CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST FRANCIS MN
ANOKA COUNTY

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
DECEMBER 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, Councilmember 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 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 & City Clerk Barb Held

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
   Mayor Feldman asked to move 6 A. Special Recognition before the Consent Agenda. MOTION TO APPROVE TONIGHT'S AGENDA AS AMENDED BY TVEIT SECONDED BY BAUER; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

6. SPECIAL BUSINESS
   A. Recognition of Eagle Scouts - Josiah Lewerenz and Jacob Deshenses

   Mayor Feldman presented Josiah Lewerenz a certificate for earning Eagle Scout award on May 3, 2018. Also presented Jacob Deshenses a certificate for earning his Eagle Scout award on December 3, 2018.

   Congratulations to Josiah and Jacob.

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 – December 3, 2018
   B. City Council Work Session Notes – November 27, 2018
   C. Authorization to Hire Brandon Boe as a Police Officer at Step 2 contingent upon successful completion of all pre-employment testing and authorization to fill the 2019 Police Officer Vacancy

~~D. Tax Forfeit Property (32-34-24-22-0022) - Resolution 2018-47 Approving the Classification and Sale of Tax Forfeit Land(32-34-24-22-0022)~~

~~E. Truck Purchase – 2019 Tandem Snow Emergency Vehicle-Purchase the Western Star Cab and Chassis specified by Boyer Trucks per MN State Bid contract in the amount of $74,280.99 which includes the trade of the 2008 International. Also, Authorizing the of the plow equipment from Towmaster per MN State Bid contract in the amount of $124,480.00~~

F. Acknowledge the Gambling Permit from SF Youth Hockey Assn for 01/14/2019 @ Community Center

G. Closing 2015 Street Construction Fund to 2015 Bonds Debt Service – Resolution 2018-48

H. Supporting St. Francis Area Schools in applying for Safe Routes to School Planning Assistance Grant Solicitation – Resolution 2018-49

I. Payment of Claims - $783,851.64 (ACH 245E-246E $191,225.37 and Check #'s 75193-75278 $597,596.27)

Mayor Feldman asked to remove 4 D and E from the consent agenda for informational. MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDED CONSENT AGENDA BY BAUER, SECONDED BY MUEHLBAUER. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

4 D. Tax Forfeit Property (32-34-24-22-0022) –Resolution 2018-47 Approving the Classification and Sale of Tax Forfeit Land(32-34-24-22-0022)

Feldman explained the tax-exempt property and the history of this parcel. Being the State, City and County did not show a need for this small parcel it will be classified as a tax forfeit property. The property owner to the north of this parcel had shown interest in obtaining this property.

4 E. Truck Purchase – 2019 Tandem Snow Emergency Vehicle

Feldman said as I have stated before we are spending money but we are spending it wisely. With the good work of the public works director and staff (Jeremy) felt the money spent on refurbishing and rebuilding the 2008, $105,628 would be money better spent on a new tandem axle truck instead on a 10-year truck plus the new truck would be scheduled for replacement 2039. The new tandem is a heavier truck and is less likely to get stuck, this allows the operator to use and apply the salt load during the first pass instead of conserving the load for weight and having to make multiple passes. Feldman stated we are getting more bang for the buck and getting more longevity, 20 years versus 10 years. Feldman explained the cost of the new truck $198,760.88 plus the trade-in value versus the cost of the 2008 about $217,000 was a better way to go. This truck is larger and more efficient. The State also uses Western Star vehicles. We all want our streets plowed well.

MOTION BY TVEIT SECOND BAUER APPROVING ITEMS BOTH:

4. D ADOPT RESOLUTION 2018-47 A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CLASSIFICATION AND SALE OF TAX FORFEIT LAND (32-3424-22- 0022)

4. E AUTHORIZING STAFF TO PURCHASE A 2019 WESTERN STAR CAB AND CHASSIS SPECIFIED BY BOYER TRUCKS MER MN STATE BID CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF $74,280.88 WHICH INCLUDES THE TRADE IN OUR THE 2008 INTERNATIONAL; AND AUTHORIZE THE

PURCHASE OF THE PLOW EQUIPMENT FROM TOWMASTER PER MN STATE BID CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF $124,480.00.

ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

5. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A. Amanda Zandlo, 23723 Roanoke Street, first want to say thank you for recognizing the Eagle Scouts; Jacob and Josiah. Second, is about animal control, forgot my notes at home. I would like it to be tabled until next month. It was discussed at the work session that it would be brought back in January. There was some comparisons in the packet but they don't seem to add up. Discussed some cost comparisons of the different agencies. The math doesn't work for me.

Feldman said I don't mean to interrupt you but we will discuss this more thoroughly under item 9 D. There was a mistake made and the minutes stated January. There will be more discussion and you can come back up at that time. We did get bombarded with emails this weekend. If anyone wants to talk about animal control we will have you come up later.

B. Kevin Robinson, 23978 Redwood Street NW asked if any new updates on Hwy 47/Pederson Drive intersection that you can share with us that are public and any updates on The Ponds- Oak Grove sewer connection. Any request of information from Oak Grove since their meeting?

Feldman said I have spoken with our Police Chief and waiting for the accident reports so we know exactly what we are talking about when we meet with MnDOT. We will push heavily when we get that report. Feldman asked Chief Schwieger any time frame on that report. Chief Schwieger said it should be in the next week or two. Feldman said probably not until after the holidays. Once we get the report and share it with the council, we will then set up meetings with MnDOT representatives to see what can be done. Regarding Oak Grove I have had some of their residents contact me and told them to get a petition together if they want to hook up to St. Francis. They can take that petition to the Oak Grove City Council. Oak Grove has until February to put together a facility plan based on a standalone system.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

8. OLD BUSINESS

None.

9. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ordinance 244, Second Series – Amending Fee Schedule – Second Reading

Feldman asked the council for comments. Skordahl said we have gone through this a couple meetings, I do not see any changes. The rest of the council agreed with no new changes. Feldman said it looks like I am the only one that has a question on this. Feldman questioned the fee for a water softener/water heater permit. I have talked to

Kate our Community Development Director on this already. It went from $55 to $120 and the reason is, if we sub-contract this out to Metro West in our absence, we would need to charge the $120 to cover their cost. At the same time when our inspector is there, I feel $120 is a little high. Maybe we can amend it to $120 for contract inspection and $75 for our local inspector. Thunstrom said if we are only using our inspector $55 is okay. However, if we have to use Metro West for the inspection, $120 is needed to cover the cost. Feldman said Metro West would only be used if our inspector was sick, on vacation or backed up that he could not make the inspection. Thunstrom said correct. Feldman stated as a contractor I think the $120 is a little high.
If we could amend that to $75 when our inspector does the inspection and $120 when Metro West does the inspection, council have any objection to that?

Skordahl said the fee is the fee. How would you administer this? It could be a problem.

Thunstrom said if we do have a split fee we would run into some that. Only use contract services/Metro West if our building official is out on vacation or sick. Feldman said my concern with this is if you charge more, will they come and get a permit? If they are only paying $300-$400 for a softener are they going to spend $120 to get a permit? A roof has more to it but with a softener is a simple inspection.

Skordahl said let's do just one permit fee, let's go in the middle. A fee is a fee. Skordahl said they have enough going on in that department they don't need to be arguing with someone over a fee. If the economics after a year don't work out, then revisit the fee.

Thunstrom said we do research fees with what other cities are charging and compare ourselves to be same or similar. If we do have our contract go out and do an inspection we just have to know that that city is absorbing the difference of the cost on those inspections not completed in house. Skordahl still would like to see one fee. So if we went to the middle with a fee hopefully at the end of the year it is a wash.

Bauer said I am looking at it from a residential prospective. I think we should charge the same fee and shouldn't charge an extra fee if we have to outsource. It is on us and not charge the residents more. They are under the impression it is the City coming out to do the inspection. I disagree charging two different fees.

Tveit agrees with Skordahl and only charge one fee. The residents aren't going to know who is going to come and inspect. I would be in favor of only one fee and the city paying the difference. Feldman said I don't believe we probably have a lot of softener permits. Kate said I do not know how many we have had this year.

Muehlbauer said let's just make sure our cost are covered, go with a middle number but only one fee and reevaluate in a year. That was everyone pays the same cost.

Feldman said the only reason I brought this up. If you are buying a product of $400 or less they are not going to want to pay $120 for a permit. It doesn't make sense to me being a homeowner and a contractor. Feldman asked does the $75 to $95 makes sense.

Thunstrom said if we set the fee at $75 I believe that would cover staff time but then we would be subsidizing cost difference if Metro West does the inspection. The $120 charge would cover the Metro West or any contract service fee, our administrative and scheduling cost.

Feldman asked if we could come to a consensus with $75.00 for a year and then could revisit after a year.
MOTION BY MUEHLBAUER SECOND TVEIT TO CHANGE THE FEE FOR WATER SOFTENER/WATER HEATER PERMITS FROM $120 TO $75.00. ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

MOTION BY SECOND TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 244, SECOND SERIES AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-9-1 OF THE CITY CODE REGARDING FEE SCHEDULE.

Roll Call: Ayes: Feldman, Tveit, Muehlbauer, Bauer, and Skordahl
Nays: None.
Motion Carried 5-0

B. Summary Publication of Ordinance 244, Second Series – Resolution 2018-45
MOTION BY TVEIT SECOND MUEHLBAUER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2018-45 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUMMARY PUBLICATION OF ORDINANCE 244, SECOND SERIES. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.

C. Introduction of Mosaic/GD1 - Assisted Living (No Staff Report)
Community Development Director Kate Thunstrom introduced a new partnership with Chau Le and Mosaic Management. Chau Le said the last time I was here I was looking for the right partner and report back. Chau Le introduced Rob Tryon. Mosaic Management has been working with GD1 the last few months. Mosaic is based out of Salem, Oregon. We currently have six properties under management, one under construction and one under development not including this one. Tryon, the Director of Finance for Mosaic stated he has worked with the principal for the last 20 years. He has done over 100 senior housing projects. We looked at a number of projects in MN and have been looking for several years. We connected up with Chau and his group and this project looked like a good fit and a good place to start in Minnesota. It brings an asset to this community with this type of service. We looked at the competition around in the different communities but we settled on this community. We feel this is a good place to bring in new jobs. Looking at bringing in about 75 jobs. Looked at the tax base. It allows seniors to get engaged with others that are already in your city. Feels like a really good fit. Chau and his group have been really good to work with. We are here to answer questions.

Feldman asked how many years have you been in business. Mosaic has been in business for 9 years, started in 2009; I have known the principal for over 20 years and been their finance director for 6 years. Feldman asked do you do both assisted living and senior housing. There are different types of services. Tryon said some of the facilities offer 55 and older with no services/independent living, assisted living with some needs and also memory care that offers a secured living areas.

Feldman said so this is your first facility/project in Minnesota; would you be financing, constructing and then managing it too for GD1. Tryon said yes this is our first project in MN and it would be a joint business. We would be part of the design too. We would come in and own and operate it long term. Feldman said we want quality of care, it is important to me. Tryon said the care is everything. They want a sense of community. I am dealing with this too with my parents.

Skordahl and Bauer both stated they are curious to see what the next step is.

Bauer stated he was ready to go the first time Chau came before the council. Really excited to see where this goes.

Muehlbauer asked how long have you or Mosaic been involved with this project? Tryon said they started talking with Chau late summer, maybe July and we have met with the builder and architect. We look at what they had planned, what their cost were and talked through some of the changes we would like to see or thought would be necessary. Muehlbauer asked what is your time line, how much do you plan on changing. Tryon said they probably would stay with the footprint the best they can. Probably just looking at internal changes that we are looking at in order to keep things rolling. Did decide to stick to the footprint that was already approved and moving that forward. Did talk about starting construction this summer.

Feldman said how many units, it went from 81 to 89 and then back down. When you say internal change would it effect the size? Tryon said yes because you can't have too many units and not enough common space. Need to have sufficient space if you have independent living mixed in with assisted and memory care it has been our experience that it is important to have separate dining areas. It helps with occupancy and moral in the building. We do not have a final number yet. Feldman said again quality of care is the main item. Feldman referenced the facility his mother-in-law is currently residing and the good care she is receiving. Tryon said the connection with staff is important too. Ideally we would like have more workers and staff from this area. There is an attraction and connection if the workers are from the area and it brings value.

Tveit just wondered about changes and Muehlbauer did already asked about the site plan. Tryon said we are trying to work with what we have.

Feldman asked Chau Le how did you connected with them? Chau Le said it was through a mutual friend. Joint venture, we want to provide quality senior care. We always wanted the right programming and it has been a good experience with Mosaic. Mosaic Management will be management of the property. It will more likely be a LLC. Looking at construction sometime this summer. Finish layouts with the architects. Construction would still be with Whitestone. Council thanked them for their time.

D. Animal Control Officer

Feldman said a mistake was made back at the October 9th meeting, Feldman read a portion of the minutes. It was stated it would be brought back up in January. Why it got boosted up was just a misunderstanding but Feldman stated he would recommend it go

on the second meeting in January. That would give the new councilmembers time to get up to date and ask any questions they may have. For all the people that are reading the agendas and packets, its staff's job is to give us all the information. With that information, it is our job to look at the information ask questions if we don't understand something so that we can make an informed vote. By no means, does that mean every time we will go with the recommendations of staff. It is their job to give us all the information so that we can make an informed decision. We may agree with them or we may not agree with them. We may agree with our engineers we may not, we may agree with our planners or we may not. At the same time, when people read the staff's recommendation in the packet it is the recommendation based on what they believe we should do. My decision alone and I can only speak for myself is based on what I believe is the best for the majority of the residents. After I read their information, and if that information goes along with the thought of mine and is the best for the majority of our residents, I will back the recommendations, if not, I will not. Just to let people know here and on video it was just a recommendation that staff gave us on information they found. Once again, it is up to us to make the final decision that is what you elected us to do. As I stated all along during this process of months and months we will make a decision based on what is best for our residents and not from residents that don't live here. We did get a lot of emails on this topic. Also one gentleman put out a petition which kind of interested me, was like the one that was put out on Hwy 47 and Pederson where they have 11,000 signatures. We have talked about online petitions. I would like to back this off until January 21st to give the new council time. Also would like to see if it is possible the City could do an online petition. That way we could get more participation than just the 92 that this person had. Attorney Schaps said you could put it on the website. Feldman said I would only like to have St. Francis residents participate. Schaps said you could do a paper petition. Feldman said the petition does get the people involved. Schaps said you need some type of platform and verify the address.

Tveit said I know this is kind of a touchy subject. We probably could have about $2,500 in staff time wrapped up in this research. I contacted the city administrator this morning. Asking why was this item put on the December agenda. His response was this is the council that has been dealing and familiar with the issue. Tveit said I don't care who we go with but at some point we need to quit dragging our feet on this one. Not sure if we need a petition and prolong this. A lot of time is being spent on this.

Feldman said I agree with a lot of what you said. I saw the petition and to me I think I know who the city residents probably want from the petition. You can't go against what your people want. Total of 27 dogs in the last two years have been picked up. I talked to the finance director today and she said we have seen no vet bills the last two years. The new council members have been getting all the information we have. We are getting public input but what I really don't like is getting input from people that have no real concern here, that don't live here and pay taxes here. Let's wait until January. No one on the council has any type of relationship/friendship with any of the entities. Someone commented I got paid by one of them. I have never been paid from anyone, never take it or do it. Make our decisions based on what's best for the majority of our residents

Muehlbauer said let's stay with what was said at the work session as far as the public is

concerned. I believe it should be tabled until January 21st. New council should be up to date. I like the idea of a petition but will be hard to verify if the petitioners live in the city. Like to get more apples to apples but may not be able to get that if no one has new information. I talked to Joe (Kohlmann) as well and said there was some time ago when I guess we had paid a lot more.

Kohlmann stated years ago, we had an open-ended contract and in one year, the city paid $4,500 then again in one year in six months the city paid $3,177. Feldman asked what years were those. Kohlmann stated 1999 to 2001.

Tveit asked do you want our City Administrator give his report. We kind of just jumped right into this one.

Kohlmann said starting in 2001, the city started with the fixed fee of $500 per month and that went until mid 2014. Starting in 2014 it went down to $350 per month. The council sets the fees so you really can't go out for bids. The price is what you say it is. I looked at other factors like response time and the fixed rate is historically cheaper than what we have paid since 1997. Feldman said besides the money there are more things that come into play and that is what has blown this thing into the situation that it is. Just like Hwy 47, been arguing with MnDOT for a long time, can't bring life back with any kind of money, more about safety and the kids, forget the dollars.

Tveit said there is a lot of rumors/fake news out on Facebook, using Trumps coined phrase. I have been a victim of them. Just like when the wastewater plant was built, rumor was that I got a bribe and I wasn't even on the council when the vote was taken. Also, that I got my cousin a job there, which is not true. However, when I went door knocking that is what people were saying they heard. Once rumors get started it poisons the well pretty quick. Let's look at the facts. I have had two dogs picked up about seven years ago and it wasn't Tammy. I didn't know Tammy. First time I met Tammy was when the committee went to visit the facility for an interview. I really do not care but I have a hard time making public policy based on emotions because emotions are so subjective. Let's look at; is she fulfilling the contract, is it a value to have her here, is it going to cost more not to have her here, does it mitigate risk like vet bills, what type of working relationship do we have, those are the types of things that decisions should based on. Not like, did she hurt my feelings or she was mean to me. Lot of Facebook is fake news out there. When people see something on Facebook a lot are too ignorant to investigate the truth. I did contact some of the other cities and asked why did you stick with her? They said because she is doing a good job. No other cities have dropped Gratitude Farms. They investigated it and we investigated it. To me it's not about how people's feelings are, it's about is she providing a service that we are contracting her to do. If she is not let's get rid of her and let's get someone to fulfill the contract. That's how I look at it.

Feldman stated there was one lady who emailed us and said we should listen more to social media. Feldman said the reason we can't is because whether that person is telling the facts honestly there are people that distort facts. Not everyone is putting things out there that are based on facts. We can't go by generalization, we can't run government by fake news, there are people that tend to say things that are not based

on facts. But is does matter what the residents that we serve think. This has been blown out of outrageous proportion; it is not an easy item to settle. We listen to the residents out there, we serve them. I have always said the owners of the city are them, the residents, the management team is us the council and the team is the staff. We have to listen to them. They elected us to do a job. If the majority of them want a certain entity and we don't go with that entity here, are we being right by them?

Feldman asked again Attorney Schaps about an online survey and went with a percentage of the petitioners. Tveit and Feldman discussed the pros and cons of listening to the public and being a leader/leadership. Tveit said he understands it can be difficult. I think this should have been dealt with a long time ago. We have wasted a lot of time on this. This issue doesn't even involve St. Francis.

Bauer stated 72 residents that want to make a change. That is less than 1% of our residents. Looking at dollars and cents. I am for best rate, I am not for having an open ended checkbook for 99% of the residents to pay for some one else's dog to get picked up. If people don't have a dog they don't want their taxes to pay for this. Just like water and sewer, we don't make residents that don't have city water and sewer to pay for it. Let's put all the fees back on the owner and not have a service. If a dog gets out they call a company and the dog owner has to pay. I have listened to this for over a year. I have spoken with people that have been involved, except the owner. There are two sides to every story. This isn't about our fee schedule it is about Duke the dog. This isn't a St. Francis problem. Yes, there have been a handful of residents that have been disenchanted with the services that we provide so let's do away with the service. This is way out of control. It's about heartfelt people that own pets just like me. I would pay to pick up the dog and drive to their house. Don't think the city should pay to have dogs picked up or vet bills. The fees are the fees. No one is going to do it for free. If there is only one dog picked up then they made some money. Are the other vendors going to come out for free? The other 99% of residents should not pay for vet bills or pick up of dogs. I am for a flat rate. No one is doing this for free.

Feldman said they never use to take credit cards, now they are, never use to do reports now they are, now they are using chips. The flat fee might be good for the city but is it good for them that is who we serve. What about our people? Feldman referenced this thing has been blown out of portion not by us but by people that don't even live here. I have been hearing from people from East Bethel, Ham Lake and Princeton about this. What about our people, what do they want.

Skordahl said I disagree a little bit with some of Bauer's contention that if you are not a pet owner you don't have a dog in the fight so to speak. If you are not a dog owner and walking your kids down the street, you have a keen interest if the city has an animal control officer. Every resident in the city has a stake in it if we have an animal control officer. I don't think by putting this on just the dog owners is a good idea. I think we are making this way too hard. If this is any other service, what I would do is I would come up with a statement of work that states these are my requirements. In this case my requirements are you will take credit cards, you will charge x amount for a monthly basis, you will charge residents x amount, you will keep dogs for this amount of time and set the fees. Give it out to all the potential people who is interested. They can

come back and negotiate if there are items to negotiate. You take out all the emotions by what we did and formed that committee, you went and visited the three potential sources of supply. I would absolutely not want to do this by a referendum on a website. I know this is my last meeting but I am a firm believer that you are paid to govern up here. Bauer is right when you only have heard from 72 but there are over 7000 residents on what they want you to do. If there was a perfect way to get the message out and the people would take the time to look at the information at hand and take the emotion out themselves. Every decision we make here you could very easily put on the website. But I guarantee they don't read the packet. That is why we were voted in, to make decisions. If they don't like your decision they can go through a recall. My recommendation is yes, push this off to January I don't know if the information received from the suppliers is all the same information. Look at this as any other service. We would send out a RFP just like our engineers and planning consultants. I do think we are making this way too hard. Give them all same information and make an informed decision off that.

Feldman said I agree to a certain extent. Except for one thing with amount of time involved with this. In talking about RFP's let's say using an example we got out for engineering companies and one of our engineering companies has some thievery, convicted felon or whatever trash comes with it. If 50% of what is being said on social media is true then it is our responsibility to listen to what is being said. This is about dogs and love ones, it's not about the rates so much. Skordahl said if all three vendors sent back the same thing then make your decision off that. Feldman asked if anyone wanted to speak on this topic.

Liz Fairbanks, 24360 Yukon Street first I would like to reiterate the fact that the people who are making this fake news, you called ignorant, I am offended by that, I think that it was very rude. People might not know what is going on and they might not have all the facts but calling someone ignorant for who you are on the council for, I think it is flat out wrong. Second of all, I would like to make a point that there is a character issue on this women. There was a fire at her house, she didn't call the fire department, she went to go get the dang truck herself. There is a character issue with this women whether you guys want to believe it or not that she steals animals it has been proven over and over again by other people. Most of them happened in East Bethel others have been in Isanti. There has been missing dogs here in St. Francis, that puff they're gone. So whether you guys want to believe that or not that she is involved that's on you guys. But from the people who I have spoken to that has been involved with this women who get obscene amount of bills from her, who couldn't take credit cards now she can take credit cards, because low and behold she decided it's okay for her. That is not character, that is not someone that should be working for our city, it's ridiculous. Also October 9th Jerry you stated this should be pushed onto January. Where is the trust, where is the trust, where is the, what's it called. Tveit said transparency. Yes, thank you very much. Where is the transparency in this? Because Kohlmann thought it should be on today because he wants it over and done with, no it doesn't work like that. The people are speaking. Just because you only got 72 people on this one petition, doesn't mean jack. Some people are not on Facebook. A lot of people aren't on because of what Jerry said, fake news, they aren't getting and don't want to be part of it, I can't blame them. I for one would be willing to go door to door. I would hold my

paper clip and go door to door to prove to you guys that the city of St. Francis does not want this woman in our back yard. I am petrified this women is going to steal my dogs, I am petrified you guys. Thank you.

Craig Nicko 532 245th Avenue NW so to address Mr. Bauer's the 1% to 99%. So you have to consider the 1% as the passionate part, right. People that you hear are the people who think they have been wronged. You rarely hear from people that come in to compliment. But to Mr. Skordahl's point everyone has a vested interest in animal control for their city. I think there is a difference though in your point like just making a decision, an engineering decision. Imagine for example if your child. I don't think you could take the same sort of position if your child you are counting on being in the care of somebody without your presence. I have had a firsthand experience with Gratitude Farms. I lived in Oak Grove for fifteen years prior to my current five-year residence in St. Francis. I have had dogs that have gotten out for one reason or another. Got out through the fence, kids leave the gate open, things happen. Recently I had to pick up my dog from her place. I contacted her after contacting the sheriff's department to find out where to go and find my dog. When talking with her she said when would you be here. I said I can be there by 3 pm and she said okay. At this point, it is about 2 pm. At like 2:45 pm she called me and said where are you I have things to do. Without out having published hours of business or any sense of who her customer is. She was very gruff, very aggressive about demanding I come and get the dog now and said oh, it has to be cash too. Which delayed me even longer because I had to stop and get cash. So now, I am on a timeline, stressed out about my dog. When I get there, she brings out my dog from behind the garage where I assumed it was either chained or in a little animal crate, which is insufficient. Again thinking about comparing apples to apples, talking about this is your pet your family member. Crammed in a crate in a dark room, who knows what kind of care. We have seen the difference in the facilities, right. You don't want your child to be mistreated, you don't want your child to be shoved in a dark place uncaring and cold. Just because they happen to stray away and got lost, you wouldn't want that for your pet either. This is an old dog; she is still with us, just barely. Since then she hasn't been able to walk very well. I don't know if happen before she was picked up I have no idea so I am not making any accusation. All I know for a fact is she did not have a limp when she left the house that day and she hasn't been able to walk well since. I don't know. The people that have a voice in this to move forward, it matters, it is just not a business decision, and it is just not looking at the numbers. When we are talking about the numbers of how many dogs have been picked up or how many dogs are unclaimed and how it affects the bottom line the open checkbook. You are using numbers that are strong in army. If it is 99 or 40 dogs. We haven't seen 40 dogs picked up in 2, 3, 4 years picked up here. These are not numbers we are talking about, right? We are talking about 15 maybe 20 dogs on a really bad year. Some percentage won't get picked up so that is the only cost to the city has to incur. The rest is on the citizens. I don't know if this is a tough decision.

Feldman said I agree with you, it is not all about dollars. Let's table until January. I am not sure if we want a petition. We should honor the minutes and we said January in the minutes moving it to December is not right, transparency is right and we said we would be like that. We said January it should be January. This is an emotional topic. It has been blown way out of proportion, not by our hand but by people around us.

Tried to make it right by having a committee, having interviews, going on inspections and checking references. But still got bombarded by post pages and more emails. Accusations of taking money and stuff like this. As you alluded to some gentleman said I took money because at the work session I brought up the size of kennels. That was one of my concerns. The excess baggage that we are hearing is something we have to listen to we have to listen to it.

Table this until January 21st. Kohlmann asked for clarification. The committee had three vendors. No one was better than the other. Staff took the three vendors and based it on money, response time, and references. What information do you want in January? I went with cost, response time and references. Took the three things I thought were tangible, what do you want? Feldman said we are not faulting staff at all.

Bauer said I am a pet owner too and put my pet in a sizeable kennel at night and think most residents do that. I called around, large kennels provide a breeding ground for everything. The good thing that Gratitude farms has is separate kennels. (Inaudible from the audience) I want to see a cap of $4,200 or whatever it is come January. I don't care which one of these we go with. I want our residents to pay a certain rate and not to exceed. Is there a charge being charged if they come out and can't find it.

Kohlmann said the city holds the cards on the fees and the term of the contract. That is why I recommended do not to go out for bid. The price and terms are what you say they are. That is why I made this recommendation based on historical financial data, response times. If you want more information or new information, what is it?

Muehlbauer, cash and or credit cards must be spelled out in the contract. Like Skordahl said we have to have somewhat of a guidelines. We didn't have any complaints before this evening. Tonight was our first official one. Hours listed, credit cards should all be listed in the contract.

Skordahl agrees hours, credit cards, fees should be included. Like Joe said, we are in the driver's seat. We could probably tighten up our restrictions. Base your decision on what you get back. If you have a vendor that is not following the guidelines then you have a very good reason to move onto someone else.

Feldman said if any of their concerns are true it is our responsibility to listen to them. I have heard from other emails about being afraid of their animals being picked up. If we stay with this individual and something happens to an animal it will completely be on us. Continue until January 21st. Joe (Kohlmann) I don't think you need to give us any more information. This is not about money anymore. If you have anything to say, come into city hall and tell us. Call/email any of us. I guess January 21 is Martin Luther King Day, so the council meeting will be Tuesday, January 22nd.
MOTION BY MUEHLBAUER SECOND TVEIT TO CONTINUE THE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER UNTIL JANUARY 22, 2019.

Council discussed further on what does the monthly cap pay for, should the residents have to pay when they pick up the dogs and hours of operation.

Bauer read 346.47 state statute and stated Dover kennels does not meet the hours. ALL IN FAVOR. MOTION PASSES.

10. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A. Ellen Bernardson, 22867 Zion Parkway the Oak Grove residents are coming late to the table. Thank everyone that worked on the second proposal, we still need to rely on our council to listen to us. We think hooking up to St. Francis a no brainer. It has been an eye opener to us and what an enterprise fund is. Our council did not go with your first proposal. We didn't even know what was going on. They told us they make the decision. We would like to have our residents involved.

Feldman said we believe the right way to go is regionalization. There were proposals that went back and forth. We don't know what the rates will be in 20 years. We have a pipe there it will be an easy connection.

Kohlmann stated the city attorney and public works director and myself have been working on an agreement. Wastewater agreements are much more complex than water agreements. It will be brought to the January 7 City Council meeting.

Bernardson said she did some research on annexation too. For 220 people to build your own system it is expensive.

Feldman explained why it would be beneficial for that area to hook up to St. Francis. Putting your on our system you don't have to worry about it any more. It is more gain on your side.

Bernardson thanked the city council and felt you went above and beyond.

11. REPORTS

A. Department Reports – Public Works

Teicher stated they did not start the rink in November but was working hard on it recently and now with the warm weather it is melting. Try to have it ready, weather permitting for the Christmas vacation. Feldman said he likes the report.
Bauer stated only one rag that was flushed. Bauer asked on Water Treatment – why is manganese removal only at 70%. Teicher said that is hard to get out. The plant is removing more iron and manganese is tough to get out unless we use more chemicals, higher cost and more back washing. Teicher explained the different chemical they are using. Bauer if we reduce the sodium chemical would our levels plummet. Teicher said likely. Bauer said he was just thinking of all the salt with softeners. Teicher said now hydrant flushing is only done once a year and only takes about 4 days instead of 4 weeks like it was before the water treatment plant.

B. Councilmember Reports -

Skordahl asked if he needed to be at the January 7th meeting because he is flying in late. Feldman said thank you for your service. Skordahl said it has been an interesting 4 years and wishes the 2 new members luck. Look back at January 2015 my first council we voted for a new police officer, fire chief retiring. I think we are in a

better place now. As you look around these tables, you have an outstanding staff. Now we have economic development director. If you have to make some choices give it some thought. New members don't be afraid to say your comments. Skordahl is proud that we are in a better place, moving forward but you have to keep moving forward. I won't take the credit but keep moving forward. Feldman it has been a pleasure working with you.

Muehlbauer thanked both Rich and Jerry.

Tveit said I will be around for one more meeting. About the dog issue, I do have three dogs. My wife is a dog groomer. When I said some people were ignorant, I mean they may not know all the facts. There is a lot of he said she said and don't think you can get around this. Do want to warn future council members against making emotional decision, make an informed decision. Emotions change. Take some time and make your decision. Again I want to say slow down, watch for kids, watch for deer. Like the new signs on Hwy 47. If there are any pedestrians, get off your phone, watch where you're walking. Feldman still be cautious after you push the button.

Bauer said Merry Christmas and have a Happy New Year.

Feldman reported the old church on the corner came down. Signs are up stating clearing a path for the future. Staff did nothing wrong with this animal control. Staff gives us the information and we make the final decision. Its staff job to give the council all the information, and our job be responsible, read it, ask questions and make an informed decision. At the end of the day, make the decision that is the best. Do not put a shovel in the ground unless you contact the city to see if you need a permit.

SHIP grant around $400,000 application was submitted and hope to hear back in January or February on that grant. One resident that spoke to the council who said he talked to MnDOT and said they have a bridge. The MnDOT person did not say what the resident was relaying to us. That bridge was ADA non-compliant and walk bridges do not get used a much. We cannot do it on it on our own, it is a State Hwy. If it was up to just us it would have been done. If you want to get involved run for office. Feldman thanked Rich your input is excellent. Will thank Jerry next meeting. Wish everyone a Merry Christmas

12. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Feldman adjourned the regular city council at 8:40 pm.

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Barb Held, City Clerk