CITY OF ST. FRANCIS
ST FRANCIS MN
ANOKA COUNTY

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
DECEMBER 3, 2018

1. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
The regular city council meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

2. ROLL CALL
Members present: Mayor Steve Feldman, Councilmembers Jerry Tveit and Robert Bauer
Members absent: Councilmembers Joe Muehlbauer 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 & Acct Tech/Deputy Clerk, Lori Streich

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
MOTION TO APPROVE TONIGHT'S AGENDA BY TVEIT, SECONDED BY BAUER; 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 – November 19, 2018
B. City Council Special Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2018
C. Establishing Precinct & Polling Locations for 2019 – Resolution 2018-41
D. Annual License Renewals for 2019 – Resolution 2018-42
E. Accept the Resignation of Public Works Operator Blake Bistodeau effective December 12, 2018
F. Authorization to Fill the Public Works Operator Vacancy
G. Payment of Claims $135,016.81 (Check #'s 075141 – 075192).

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

5. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Mariah Lowinske, 3211 22nd Ave. South Minneapolis, MN**.** Lowinske is here as a Realtor to advocate on behalf of her client, David Barron. Barron is a father of a young child and has recently split with his partner. He moved roommates in so he could afford to stay in his house. The roommates have not been paying their rent and are responsible for the violations of the trash and illegally parked vehicles which have amounted to the large assessment. He has removed the roommates from his property, cleaned up their mess, and reached out to the city to try to stop the fines. Every time he has talked to the city, he has been told that there is nothing that can be done.

The house was listed for sale in November and has a purchase agreement written on it. The closing date is scheduled for December. If the administrative citations cannot be reduced or forgiven, Barron will be forced to foreclose. There is no equity in the home because he has only lived there for two years.

Lowinske continued to say that she contacted both the county and the city and was told that there was nothing that could be done.

Feldman said this is one of the least things that council likes to do. What he doesn't understand is why it has taken Barron so long to come forward. A public hearing was held a month ago and he didn't come forward then. There have been 12 notices sent out to his property beginning back in May 2018. In his 25 years of experience building and selling homes, he knows that the seller of the property pays any abatements through the purchase price of the home. It takes away from the sale of the house, but if he can walk away even and not lose his house that would be good. Why did it take the sale of his house to come forward?

Barron said that he came in to city hall immediately when he received a fine for a boat parked on the side of his house.

Tveit said that after the abatement hearing and the council votes to assess the abatements onto the property, it's a timing issue. Before the abatement hearing, the council has a little bit more leeway. But the vote has already taken place and submitted to the county. What's frustrating is that this is the first time that we've seen Mr. Barron. The city is responsible to give the county the data by a certain date.

Mulvihill said that she sent the information to the county on November 15th but it takes them a while to enter into the system so they won't show up for a while. There is a process that you can do an abatement. A Resolution would need to be made.

Bauer said he's all about trying to make this work for the sale of the home for tax purposes. He would like to advocate to see what the title company would accept, and taking that as a settlement for the fines. He knows that the city doesn't have $13,675 worth of assessments into this. He feels that Barron has cleaned up the place and learned his lesson. He does believe there should be a fine involved so that Barron knows that was the wrong approach.

Feldman asked about the outstanding mortgage and the sheriff's sale amount compared to what it is being sold for and said that if he walked away not owing anything, that would be something.

Tveit said that the City of St. Francis does not have a Code Enforcement Officer. They are complaint based. Complaints come in to the city. The city would then send out an inspector and if it violates the codes, the city sends a letter. The last thing you would want to do is ignore that letter because if nothing happens then the fines come. If you get a speeding ticket and don't go to court and don't pay the fines they just don't forget about it. From what council is seeing is that the homeowner has completely disregarded them. The city has considerable costs into this. Nobody works for free.

Barron said every time he got a letter he tried cleaning it up. He didn't know where to put it. The boat was his roommates. The trailer was his. This is the first time he's ever had to deal with this. He admitted that he should have asked more questions.

Feldman said it's one thing if you get one notice, but there are 12 over 4 months. There has to be a time where you start asking questions. We all learn the hard way. How do we do this for him and say we can't for others.

Tveit said it's not the cities position to pick and choose who goes into foreclosure. Obviously there's some issues not brought on by the city with roommates and his partner and that's none of the ciy's business. The cities business is the administrative fine that is levied and he thinks what the city needs to do is determine whether or not we levied them correctly and if they are levied correctly, we assess for it. He doesn't think this situation is any different than any other of the 17 properties that

they have already dealt with. This one is actually a little bit worse because this is the first they are hearing of it. He's interested in being fair with Barron but he's also interested in being fair to everybody that's been through this process in the past.

Feldman asked Community Development Director Thunstrom if city followed its policies in fining Mr. Barron.

Thunstrom said that they did follow code and were in the parameter of the code when sending out those letter. The amounts escalate based on the code number and those were also followed.

Feldman said that the council is listening to this and have given them more than enough time. As Tveit said, they held a public hearing that lasted two hours. Out of the 17 properties only two showed up to talk. Their stories where similar and they thought they should get abatement. If we do it for you, then what about them? The city followed policy, code, their timelines, dollar amounts etc. At any one of those times all you would have to do is talk to us.

Feldman wants to see the sale go through for him but they are doing what's right for the majority. They are asking council to make a change for them, but if they would have come sooner there would have been plenty of time and council might have been able to do something. At this time he doesn't know how to make that happen.

Bauer said that he advocated for the reduction to see what that number could be within the fine and closing cost or sale he doesn't think we will get there tonight.

Tveit said he respects Bauer's opinion and thinks if the city is going to do something it should be done tonight. If we go any longer it will go onto Barron's taxes.

Lowinske stated that she will need to cancel the purchase agreement.

Feldman asked if the buyers even know about this because their purchase price is the same. It's just a matter of how that money trickles down. The seller pays the abatement.

Assistant Attorney Schaps said that there is a process to potentially do a reassessment of the fines. That's a question for council and they do have a quorum and can make a decision.

Bauer said that he sees this as a worst case scenario because this homeowner is about to lose his home and asked Tveit if he would be inclined to reduce the fines.

Tveit said it's against this better judgment. In his opinion he feels the homeowner had ample time to deal with the issue and things have snowballed awfully quick and he probably didn't realize how much they were snowballing. He would be in favor of re-evaluating the fines.

Feldman said that he would go along with a break even. He cannot justify to 16 other people that will be calling the council about this. This situation is only different because of a sale.

A MOTION AND SECOND TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY ATTORNEY AND FINANCE DIRECTOR TO WORK WITH THE BROKERS TO GET TO A BREAK EVEN POINT PARTIALLY ABATING THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT BY BAUER, SECONDED BY FELDMAN; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

Tveit said he thinks the city has put forth a good faith effort on this. Let's see if we can make it work. He's been on the council for eight years and we've never done this before.

Bauer said a lesson has been learned and told Barron next time to ask questions.

Loegan James Benkler, 4509 232nd Court NW, said that he does not know the two girls that were struck by the car two weeks ago. He thinks that the efforts that were shown by the Police Department and the Fire Department were commendable. Within an hour after the accident two weeks ago, his father sent him a link for a bridge that is for sale. This bridge is all ready for transport

Benkler contacted the Department of Transportation because he wanted to know what the process was to purchase this bridge and within five minutes of calling the phone number, he was put in touch with an Engineer. It sounds like this process is relatively simple.

Benkler provided the council with information on the bridge and went on to say that he does not blame the girls or the driver. He said that the extra caution will wear off and we may be faced with this discussion again.

Feldman said he would like to commend him on his research. They have been working on this since they've been elected. If it had been a city road it would have been done a long time ago. There have been multiple meetings on this. They also applied months ago for a highway safety improvement program grant figuring if dollars were the hold up, they could get some money to change that out.

They felt that since the infrastructure was in place with the footings, and the electrical is already there, it could be just a matter of changing the lights out and Pederson would be their priority. They also felt that multiple stop signs along 47 would reduce speed and help. They were told about a tunnel, but there is too high of a water table, plus they were concerned a tunnel might open up a couple other problems with the possibility of drugs in the tunnel. Then they talked about a bridge but were told by MNDOT that bridges don't have stairs anymore, they have spirals. They were told by the amount of money that is being spent on bridges and the lack of use that they get, bridges couldn't be justified anymore. Kids do the shortcuts.

It's always been in council's mind that one accident is too many. It was never a matter of "if" it was going to happen, it was "when" it was going to happen. They did a St. Francis forward plan, they had the city residents tell them what their priorities were on 47. Feldman sent those e-mails and responses from the residents to Melissa Barnes at the State and MNDOT.

They've seen the study and know the concerns. Government doesn't move quickly. Our hands are tied by the state and MNDOT. He's willing to look at anything that can fix this. Chris LaMotte, who is the Father of one of the girls that was hit two weeks ago, said that the time for talking is done, the time for action is now, and Feldman agrees with him 100%. He is willing to look at anything to solve the problem.

Feldman said that he's waiting for the full report from the accident and will take that information to anyone that will listen. He agrees that something needs to be done now. He doesn't want to be the Mayor that says we could have done better but we didn't.

Bauer said that an early solution that would be cost effective in his eyes that he's hoping to get MNDOT to do is to change the yellow flashers to red. Right now the drivers drive through when it's yellow and they barely even tap their breaks. That intersection is so bad that if they were to put a bridge there, the vision that the drivers would be seeing, like if a kid was behind the pillar, would not be the safest way to go. He's all about slowing the traffic down, and if a roundabout is the way to go, let's do it.

Tveit said he shares Benkler's frustration and prior to being on the council he was the Mayor for six years. He worked on it for six years before that. These accidents happen with stop lights as well. There was an accident on Sims Road the next day and that's a controlled stop light intersection. No matter what happens there's still a potential for injury. MNDOT said that they are in the business of moving traffic not stopping traffic. The speed limit needs to be under 25 mph in order for it to be non-lethal.

Tveit also said that they worked with the school to get an upgrade to the crosswalk. It's better than it was. But there is still no barrier to protect the kids. He looks at it from a different approach. The solution he would like to see is to move the school. Why have a school right next to the highway. The school district was going to bond for $190 million anyways, and part of that was to fix up these old buildings, so let's just build a new one.

Another option Tveit mentioned is to build a bypass. That way there's a barrier between the fast moving traffic and the kids. If we build a bridge it's still up to the kids to use it. Once the bridge is there, drivers won't be looking for the kids anymore. Which could become more dangerous. There's no quick fix and it will take a lot of driver education as well as pedestrian education. It will take a lot of school district, MNDOT, the city and the county all working together and maybe we can take the best ideas from everyone's plan and try to get a more workable solution.

Feldman agrees and what he does know is that it's time to stop talking and do something. After time people forget He's asking the residents to please reach out to state representative and keep the pressure going. They are only five council members and MNDOT talks to many other councilmembers so it's hard to tell if St. Francis is being heard, but if they can get the residents behind them and also talking to MNDOT, the more voices the better. They are hoping to get this grant money from the HSIP, which he though was really unique because just under $7 million dollars, which is only 30% of the $21.7 million dollars is for proactive, which means you don't need statistics about how many accidents or so much time frame to justify doing something.

Bauer said that his concern about the idea that was brought up about building a wall and doing some side landscaping is that it's a corridor for the middle school students and unless you close that road off completely, they will continue to go right across the street.

Ron Benkler, 4509 232nd Court NW, said that it's all about money. The bridge that was presented to council is brand new, built to specification. It's available to be purchased. The grant money of approximately $300,000 will almost completely pay for that structure. ISD District #15 lied to us all in order to obtain their bonding. Make them pay for it. They got the money illegitimately and lied to the tax payers.

Benkler said that nobody wants to tap into their budget. It's a state road. The state doesn't care if you are going to improve the road. It's a matter of who's going to take the ultimate responsibility.

Feldman asked City Engineer Craig Jochum if it's a matter of money if they could do that. Because if that's the case, it would have been done.

Jochum said that it depends on the project. If it's a signal project they have certain warrants you have to meet. They don't just let you put a signal on the highway. A pedestrian ramp is likely true. If you do the research and pay for it they may let you do it.

Benkler continued by saying that he's upset with what he is seeing in regards to taxes. He would like to see how the numbers were put together to come to these valuations. It doesn't make sense to him.

Feldman agrees that the markets today are officially inflated, there are increases in pricing 5%-7% but wages are not even getting a 3% COLA. The City of St. Francis has kept its tax rate flat and didn't raise taxes. The bonding issues from ISD raised the taxes. As a councilmember, he didn't like how that went down and doesn't feel like they spend the money as they should. A lot of these issues can be brought up by the residents though. The resident's voices are louder than councils. One thing Benkler can do is get his house reassessed.

Kohlmann said that the formulas are based on comparable sales.

Tveit said that the state changed the way that they did the formula back in 2010 when they eliminated the homestead credit. They changed to a market value exclusion. With that market value exclusion, the greater the value of your home, the less exclusion you get.

Bauer said taxes are like gas. The cost of a barrel of oil shoots up $3-$4, the next day it will be $.30 more expensive. When your tax value plummeted the state didn't go ahead and start re-evaluating. That is all on a rotation basis.

Feldman said that one of the break downs that Kohlmann brought forward about a year ago, On a property tax of $1558.00, the amount that the city actually gets out of that is just about $600.00 a year. The Independent School District, the County, and some of the Met Region would get a portion of it, and the city ends up getting about $56.00 month.

Ray Schert, 24492 Martin Street NW, also here tonight to ask about property taxes. He said that they have gone up exponentially and would like to know how they are calculated.

Kohlmann said that if your home is valued higher, the taxes would be higher. The assessor is the person that determines that value.

Feldman told Schert that if he feels it was assessed incorrectly, he should contact our city assessor and ask that he comes out and re-assess.

Tveit said when assessors do an appraisal, sometimes they have to make an assumption because they can't get inside.

Mulvihill said it is all based on the value and that market value exclusion plays in there. Your value generates your tax capacity. Look at what your market value did.

Bauer said last year people came in and said that they had six acres, and their value went up $30,000 and the next person had two acres and their value also went up $30,000. The city went with a different company, and they are doing a wonderful job of really looking at properties.

6. SPECIAL BUSINESS

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Presentation on 2019 Proposed Budget - Public Input

1. Certifying Taxes Payable in 2018 – Resolution 2018-43
2. Adopting a Budget for 2018 – Resolution 2018-44

Finance Director Mulvihill explained the 2019 budget and tax levy.

Public hearing opened at 8:34 pm

Loegan James Benkler, 4509 232nd Court NW, most of the confusion on the taxes that he is having is the decreased value in the homes and increased taxation.

Mulvihill said that the state changed that. When it was the market value credit, that amount was taken out of the levy and it didn't affect our tax rate at all. Back in 2006, they used to just take an amount off the levy and it wouldn't even be calculated into the levy. It was supposed to come from the state, not the property owners. Now, they have pushed that amount off the state and onto the property owners.

Public hearing closed at 8:41 pm

Motion to approve Resolution 2018-43 Certifying Taxes Payable in 2018 by Tveit, seconded by Bauer; all in favor, motion passes.

Motion to approve Resolution 2018-44 Adopting a Budget for 2018 by Bauer, seconded by Tveit; all in favor, motion passes.

Bauer said that it's always been a goal of his to decrease the budget by 5%. This is still his goal.

Feldman said that as the development grows and tax base grows, they will definitely look at everything.

8. OLD BUSINESS

9. NEW BUSINESS
   A. Ordinance 244, Second Series – Amending Fee Schedule – Second Reading
   B. Summary Publication of Ordinance 244, Second Series – Resolution 2018-45
   C. Community Development Specialist Position
   D. Authorization Advertising for Office Assistant
   E. Extrication Equipment – Fire Department
   F. Wild & Scenic River Rum River Management District Res. 2018-46
   G .Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for Non-Union City Employees for 2019
   H. City Offices – Holiday Hours

Motion to move Item A. Ordinance 244, Second Series-Amending Fee Schedule-Second Reading & B. Summary Publication of Ordinance 244, Second Series- Resolution 2018-45 to the December 17th Council Meeting by Tveit, seconded by Bauer; all in favor, motion passes.

Community Development Specialist Position

Kohlmann explained the proposal to effectively eliminate the Assistant Community Development Director and create a newly formed position called Community Development Specialist. This will be a downgraded version of the Assistant Community Development Director.

In meeting with Thunstrom and internal staff, and we do have a staff member that has quite a bit of experience in program administration qualities. They've determined that rather than going through the 90 day process to potentially get another Assistant Community Development Director that may or may not pan out in the long term, and if it doesn't pan out we would then be 18-24 months behind staff is recommending moving the office assistant into this position and back filling hers. We have someone on our staff that knows the material, has a "can do" attitude and a willingness to work hard, and feel that this can fill these gaps pretty seamlessly if council would move forward to create this position.

Tveit said to him it just makes sense. He was never in favor of having an Assistant Community Development Director being that the Community Development Department was so new. It seemed like it was growing too fast. By eliminating that position and adding this position, it kind of ratches that back just a little bit. Every time he's gone in to city hall, this person that would be filling this spot, has greeted him with a smile. He has no doubt that she could do his. If you have a candidate that you are confident that can do the job, why not promote from within and backfill their spot rather than getting someone in that may not work out. This is a very solid move.

Feldman said that the thought from staff was that it will be easier to fill the Office Assistant's position than the one she is moving in to. Knowing what he knows of her, she's quite capable of doing this. She's already in house, works well with our residents, works well with staff, and has the drive to do it.

Bauer is in favor of this as well. He just questioned if they create this position and have staff promote this person, or is that something that needs to be done by city council. He just wants to make sure the city stays within it's legal bounds of promoting someone, creating a position and not following through with a hiring process.

Kohlmann said there is a provision in our personnel policy that states that you can promote someone or request by their job if they've been handling their work for six months or longer. It's fair to say that she's been handling the work for much longer. There was never a full transition of all of the work over to the Assistant Community Development Director. She has been handling it for some time.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST POSITION AND AUTHORIZATION ADVERTISING FOR THE OFFICE ASSISTANT POSITION BY TVEIT, SECONDED BY BAUER; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

Extrication Equipment – Fire Department

Chief Schmidt explained the consideration to approve the purchase of a new set of extracation equipment for the Fire Department. This purchase stands to replace the existing hydraulic system that's on Engine 2. They invited vendors out, had staff put their hands on several different types of equipment, both conventional and hydraulic and battery operated tools. The proposal is for a battery operated set, which does now meet the standards as hydraulic tools would. The benefit for them is that they are not tethered to a power pack or hydraulic set if they do end up with a vehicle far off the roadway. There's more portability with the battery operated set.

They had contacted the manufacturer of their current system and they did not have our particular serial numbers on file so the best they could tell them pre-dated was 1992. The second concern they have with their current system is that they had a hose failing on the hydraulic system this year and they were willing to ship us a new hose to do a replacement but they would not have a technician do it and they would not honor the warranty of the hose because of the age of the equipment. Most importantly, from 1992 the automobile industry has undergone significant changes in vehicle safety and technology, especially with composite metals and safety which renders their current set of tools really inferior to today's expectations and requirements.
They have identified the gambling fund as a funding source for this purchase which traditionally has been used to help support public safety, mainly the fire department in purchasing large equipment.

He also wanted to note that moving forward they have identified funding these purchases specific to auto extrication equipment in the capital plan. But to offset some of those costs moving forward the next purchase would be in five years from now. So this will replace the current need now and jump start the direction that they have established with the capital plan.

Schmidt provided two quotes. He explained that the cheaper quote is a demo set and his hesitation on purchasing a demo set is that these tools travel around and tend to get pretty beat up. They still would be honored under warranty however the maintenance that would come with purchasing a demo set would be higher than just purchasing a new set of tools. With that being said, it is the Fire Department's recommendation that they purchase the new set for a total of $20,016 with the funds coming from the gambling fund for the purchase.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE NEW SET OF EXTRICATION EQUIPMENT FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT BY BAUER, SECONDED BY TVEIT; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

Wild & Scenic River Rum River Management District Res. 2018-46

Thunstrom explained that this stems back to a work session that they had a month ago. They discussed how in 1977 there was the Rum River District Overlay that addressed several parcels of our land that touch the Rum River. Not based on size or distance from the river, but parcels as a whole. What this overlay does is set density standards within those parcels. They are finding that these density standards are having a major impact not only on our River's Edge Development which is an immediate need, but to our Comp Plan and any future development heading north along the river. What this variance is is the first step in a process to request the DNR make a variance towards those overlay standards. From this variance, they would be requesting some changes be made to address the River's Edge and maybe look at what he's doing and also how we are going to set forth in the development going north from there.

The first step is this Resolution. The Resolution will be attached to an application that is not yet finalized but they want to keep all of the pieces moving forward.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE WILD & SCENIC RIVER RUM RIVER MANAGEMENT DISTRICT RESOLUTION 2018-46 BY TVEIT, SECONDED BY BAUER; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for Non-Union City Employees for 2019

Kohlmann explained the cost of living adjustment proposal for non-union employees for 2019 and stated that this would be consistent with the Police Sergeant and Public Works Unions.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT (COLA) FOR NON-UNION CITY EMPLOYEES FOR 2019 BY FELDMAN, SECONDED BY BAUER; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

City Offices – Holiday Hours

Kohlmann said that Christmas Eve is considered a ½ holiday and Christmas Day a full day holiday in our city personnel policy. The question is if we want to open Monday morning for a ½ day. He doesn't know if people would come in to City Hall and there will probably be a lot of vacation requests if we keep it open.

MOTION FOR THE CITY HOURS CLOSING ON THE 24TH & 25TH WITH NO ½ DAY FOR CITY OFFICES-HOLIDAY HOURS BY TVEIT, SECONDED BY FELDMAN; ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES.

10. MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Sarah Udvig, 3709 229th Lane NW, #2, wanted to let everyone know that she was at the Superintendent search meeting tonight and they approved a slate of 6 candidates from a total of 25 applicants. Their interviews will take place all day December 4th.

11. REPORTS
    A. Department Reports –
    B. Councilmember Reports -
    C. Upcoming Events –

Dec 17 City Council Mtg @ St. Francis Area Schools District Office 6:00 pm
Dec 19 Planning Comm Mtg @ St. Francis Area Schools District Office-**CANCELLED**

Councilmember Reports

Bauer talked about the tragic accident on 47. In the interim, he would like lights to be changed. He feels that would be a quick and easier fix to make drivers more aware. We need to make that change.

Tveit said that at every meeting he tells everyone to be careful at night, it's getting dark, watch for kids. Sometimes he wonders if it does any good. It's typically not a good time to change policy when emotions are running high, because then there's a knee jerk reaction. It is good that the emotions are high because it spurs motivation and people to have campaigns to raise awareness but he wants to caution everyone that change for the sake of change might not be the right thing to do. Once the change is there, we are stuck with it. He encourages everyone to take a deep breath to determine what the best course of action is. He has noticed volunteers out at the crosswalk and that is really great, but volunteerism eventually drops off.

Parents, teach your kids to push the button, don't proceed unless you look both ways and it's clear. Drivers, please look for people. A lot of kids forget to push the button. Open your eyes and slow down. Just because the speed limit is 50 mph you don't have to drive that.

Tveit also encourages the police officers to patrol the area. He feels bad for the families involved, the driver, witnesses, and our first responders.

Feldman said he would like to thank the public for the input they brought tonight.

He also thanked the police department and fire department for their great job on the accident.

Feldman asked the public to keep the flames hot. The public forgets easily and we can't let that happen here. We need to keep the flame going until we get a solution. None of us know what the solution will be. It may be a combination of all things. Time for talking is done, time for action is now, and if we need to pay for it, let's do it. Let's hope for a full recovery for these girls so they can come back and see the changes and know that they had a lot to do with those changes.

Be safe as the holidays come up, and keep abreast of the city through the St Francis post pages, Mayor Feldman's page, and the Facebook page What's Going on in St. Francis.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

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Lori Streich, Acct Tech/Deputy Clerk