



**Minutes**  
**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**January 25, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.**  
**Council Chambers**

In attendance: Mayor Carl Pederson, Councilor Paul Miller, Councilor Steve Ovick, Councilor Brian Scholin, and Councilor Mary Kay Sloan.

Absent: None

Staff in attendance: City Administrator Ken Cammilleri, City Treasurer Matt Van Steenwyk, Community Development Director/City Planner Andrew Mack, and Public Works Supervisor Maury Montbriand.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. and led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Additions and/or Deletions to the Agenda** – Pederson recommended a reorganization of existing agenda to move the snow removal discussion to occur before the future of city hall discussion. *Motion by Ovick, seconded by Sloan, to approve the agenda as modified. Motion carried.*

**Open Forum** – Two individuals spoke as part of the open forum section of the meeting:

Dale Scott – Scotty's Parkside Café, indicated his corner sign was removed by the fire marshal. He was looking for permission to keep the sign at current location. Cammilleri discussed the existing ordinance that may be relevant. Cammilleri requested that Mr. Scott come into City Hall to discuss the ordinance.

Adrienne Roubinek – Pine City Arts Council – Roubinek relayed that the National Art Council (NAC) has funding that is not allocated through the Legacy Grant Fund as well as other small arts grants. She recommended that the city seek grant funding through NAC for art to be incorporated within a new city hall facility.

**Discussion of snow removal practices –**

Pederson noted that staff held an open house meeting held on Monday the 23<sup>rd</sup> at 2pm at City Hall on the issue of snow removal practices. Cammilleri summarized highlighted concerns of downtown businesses including snow placement and collection, clearing downtown sidewalks and the speed of plows that result in pushing slush and ice up onto sidewalk. Mike Sauser of Sauser's Hardware, located at 229 5<sup>th</sup> St SE, commented on snow ordinance and the problem with smaller snowfalls that create accumulations that eventually exceed the City removal threshold of 2 inches.

Cammilleri and Montbriand noted that staff was developing a plan for addressing these concerns. It was further noted that there would be a follow up meeting in March to get further community feedback post season.

The floor was opened to public comment on the issue.

Dawn Gibb – Signature Closing and Title @ 205 5th Street SE – commented on snow thrown back onto sidewalk after shoveling and subsequent re-plow. She also noted a concern for handicapped ramps and snow removal.

Steve Roubinek – Question on who plows the sidewalk on County Road 61 and Hillside to Walmart. Cammilleri relayed that City clears the sidewalk along Hillside due to a carried over agreement with county. *Pederson requested a revisit to our agreement on what our contracted requirements are in clearing county property.*

Cindy Novy – Flower Box @ 241 Main St S / County 61. Comment that the County leaves huge mess. She stated she is looking for City assistance to remove the snow left by the County plow. Montbriand relayed communications with County to assist in cleanup (i.e. motor grader).

Steve Roubinek – Added a comment to the historic practice of Pine City picking up snow off of highway 61.

### **Discussion of future City Hall Project -**

Mack presented a presentation regarding options for the possible improvement of City Hall. Staff presented rough cost estimates and 3 potential options; Stay in the Pine Government Center (PGC) and remodel, building on a new site, or do nothing.

The council took no formal action. Members requested that staff develop a presentation identifying building design and necessary dimensions. They also indicated that they wanted to obtain clarity on which option is the most cost effective and the feasibility of altering existing space in the PGC.

### **Public Comment on City Hall discussion -**

Mike Sauser – Comment on the need for community room / meeting space. Liked idea of dual tract (new and remodel scenarios). Voiced idea of other locations in the downtown area. Noted involvement with county in good arrangement is a benefit of the current situation. Made indication that building new is a better option. Dale Scott reiterated the same sentiment. Sauser also called for broad community discussions.

Adrian Roubinek – proposed separate government center and community center.

Jim France – Call for community meeting and look to other cities on how they have done similar things in the past. i.e. Cambridge, Isanti, and Mora.

*Council directed staff to arrange and notice an open house meeting at the High School Auditorium to elicit community feedback.*

### **Mayor**

Mayor Pederson updated the council on a recent trip made on January 12, 2017 to the state capital to seek support on the Snake River utility crossing project. Cammilleri provided an update of current project priority for a Public Facilities Authority (PFA) loan as well as an indicated State Representatives interest in co-sponsoring a bill and facilitating a meeting to present on the PFA bonding bill. City representatives were also able to encourage state agency assistance with the remediation efforts for the Pine City Mill site.

An update was provided on a preliminary land subsidy request form EZ Box Solutions.

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### **City of Pine City**

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Cammilleri provided update 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SE project and noted a discussions with Minpack.

Councilor Sloan provided an update on recent contact with Erin Anderson with Commonwealth and their discussion on housing tax credits for workforce housing through MHFA.

**Closed Session** - *Motion by Sloan, seconded by Ovick, to enter Closed Session at 8:48 pm pursuant to Minnesota Stat. 13D.03 to discuss labor negotiations strategy with Minnesota Teamsters and AFSME Unit 65. All approved, motion carried.*

*Motion to enter into closed session made by Ovick, seconded Sloan at 8:50pm. Motion carried.*

*Motion to end closed session by Miller, seconded by Ovick, and to reconvene open meeting at 9:08pm. Motion carried.*

*Council reconvened into open session. No additional action was taken. Miller motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Pederson, at 9:08pm. Motion unanimously approved.*

Matt Van Steenwyk  
City Treasurer/Assistant to the City Administrator