we do have the funds and if it comes down to it, it's the right thing to do. Public safety is a constant concern of ours.

One audience member stated that he just looked on the internet and found that grant money is out there through the federal government, FEMA and Homeland Security.

Water/Sewer Utility Rates – Ordinance 241

Kohlmann gave a presentation explaining the water/sewer utility rates and Ordinance 241 amending the water and sewer rates. Staff has a proposal in front of council with an ordinance amendment to reduce final bills by 20%.

Feldman stated that the surest and best way to reduce the rates is by expanding the user base through long term, reputable development. After 18 months of hard work, we are finally at a place where we have River's Edge in play which just broke ground last Wednesday, Woodhaven coming up with 55 lots, Meridian in the Spring and assisted living on Bridge Street. The public has seen one building go down, the church on the corner of Ambassador and Bridge Street will be acquired in July and shortly after going down, and then some land behind Subway that they are dealing with too. The EDA is doing a real fine job of economic development and positioning us for future development bringing the St. Francis forward plan to fruition.

Feldman wants to thank our City Administrator Joe Kohlmann, Finance Director Mulvihill, Justin over at Abdo, and Councilmember Muehlbauer for helping and working on it with him for 18 months in order to bring it to Council for a vote tonight. They didn't want to put out a rate cut that they would have to take back shortly after. They wanted to be prudent and fiscally sound about it, and know that they can afford this. The reason they can do this right now is because of the development that is in play. A stand alone system on waste water is always going to cost you more than being hooked to a met region. Met region has hundreds of thousands of users and that's why their rates are so much lower than ours. We are a stand alone, with 7500 people, and only about 4600 are hooked up to that system. The rates for Cambridge were \$98.00, and they have a stand alone system. North Branch has a stand alone system and their rates were at \$147.00. We were right in the middle at \$123.00 and not out of line. The whole problem was how it was pushed on the public. In 1990-2010 when we had a growth period here, we did nothing. And for all of the years after that, we did nothing. Had we gradually raised rates from 1990, 3% per year over all of those years, we would be fine with the \$123.00 because people would have been able to add that to their budget. But when you dump a 45/85 hike on people who may have never seen a cost of living increase in their latter years, or at all, that's a hard thing to swallow. That is why this staff and council have worked hard to reduce the rates the best that we can. This has been a lot of hard work. The public hasn't seen the 18 months of hard work behind this.

Skordahl would also like to thank everyone for their hard work on this. It is an important topic to a lot of people. He has well and septic and doesn't pay these bills, but that does not come into play when making his decision on this. He does want to make sure we are clear that there is risk in doing this. We have seen the Meridian project come to us three times. It's not a guarantee, and we don't have a development agreement in place yet, and there's no check being written for SAC and WAC on any of those units. Staff is doing a phenomenal job getting properties ready for sale and getting people up here and interested in developing, but it has to be absolutely crystal clear that there is some risk in doing this. We had a very successful ground breaking last week on the new River's Edge development of 200 units. There has not been a single SAC and WAC payment made on any of those units. We don't know what the crystal ball holds next year. We don't know if the developer is going to face difficulties or decide that his focus needs to change to a different development.

That's the risk we are taking in doing this. The option is there to maybe wait a year and let some of these things happen so we can build up that balance and reality, that way we are lowering that risk. This is a difficult decision for him because he could see if things were to go south, he could hear a Mayor, five or six years from now telling stories about how the council did not do their due diligence and counted their eggs before they were hatched. He is torn. Not whether or not they need to be reduced, but if it's the right time to do it based on what we assume is going to happen in the future.

Feldman said that this will be re-evaluated every year. Staff has done real well with giving us a 50% cushion. We are very conservative on these numbers. He does think it's time that we do something for the public and feels the risk is low because of the conservative numbers. He wouldn't recommend it if he thought it was a bad time. The public needs to see something from our end.

Bauer asked if the water fund cash balance was similar to the fund balance that the city covers at 85%? What he is seeing is that we are letting that fund balance come down a little bit to give our residents relief because we have that extra money. He sees that as a plus to give residents a relief without bringing the fund down to a negative. He called other cities and talked about their base rates. He found that we are not too far out of line as far as before he turns his faucet on, what does it cost the city to take your water bill and your sewer bill. Andover has a lot more users at \$24.82 before you turn your faucet on, but they are connected to the met region. Cambridge's base rate is \$32.31. We are not too far out of line as far as the base rate. He struggles with the base rate because he understands that to be what the city would charge to send the bill and getting a company to come out and read the meter. But looking at all of the work that was done in bringing it down 20%, he applauds staff. It's something that he thinks over the next 4 or 5 years can bring that fund balance down to where we will be collecting exactly what we will be paying.

Muehlbauer said he agrees with Skordahl's comments about the risk being involved. The comfort he has in the graphs is the years that it's spread out with that cushion. He hopes it's the right time. His biggest concern is more with the sewer side where the lines cross. That definitely needs to be monitored closer than the water in his opinion. This was a huge goal. The hard work from staff to double check and triple check makes him feel more comfortable about it. Something that the public needs to understand too is that every year it needs to be re-evaluated. He trusts staff to do that. If something catastrophic to the economy happens, this will be affected.

Tveit is fairly conservative and doesn't believe that government should keep a whole lot of surpluses on the balance sheets. What surpluses mean are tax revenues collected that are over and above expenditures. Keep in mind there are times when they need to do that if there's a capital improvement project that we need to try and budget for. When he was on the council from 2009 to 2015 there was a pretty substantial recession, and 25% of houses that were bought, were being foreclosed. So the message he got was that it was the wrong time to raise rates. People were losing their houses and now you want to attach a tax increase on them. Every year they did talk about it. Times are fairly flush now, making it easier to make decisions. He's in favor of lowering the water rates, but not in favor of having a fund balance of a million dollars higher in our sewer and water than what we need. The same pressures are going to be put on the people sitting in the council seats. When times go bad and people are up for re-election, and there needs to be a tax increase, are you going to do it, knowing that people may vote you out? That's what they are going to do. He does think that something should have been done with the water treatment plant sooner.



Building that water treatment plant when they did has raised a lot of criticisms, but none of this development would have been able to happen because it was at capacity. St. Francis would have been in a spot where we would have had to turn away builders and create a moratorium. Unless you build an outside water and sewer district, we can't bring any more on the system. They did make a tough decision and build the water treatment plant. Keep in mind that it took three years to build and it just got done last April. If we would have waited, we wouldn't be reaping the benefits now. It all goes back to planning, like when Public Works Director Teicher is saying that we need to get this done when he did, and having the council push that forward. We are also out of the recession now and it's a growing economy and people are building. There's a couple ways he could look at this. He's in favor of lowering the water rates. Perhaps take that one million dollars in excess over in expenditures and pay off a bond sooner. If you can't prepay, then lower the rates. He's in favor of the idea, but nervous.

Feldman said he checked into prepaying a bond, but it's not possible. He also wanted to clarify a few things that he was hearing. First of all, he's read a lot of council packets. In the time that Tveit talked about the recession, the city did not receive \$118,000 from the state. If a city is that close on budget that \$118,000 makes a difference, they have other problems besides that.

Secondly, he's talked about a trifecta more than once. A trifecta is having affordable housing and lots. The cheapest lot in Andover is \$80,000. Dayton is \$90,000-\$120,000. That is why people are coming here to build. The third part of the trifecta is to get the water rates down. As we expand, our expenses will go up and taxes will go up. We will have more roads to plow, more parks to mow, more police coverage, etc. How we do that is key. Economy is always in play and we don't know what it's going to do. We have been more than conservative on these numbers and have given ourselves a 50% cushion, plus we are going to re-evaluate every year. Right now we are taking advantage of keeping the tax rate the same with the market out there.

As a council, we are for the first time, a strong budgetary management that's fiscally responsible. When we first came into office, we put in Plan-It Software to look out 10-20 years for capital equipment. We have a new plow truck because of that. We got new equipment because we are planning ahead. We are thinking and spending wiser. Had this been done gradually we wouldn't be discussing this right now. People would have been able to understand that the stand alone system with 7500 more people is going to cost money. That was not done and we waited, and waited, and waited. Because of that, this plant went from \$16 million dollars up to \$24 million dollars overnight, and nobody on the council asked why. Did we have to build it this big, no, but we did. We have expansion way beyond our limitations right now. That was not responsible. It should have been built for \$12 million dollars with expansion and grow into it. Now we are forced to do other things. He is working with staff now to try and see what can be done and will bring it to the public once it becomes permanent and factual. They are working on everything and will leave no stone unturned. There is a risk in doing this, but it's not high and it's controllable. This is a well thought out plan.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE WATER/SEWER UTILITY RATES – ORDINANCE 241 BY MUEHLBAUER, SECONDED BY BAUER; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

ROLL CALL   AYES:   TVEIT, MUEHLBAUER, SKORDAHL, BAUER, FELDMAN  
                  NAYES:  NONE

Schedule a work session for Riverbank Lane/Kings Hwy Street Improvement

Council work session Monday, June 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at City Hall.

Work session scheduled for Riverbank residents and council for July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Community Center.

Public Works Director Teicher presented the May monthly report for Public Works. He pointed out a couple key points. Street sweeping was late because they were plowing snow.

148 tons of debris were collected off of the city roads. 468 tires were collected by Mosquito Control at our Recycle Day. That's a huge amount of tires, and it's an awesome service that Mosquito Control provides. As long as it's not on a metal rim, there is no charge for it. Mosquito Control will come out and collect tires right from your site if you have a significant amount of tires on your land. You just have to call them.

If you look at finished water produced at the water treatment plant, you will see that the number is creeping up. That shows that it is dried out. We are approaching that million gallon/day usage.

Lastly, they were able to flush hydrants late in May, but to accomplish that was two days of flushing. Prior to the drinking water treatment plant, it would take staff two weeks to flush all of the city hydrants, just based on the amount of rust and iron deposited in the water mains. It took a long time to flush that water out in order to get clean water. They had to do it twice a year. Now it's only 2 days and only in the spring. The facility is working well.

Mayor commended the Public Works staff.

10. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

11. REPORTS

A. Public Works – Monthly Reports

B. Councilmember Reports -

B. Upcoming Events –

June 20	Planning Commission Meeting - CANCELLED
July 2	City Council Meeting @ ISD #15 Central Services Center 6 pm
July 4	City Offices Closed
July 16	City Council Meeting @ ISD #15 Central Services Center 6 pm

Councilmember Reports

Skordahl mentioned that the information on Mosquito Control was good, and it's an example of another one of those topics that we need to get the word out on. He didn't know that Mosquito Control comes out.

Bauer wanted to say that he got out during Pioneer Days and it was an exciting, great event. He enjoyed meeting with a lot of people. He also wanted to reiterate that we all pay the bills on our septic system. It's brand new. There were eight rags pulled out of pumps. Please don't do that on our new system. It will get clogged up and more work for the city, and costs us more money.

Muehlbauer said he got to the fireworks at Pioneer Days and they were cool. Sunday he enjoyed a BBQ in the park.

Tveit congratulated the St. Francis Ambassadors. He is on the Board of Directors and it's nice to see a great organization for these young ladies representing St Francis. They go to an outrageous number of parades every year and all of them are wearing their sashes that say "St. Francis". They do a really great job of representing our city. Congratulations to the incoming Ambassadors. The outgoing Ambassadors did a great job, and the incoming Ambassadors have big shoes to fill.

He also wanted to say that some of the utility guys went to the Minnesota Rural Water Training. That's great that they are keeping up with their hours in order to get their licenses renewed. Working in that field he likes to see employers support that additional training.

The last thing he wanted to mention was that he has heard a lot of comments on how great the fireworks were. Thank you to the St Francis Bottle Shop for sponsoring that.

Mayor Feldman said that he was in the parade and thought that was fun. He was also able to attend the Ambassador program and he just cannot commend that program enough. There was a six year old girl talking to an auditorium full of people with no hesitation. He respects and likes to see when younger people get involved at an early age. They are our future.

He also thought the fireworks were excellent. He hopes the public sees the direction the city is taking. It's moving into a progressive time right now. Staff is working well with council, and there's a group of residents that are working with council. He wishes there was more of it. We will figure out how to get the communication out there. This council works for you and there's no stone unturned.

In regards to the consent agenda tonight, and Jimmy's Pizza, he was wondering when they will be coming, and if there will be a trailer parked in the liquor muni parking lot.

Jimmy's Pizza was in attendance and stated that they are hoping to get started on Wednesday, the 20<sup>th</sup> of June. They will be there for 21 days, every day 11:00 am – 8:00 pm, carryout. Hopefully this will help the Liquor Store as well.

Feldman stated that he hopes the city sees that we are working hard for them. It was nice to go to a ground breaking ceremony. That's the first major development since 2006. We are working on a lot of other things and will bring it to the public's attention as soon as they can nail it down.

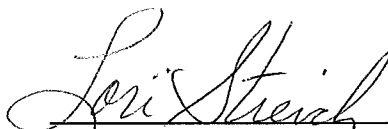
He also wanted to remind everyone that this is a campaign season. Starting June 27<sup>th</sup> you will start to see election signs out. It's part of the process. He will be going door to door coming up in July to talk about what's going on in our city and getting input from you. There are two council members, and the mayor up for re-election.

He ended by saying that July 4<sup>th</sup> is right around the corner. Be safe with fireworks but enjoy the day and what the holiday means.

## 12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm

Respectfully submitted by

  
Lori Streich, Acct Tech/Deputy Clerk