

CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST. FRANCIS MN
ANOKA COUNTY

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 17, 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, Rich Skordahl, and Robert Bauer

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

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

4. CONSENT AGENDA - *All matters listed within the Consent Agenda are considered routine items to be enacted upon by one motion by the City Council. Items on the Consent Agenda are reviewed in total by the City Council and may be approved through one motion with no further discussion by the Council. Any item may be removed by any Council Member, staff member or person from the public for separate consideration.*

A. City Council Minutes – September 4, 2018

B. Declare AED & Pagers Surplus Property – Resolution 2018-29

C. MMUA Safety Management Program Contract October 1, 2018-September 30, 2019

D. Authorization to Post an Opening for a Police Officer

E. Pay Request No. 28 to Gridor Construction for Waste Water Treatment Facility

F. Accepting Grant Award for Shared Services Study (Fire Department) Resolution 2018-30

G. Renewal of Statewide Health Improvement Partnership (SHIP) Grant

H. Authorization to enter into an agreement with St. Cloud Technical & Community College for student training experience/internship

I. Payment of Claims

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

5. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Kevin Robinson, 23978 Redwood St NW, asked if council had considered a 7:00 pm start time for council meetings, rather than 6:00 pm to accommodate the general working public.

Robinson also asked if there was an early consensus reached on the decision to hire a Code Compliance Officer, if they could give an animal control update, and if there's any new developments on updating the meeting video equipment.

6. SPECIAL BUSINESS

A. Erik Skogquist and Mary Wells – Local Assessors Update

Mayor Feldman informed everyone that Chris Larson is legal to come onto your site. He is hired and is endorsed by the city to assess your property. Every 5 years your property will be assessed, and they have been sectioning off the city to do this.

Mary Wells explained that they just took on the assessing in St Francis starting in January, and she has recently earned the Senior Accredited Minnesota Assessor License. She has the same license as the highest level of the state.

Wells continued by saying that in January-February time frame they got together with the County and talked to the group that previously handled the St. Francis properties, got access to all of the software, and got all of the bugs worked out, and were up and running February into March.

Erik Skogquist said that spring time is a little bit slower so they had a good time to get everything ready. In March, tax notices and valuation notices usually go out. This year, what was decided in working with the county was that they would handle most of the phone calls, since their number is on the notices. The county received about 15 calls, and there was generally about a 10% increase on the houses depending on the neighborhood and type of property. 4-5% were for commercial or industrial. There was a date listed on the notice for an open appeal meeting where they can come to the county, or call and appeal their value. There wasn't anyone in St. Francis that attended that meeting.

Skogquist continued to explain that in the beginning of spring they started to go through the green acres and rural preserve acres applications. These need to be reviewed every year to make sure people are still using the land.

Wells said that they did an article for the summer newsletter and included a map of where they would be out knocking on doors and what to expect when they showed up at the door. They are hoping to get a couple paragraphs in the winter newsletter as well.

Chris Larson, who works with Skogquist and Wells, said that to date 600 homes have been visited so far. August thru December they will be working through permits and new construction, as well as any tags that call back.

Feldman asked how the city was divided up and how many sections they have.

Larson said that they try to hit about 20% of the properties per year. It's basically divided up into two half sections.

Skordahl asked what they are showing for an ID? How does a resident know that they are representing the City of St. Francis?

Skogquist said that they don't wear anything specific to St. Francis, but their tags have their state license, and the paperwork that they leave does have the St Francis logo on it. It is also posted on the website.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

NONE

8. OLD BUSINESS

NONE

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Adjusting the Tax Levy for Bond Indebtedness - Resolution 2018-31
- B. Providing Preliminary Approval of a Proposed 2018 Tax Levy, Collectible in 2019 and Setting Budget Hearing Date - Resolution 2018-32
- C. Riverbank Lane/Kings Hwy Street Improvement – Authorizing Plans and Specs – Res 2018-33
- D. Abatement of Nuisance Property
- E. Ordinance 242, Second Series – An Interim Ordinance Temporarily Establishing a Planning Moratorium on Mini-Storage Facilities (First Reading)

Adjusting the Tax Levy for Bond Indebtedness-Resolution 2018-31

Finance Director Mulvihill explained the debt service levy as described in their packets.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2018-31 – ADJUSTING THE TAX LEVY FOR BOND INDEBTEDNESS BY MUEHLBAUER, SECONDED BY SKORDAHL; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

Providing Preliminary Approval of a Proposed 2018 Tax Levy, Collectible in 2019 and Setting Budget Hearing Date – Resolution 2018-32

Mulvihill explained that this is what was discussed at the work session last Monday night. This sets the overall levy that we will be placing in 2019. This levy cannot go up, when you set the final levy, it can only go down from here. There's different components. The general fund is broken down into capital equipment, streets and buildings and then the debt service levies that they just approved.

Feldman wanted to make it clear to the public that since 2013-present the levy rate has gone down each year.

Mulvihill said we are trying to keep the tax rate the same. This is an increase in the dollar amount but the tax rate is essentially staying the same or dropping a little bit.

Skordahl stated that this does not include a co-compliance officer. They decided that there are other options to educate the public and hiring a co-compliance officer was not something they wanted to do at this time.

Mulvihill said that Monday, December 3rd at 6:00 pm is the date set for the public hearing.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2018-32 – PROVIDING PRELIMINARY APPROVAL OF A PROPOSED 2018 TAX LEVY, COLLECTIBLE IN 2019 AND SETTING BUDGET HEARING DATE BY BAUER, SECONDED BY TVEIT; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

Riverbank Lane/Kings Hwy Street Improvement-Authorizing Plans and Specs-Resolution 2018-33

Jochum explained that at the last meeting they discussed the Riverbank Lane/Kings Highway street improvement and the council held a public hearing. As discussed, the next step would be to prepare plans and specifications. If the council agrees to move forward and those plans are prepared, they will come back one more time asking for final approval. Then they would move forward asking for solicitation for bids.

Feldman asked what time frame they were planning on getting bids and when construction would start.

Jochum said bids would come in around January or February with construction beginning in May, and a completion date of July 2019.

Muehlbauer said that this is the next step unless the bids come back outrageous.

Tveit said that at the public hearing he didn't get a real sense that the residents were for this. Most seemed against it. He doesn't know if it makes sense to push this forward and spend more money doing it if the majority of the people on this street are not in favor of it. That's a decision that the council needs to make before we spend too much money on it.

Feldman wanted to add that he got two emails from residents in the area that were for this idea. One said that she didn't have a drainage problem but was tired of the dust, gravel and wear and tear on her vehicles. Another resident agreed with Councilmember Skordahl that this council was elected to do a job here and it was up to them to make a responsible decision. Those are the only e-mails that he has received.

Bauer said he agrees that the council has done their due diligence and come almost to a 50/50 cost analysis based on the storm water problems that this road has. We've done everything we can and the project needs to move forward.

Skordahl said they talked about the e-mails, and letters have been sent out three times, announcing work sessions as well as the public hearing that was held two weeks ago. Although Tveit said that he gets the impression that the majority don't want it, we haven't gotten full participation. And, as Bauer said, we've done everything that we can do and we need to make a decision. Tonight doesn't mean that this is going to go through. They have one more chance to come out. He thinks we should authorize the specs.

Jochum said it will cost almost \$28,000 for the plans and specs.

Feldman explained that residents came to city council with a problem, and council has worked on it to give them a viable and long term solution. We also asked for people to call and email, and all they got were two e-mails. This is a problem that has been going on since 1992, and had it been resolved back then, we wouldn't be dealing with this. Its time to make a vote and be done with it. And of course, as Councilmember Muehlbauer said, if the costs go up more than a 10% increase, we will need to re-evaluate this.

Bauer said he wants residents and council to understand that while we worked on this project there are many different things that this project fixes. This road will no longer need grading, so that will save the city money. Dust control and all those things that the city has done for the last 20 years will go away. The dollar amount looks large. The city is paying its portion. He knows there are 7,000 other resident out there wondering why we are spending this money on 29 residents. It's good for the whole. It saves money on the back end of dust control and grading and that's why he supports it. He would do the same for other residents outside, in smaller numbers, that make a great impact for the city's budget.

Feldman added that the city is looking into implementing a franchise fee. Once this area is paved, they would be part of that franchise fee. He feels there are benefits to both sides. City savings and their neighborhood changing. They've given it 18 months of discussion, and many work sessions.

Tveit said he is in favor of paving all the roads in St. Francis. Paved roads are cheaper to maintain over the long run than gravel roads. But the thing he's struggling with is that this is over \$30,000 for authorizing the plans and specs. We already have \$8,500 into the study of the project. What he would hate to do is spend another \$30,000 only to have it shot down in the future. If it's going forward he will vote yes, if it's not, he will vote no. What he heard earlier is that citizens have another chance to rally and come forward and this could get shot down. It's hard to gauge. He's trying to be frugal. If it's not going forward let's save the \$30,000.

The only way it wouldn't go forward is if the prices have gone up said Feldman.

Bauer asked Engineer Jochum how long the specifications would be good for. If prices are skyrocketing in January, can they put it on the shelf until prices drop?

Jochum said that the specifications would be good for years as long as the site conditions don't change, so it could be tabled and brought back out at another time.

MOTION TO APPROVE RIVERBANK LANE/KINGS HWY STREET IMPROVEMENT- AUTHORIZING PLANS AND SPECS-RESOLUTION 2018-33 BY BAUER, SECONDED BY MUEHLBAUER; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

Abatement of Nuisance Property

Assistant Attorney Schaps explained the finding of fact, conclusions and order on a nuisance abatement property located at 23255 Ambassador Blvd. NW. There are 23 findings of facts that are listed out in regards to this property, nuisance violations and violations of the city code that relate mainly to unlicensed vehicles on the property, household wastes, other items on the property and other vehicles parked off of impervious surfaces.

There are two conclusions that this property through numerous citations, is in a nuisance state and there are three findings on the order that city council will order this property to be cleaned up within 20 days of this date and if that is not done by the property owner, the city can go in, clean up the property and assess it back to the property.

Thunstrom said this property is what is considered in our 5% for code enforcement, where we have sent them at least eight letters with no correspondence. The Police Department served this household with information on the meeting tonight to give them an opportunity to be here and speak if need be. Our standards actions did not make progress, so it then gets forwarded on to Barna, Guzy & Steffen (BGS), for the next step, and that is where we are now.

Feldman said they did some remediation back on June 11, 2018, then two weeks later, they fell off the cliff. From then on, the fines just kept adding up to an absorbent amount of money. As discussed in the work session 95% of people comply once they are notified of the problem. He feels bad for the properties surrounding this home. They stopped trash service in 2017 and haven't paid any city utilities since 2016. This is an extreme case. This is one of the things that puts the Mayor and Council members backs to the wall. We don't want to have to make choices like this and have government make decisions for you. But for this particular case, they have no choice. These people are not working with us, and we have other residents complaining.

Tveit said we have a process, the process was followed with the administrative fines. To date there are almost \$20,000 worth of fines that we've levied. Rather than keep fining them, it's time to follow through.

Feldman said he wanted to add and let everyone know that we are not out to fine people and make money. If these people would have come forth with any effort to communicate with us, we would have worked with them. They did not make that effort, and this has all been one sided.

Muehlbauer asked what happens if we clean it up and it goes right back to this. What's the next step?

Thunstrom said once it's cleaned up, they will continue to keep an eye on it, but it is possible, just like any other property, that it could go right back to the same state. The process would start again with notices. The fines and penalties that have been assigned to that property so far will go out in a letter from Finance and the property owners will have the ability to come to a public hearing in November to discuss those fines. The county typically releases those charges and mortgage companies make their adjustments in March or April of the following year. Without working with us prior to that point it will make a difference on their mortgage payment.

Tveit asked if the water has been shut off since the utilities are not being paid. He knows that the policy states that if the water is shut off, the structure is unlivable. What he would hate to do is allow them to rack up a \$1200 water bill and have the citizens have to foot that bill.

Feldman answered that we are currently assessing that and the water has not been shut off.

Assistant City Attorney Schaps said that we would have to check our policy first before shutting the water off.

Finance Director Mulvihill said we can shut the water off, but our policy has been to special assess rather than shut off.

Feldman said that's something he has a problem with because he feels that some people learn how to work the system by staying free and then moving on to another city and doing the same there and continuing the same thing over and over. With over \$25,000 in fines to date, and that's not even with legal involved, it's going to be over \$30,000 by the time this is done, do we take it to the next step and shut the water off? He doesn't like to do that, or want to do that, but at the same time is there a need to do that. Plus, there are three adjoining properties looking at this every day. The garbage is mounting up. He does not see this getting better.

Kohlmann said that when he started with the city, there was water being shut off. He gave permission to the Finance Department to special assess instead.

Skordahl added that it comes down to being a good neighbor. People fall under hard times but you can't let it snowball. At some point, enough is enough. You need to have a conversation with all your creditors. He's all in favor of making this step no matter how painful.

Bauer said his biggest concern is that there was a property not too long ago that they had sent letters out to, and the owner wasn't aware because there was a renter in the home. He just wants to make 100% sure that these are the owners in that property and not renters.

Thunstrom said they do check with property records and are diligent about rental situations. There is no indication that this is a rental. Letters were also sent to the mortgage company about the meeting tonight and about the code enforcement issue as a whole.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE FINDINGS OF FACT CONCLUSIONS AND ORDER REGARDING THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 23255 AMBASSADOR BLVD BY TVEIT, SECONDED BY SKORDAHL; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

Ordinance 242, Second Series – An Interim Ordinance Temporarily Establishing a Planning Moratorium on Mini-Storage Facilities (First Reading)

Thunstrom said the city has had a couple individuals approach them about mini storage facilities in areas that we have under our redevelopment plan or comprehensive plan guided for other uses. They've addressed two different zoning areas. What they are looking at doing, since our code is not very clear on this subject, is taking a moment to step back and better define where in the code and where in our process, storage facilities fit, and make sure that we are putting them in the right location. We currently have one mini storage facility and it seems to be in many cities a growing desire on the individuals that put those in place. What this would do is put a moratorium in place, give us some time to look at our zoning codes, look at the use and the structures of those and put them in the appropriate spot and move forward.

Feldman said it's a good idea because once an establishment comes on a conditional use permit and meets our requirements by state law we have to approve it. We want to make sure we don't put it in the wrong location, like Bridge Street, where it could be a permitted use and we end up with storage, rather than retail. If someone comes to us with the way the policy reads now, and they meet the requirements, we pretty much have to approve it. That would not help the long term vision that we have for Bridge Street.

Skordahl said that we have one mini storage facility in the city, and asked Thunstrom if something were to happen to that facility, like a fire for example, and they want to rebuild. Would they be able to pull a building permit to rebuild if this moratorium were in place?

Thunstrom said that we do have a non-conforming rule in our code, so there are instances where they would still be able to build. But it would be reviewed against that non-conforming rule, just like the houses that are in commercial districts or vice versa that we have right now.

Feldman asked if that would be considered grandfathering in that they could rebuild on that site?

Thunstrom said that we have an ordinance that's called non-conforming buildings. We have some single family homes that are in commercial districts, and lots that may not be conforming to what we require, and this would be very similar to that. They would look back at the percentage of damage, are they leaving it vacant, and for how long, etc. So there's several key points that you would review any non-conforming no matter what it is against our ordinance and see if either qualifies it to be rebuilt or not be rebuilt.

Bauer looked at this as a 2040 Comprehensive Plan and the vision doesn't call for a lot of storage units down Bridge Street, so he struggles because we want to bring businesses into St Francis, but where. He thinks this is a good idea to step back and figure out where we want to allow these types of businesses to come in. He does think there is the need, and he's all for bringing businesses in, but lets make sure aesthetically that it meets the comprehensive plan and the vision of St Francis.

Feldman added that we have a St. Francis forward plan in play here and we don't want to conflict with that.

Muehlbauer thanked Thunstrom for being proactive.

Tveit said it seems like a lot of our issues come up because our codes are grey and vague. He would like the next council to direct Thunstrom's department to dive into the codes and make them less grey. The codes are not as clear as they should be. We had the same issue with the code enforcement officer. He wants to make sure we keep an eye on the goal and that's the direction we are going. He doesn't want to turn away business. He wants St. Francis to be a pro-business city, but he would like to look at the Comp Plan so we don't end up with a gun range next to a day care. There needs to be some smart placements for businesses and this is one of the types of businesses where maybe downtown in the business district isn't the best place for it. Right now we don't have a venue to dictate that. He has no problem as long as it's a short lived moratorium. We can clean up our codes and go forward from there.

Feldman said what we are facing is growing pains. When you are growing you will run into problems that you didn't have before. Government is a work in progress and we will have to deal with these issues as they come. The best way is to deal with them before they get big and outrageously hard to deal with. We spent a lot of time, money and effort on the St Francis forward plan, along with the Comp Plan from Met Council. This city is in the best position it's ever been in 20 years.

MOTION FOR ORDINANCE 242, SECOND SERIES-AN INTERIM ORDINANCE TEMPORARILY ESTABLISHING A PLANNING MORATORIUM ON MINI-STORAGE FACILITIES (FIRST READING) BY BAUER, SECONDED BY TVEIT; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

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

10. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
None

Feldman said that he would like to answer the questions brought up by Kevin Robinson.

As Councilmember Skordahl had stated, they held a 3 hour work session to discuss the Code Enforcement Officer position. Council did their due diligence and talked to a former employee of Champlin that retired after 28 years with the city, and 10 years as a Co-Compliance Officer. She gave them some good insight into the decision that was made. Council does not feel at this time that they need to hire an individual but they feel it's necessary to look at our policies and ordinances and advertise them to the public and let them know what we expect of them. 95% of the people notified will comply. It's the 5%, as dealt with earlier in this meeting that cause the problems. They don't feel that is a reason to hire someone at this point. The Community Development Director and staff will work on policies and ordinances, and advertise it properly to the residents. They will see how that works and as the city grows this will be part of future discussion.

In regards to the animal control question, they do have a committee, consisting of Councilmember Tveit, Police Chief Schwieger, and Mayor Feldman. This committee interviewed three companies. Their next process will be a meeting on the 20th of this month where they will be doing an inspection of all three facilities. They will take pictures and notes and bring that back to a work session with the Council in October. Council will then make a decision to choose what's best for the City of St. Francis.

The audio video equipment has been an ongoing issue. Councilmember Muehlbauer will be talking to the St. Francis Area School. He will also be doing additional pricing and research on his own next Monday. City Administrator Kohlmann will also work on other options. They intend to have either this system work here at the School District Office, or bring in our own to make it work. They have heard that it could cost up to \$50,000, and they do not agree with that. They believe that between \$1500-\$2000 would be a range that they can solve this problem once and for all. They want the public to be able to view and hear these meetings.

Feldman said that he's been out walking the area and talking to residents, and an issue that has been brought up is with a code enforcement issue at 22708 Rum River Blvd. That was approved at a council meeting on June 2017 and February 2018 to start the process for administrative search warrant. This building had a fire and was deemed inhabitable. Feldman has been told that the residents are living in the garage and have a port-a-potty on site. Feldman asked Assistant City Attorney Schaps what it takes for Council to get this moving. Other residents are questioning why nothing is being done with this situation.

Schaps said there are some process concerns that they have to deal with. One of them is that they have to get a certified building engineer in there. The administrative warrants are drafted up and they will start moving forward with that process. The report writing and analysis does take some time.

Feldman said that he understands that government moves slowly. 90 days he can understand. A year or 14 months is not acceptable. This reflects upon the city and council. He would like to see something done sooner than later.

11. REPORTS

A. Department Reports - Public Works

- Bottle Shop

B. Councilmember Reports -

C. Upcoming Events –

Sept 19 Planning Commission Meeting @ 7 pm

Oct 1 City Council Meeting @ 6 pm

Oct 8 Columbus Day Holiday – City Offices Closed

Oct 13 French Toast Breakfast & Open House @ Fire Stn 8 am to noon

Department Reports - Public Works

Teicher pointed out that in the month of August they had approximately 100 inspections of the city parks. There was some vandalism in August, which is typical. Kids are getting antsy to get back into school and start learning.

They are working hard in district 3 getting our signs updated and replaced as needed. As shown in the water and sewer reports, both the water treatment plant and the wastewater treatment plant are working exceptionally well. Hopefully by next week they will have the contractor that was approved at the August 20th meeting out for the removal and dewatering of the biosolids out of the storage tanks.

Bauer said only one rag was flushed last month.

Tveit said he likes these reports and appreciates them.

Department Reports - Bottle Shop

Liquor Store Manager Schmidt said that they finally got the report for the Sunday sales. It's been a full year of sales and it started slow and didn't seem worth it, but it seems to have picked up and stays steady at least for the summer. Schmidt shared a fun story from Sunday, September 16th. Usually there are about 4-5 people waiting for the doors to open. On the 16th, the parking lot was full. They sold \$2200 in the first hour.

Councilmember Report

Skordahl said that Nixle is working. Last night they could hear the sirens and his wife knew what was going on. Even the messages about keeping the items out of your car and locking things up. Those are great things to help residents.

Schwieger said that we are approaching 500 people signed up on Nixle now.

Muehlbauer contacted the sound representative but hasn't heard back yet. Monday, September 24th Muehlbauer will be out looking into it.

Tveit concurs with Skordahl that Nixle is working great. He also mentioned that he sees again today there are issues with the meeting video/sound system. Maybe it's time we move our place of meeting where we would have more control over a good sound system like possibly the Public Works building.

Feldman added that he thinks that Tveit has a good idea. He also thinks long term. Long term, this city will need a new city hall. His goal as a Mayor is to do this without tax money. He would like to use grant money. We need to get rates lower in the long term and they are looking at many other things right now to do that. In the meantime we may need to make a move. We don't often have a lot of people come out to the meetings so the room at the Public Works Department may be sufficient.

Tveit said that being on the Council you get a chance to travel to other cities. In looking at Oak Grove's Council chambers, they aren't very large. But they have a 60" television there for video conferencing, they have a camera, and podiums for the council. They are no larger than we are. We are working with the St. Francis area schools sharing their area, and it's just not working for the city very well. We've been getting complaints for 5 years. If we don't fix it we look bad. If we are going to do something, let's do it right.

Feldman said that he will take the initiative himself and contact Police Chief Schwieger, Public Works Director Teicher, and City Administrator Kohlmann to go look at that building to see what can be done in the interim until we get a new city hall. The property value should be going up on the current City Hall building once Kwik Trip comes in next year, and there is USDA grant money out there, so if we can build something without burdening the tax payer, he thinks that's something we should address.

Feldman wanted to reiterate that assessor Chris Larson, will be out and it's ok to let him in. He wears a badge, and he's a nice guy.

Feldman said that as he's walking around the neighborhoods, he's getting positive feedback. Residents like the direction that the city is going with the Police Department, Fire Department, Council and staff. Feldman is out there trying to earn the trust back of the citizens.

As he's said in newsletters and multiple meetings. If you have an issue, please let us know so we can address it. Let us be able to look into it and discuss. Give us an opportunity to correct it. We are here to serve but if you don't give us the opportunity whose fault is that?

Feldman commends staff working with Council. We got here through multiple meetings and discussions, doing our due diligence, researching, asking questions when we don't know the answer, being flexible without changing our laws, ordinance or policies and doing very well with it.

Bauer mentioned that the french toast breakfast is on October 13th at the Fire Station. Come out and support your local fire department. He also asked Thunstrom about the church on the corner of Bridge Street and when that would be coming down.

Thunstrom answered that they have an RFP out that is due on October 3rd. They have had conversations with 4 or 5 contractors so far. The church should be down by the end of November, beginning of December.

Feldman ended by saying that the city is moving in the right direction and he hopes it continues in that flow. Hats off to everyone that put an effort into that. Also hats off to the public that was part of the St. Francis forward plan discussion. He commends the fire department on the recent fire. They were on top of it and did great. He's receiving a lot of compliments on the community orientated police service.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 7:29 pm.

Respectfully submitted by:


Lori Strich, Acct Tech/Deputy Clerk