Mayor Paul Whitcomb called the meeting to order. Council members present were Jack Edmonds, Jules Zimmer, Jeff Reynolds and Thom Walker and. Staff present, Administrator Robert Barbian, Finance Director Steve Jackson, Police Chief Todd Frederick, Clerk Shawna Jenkins, Wastewater Plant Manager Chris Klinghagen, Liquor store manager Nancy Campbell, and Fire Chief Ron Lawrence. Absent were Thom Walker and Public Works Director Bob Gerold.

**Police K9 replacement Discussion**

Frederick advised that the Princeton Police Department and Officer Jason Cederberg have decided to start looking at the future of the K-9 program. Canine Skar is now seven years old and Officer Cederberg and I have discussed the health and longevity of Skar. Officer Cederberg has noticed some health concerns with Skar over the last six months.

We feel that in 2019 it would be wise to start training a new canine for the department in preparation for Canine Skar's retirement.

The number of available canines is in high demand with police departments across the country adding or replacing these valuable officers. If we do not get on a request list with the vendor (Performance Kennel's) which was used to select Skar we may not be able to receive a dog in 2019.

The plan would be to request a new dog through Performance Kennel's in December of 2018 or January of 2019. Officer Cederberg would anticipate receiving the new dog in March or April of 2019 and begin training immediately. The hope would be that the new dog would be patrol ready in June or July of 2019 with Skar retiring around that time frame. The advantage of doing this would be that Skar would continue to work on patrol as well as assist in training of the new dog. This would allow the department not to be down for any length of time without a Canine unit.

Performance Kennel's has been a tremendous value for the Princeton Canine Unit. We have had a great working relationship with the company and been able to receive free training and upkeep with our Canine program over the years.

As a side note Officer Cederberg tracks all canine statics with a program through our records management system. I found it interesting that Officer Cederberg has a total of 998 hours of training on duty since acquiring Skar. He also has a total of 1560 hours of off duty training that would involve scheduled training days.

Officer Cederberg has been committed to this program and has been continuously fundraising since we have had our k-9 unit to offset the cost to the City of Princeton. The Canine Program has currently received approximately $13,000 dollars and has hopes in receiving more donations within the next few months. These donations have come from companies within the Princeton community as well as grants that the department and Officer Cederberg have applied for. Officer Cederberg needs to be commended in his efforts of raising donations and training which has made this Canine Program the best in the area.
Other ways that the Canine Program plans on offsetting the cost of our new canine is to utilize drug forfeiture money along with the sale of vehicles forfeited as the result of drug arrests, if necessary. It appears that in drug related forfeitures we have approximately $3700.00 dollars in our account.

The cost of a new dog for 2018 is approximately $9000. In 2019 we anticipate the cost may have a slight increase depending on freight charges and the Euro Dollar relationship. The cost of the 4 week narcotics training is $2000.00, and the cost of the 10 week patrol training is $4000.00. The total cost for a new dog, training and certifications will be approximately $15,000.00 dollars. Another financial cost that is difficult to estimate is overtime of an officer covering Officer Cederberg’s shift while he is at training. Looking at notes and budget documents we spent approximately $3500.00 dollars in overtime to cover Officer Cederberg with training in regards to Skar.

Officer Cederberg provided some background. On April 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 2013 K-9 Skar was picked by the vendor for the Princeton Police Department. He started his formal training with performance kennels on April 7\textsuperscript{th}, 2013. Canine Skar is named in memory of Princeton native Sgt. Bryan Opskar, United States Marine Corps.

Skar and I graduated from an 11-week patrol school in June of 2013. In that school, Skar was able to learn the basics skills needed to work as a K-9 team. These skills include obedience, article searches, suspect searches, and criminal apprehension along with tracking. Skar and I continue to train and work on the basic skills that have allowed us to be one of the best officer / dog teams in the area.

In November of 2013, Skar and I went to narcotics detection school where we learned how to locate the odor of a controlled substance. Canine Skar was imprinted on the following narcotics of marijuana, meth, crack, cocaine, heroin, mushrooms, and MDMA party drug. These are the basic narcotics that Skar was trained to locate. We continue to train on new street drugs as they enter our community and around the area.

As a K-9 team we have certified by the United States Police Canine Association in:
1. Patrol work
2. Narcotics detection
3. Basic tracking
4. Enhanced Tracking

We also hold certifications by the National Police Canine Association in:
1. Patrol work
2. Narcotics detection

As of today, Skar and I have responded to over 300 calls for service where the K-9 was specifically requested to complete a task by the Princeton Police Department and other departments in the area. Some of the tasks Canine Skar and I have responded to were requests to locate dangerous weapons such as guns and knives. We are also used for building searches for suspects hiding inside, and the tracking of suspects who have ran on foot from officers or from other crime scenes. We are also used for perimeter containment on search warrants and warrant pickups of high risk individuals. Additional tasks also include the utilization on high risk traf-
fic stops, along with narcotic sniffs on vehicles and sniffs for search warrants. We also conduct narcotic sniffs at the schools in Princeton.

**Accomplishments that the United States Police Canine Association has recognized with awards to K-9 Skar are as follows:**

1. Princeton Police Department responded to a domestic at a hotel in Princeton. The male suspect ran prior to officers arriving. Canine Skar was used to track and apprehend the suspect. The male was arrested on assault charges. The female victim was severely injured. Without the use of Canine Skar this violent suspect would have gotten away.

2. Princeton Police Department responded to a burglary in progress. Canine Skar located suspects hiding in attic of the residence the suspect had broken into. Without Canine Skar’s tracking ability these suspects would have escaped.

3. Princeton Police Department responded to a department store for vehicle and driver that smelled of marijuana. Canine Skar was used for a sniff of the vehicle. The alert from Canine Skar gave officers the probable cause to search the vehicle and area that Canine Skar alerted to. Officers were able to locate a large amount of methamphetamine and paraphernalia. The female was arrested on drug charges.

4. Princeton Police Department conducted a traffic stop; A male and female ran on foot. Officers arrested the female. Canine Skar tracked and located the male suspect. The male was arrested for fleeing police on foot and 5th degree-controlled substance, possession of hypodermic needle along with drug paraphernalia. This arrest was possible because of the use of Skar and his ability to track and locate this male suspect. The stolen items located in the vehicle were able to be linked to a burglary in the city of Princeton. Due to the ability and certifications that Canine Skar has, we were also able to pursue charges on the possession of stolen property.

5. Princeton Police Department Canine Skar was called to assist with locating suspects who fled on foot from a stolen motor vehicle. Canine Skar located both suspects approximately two miles away and hiding in an outbuilding. The extraordinary tracking skills of Canine Skar were able to link the suspects that ran from the stolen vehicle. This also led to further charges and recovered property from multiple burglaries.

6. Princeton Police Department Canine Skar was called to assist with a disturbance involving a shotgun. Suspects tried to hide the shotgun in the woods. Canine Skar was used for an article search and located the shotgun. The suspects were arrested for 2nd degree assault and robbery. These suspects would not have been arrested without the use of Canine Skar.

7. Princeton Police Department responded to a trespass complaint at a department store in Princeton. The male was known to staff at the department store and had run on foot from store. The male had several outstanding warrants and was wanted by St Cloud PD for a motor vehicle pursuit. Canine Skar was utilized to track the suspect. The suspect was found in the swamp approximately a mile and a half away from store by Canine Skar. The suspect wouldn’t comply and Canine Skar was forced to appre-
hend him. The male was arrested on his warrants along with new charges of theft, 5th degree-controlled substance and obstructing.

Whitcomb asked what the standard length of service is for a K9 Officer. Cederberg stated they usually start looking at retirement around 7 years old. He added that riding around in the back of a squad every night is hard on the dog.

Whitcomb stated he is in favor of getting on the list for a dog.

EDMONDS MOVED TO GET ON THE LIST FOR A NEW K9 OFFICER. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION.

Zimmer added that it takes a very special person to be a dog handler, and thanked Cederberg for all his hard work and dedication.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

CGMC – Elizabeth Wefel

Wefel reported on what the CGMC has been working on, and their strategy and goals. They would like to continue working on water and wastewater infrastructure, LGA, City Street Funding, and the child care shortage.

Zimmer asked how the city could get the small cities street funds. Barbian responded that it is for cities under 5000 and believes we may have received approximately $50,000.

Zimmer questioned if the city would qualify for the wastewater funds, on the Smith Systems road project. Wefel replied that it is usually for Capital projects, like new plants.

Rotary Request

Karen Michels presented the Council with a flag and book from the Moving wall event.

Michels advised that she recently became the Rotary president. Part of the mission of the Rotary is to serve their community. In an effort to pursue this quest, the local Princeton members are proposing to work with the City of Princeton to construct a handicap accessible fishing pier in Riverside Park.

The list of improvements being identified for Riverside Park is comprehensive. The addition of a handicap accessible fishing pier would be a destination for visitors and community members alike, to experience the Rum River and visit our Downtown.

The city’s endorsement and support of this proposed project by the Rotary Club of Princeton allows the Rotary Club to lock-in the grant dollars that are available through the District Office of the Rotary Club of Princeton. The Districts funds along with the Club’s match would provide $6000 for this project. The Club is requesting the city of Princeton designate $2500 towards this project.
Barbian added that they would also work with the DNR to determine if there are some additional grant money available.

Zimmer asked if there are funds set aside for this. Jackson said the franchise fees could cover this, park dedication, CIP or Liquor Store funds. If the Council just wants to make the commitment, he can determine where to fund it from.

ZIMMER MOVED TO DESIGNATE $2,500 TOWARDS THE RIVERSIDE PARK FISHING PIER. REYNOLDS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Edmonds asked if there is a time frame for the project. Michels responded that they would like to see it completed by June of 2020. Barbian stated that he would like to have it done by the end of winter.

Frederick added that when the DNR was looking at repairing the boat launch, it was said that it was easier to work on it in the winter, so this may be a good winter project as well.

Zimmer stated that it may be good to use the franchise fees for this, so it will show residents that the franchise fees are being used for something other than trails.

THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Safety Day

Frederick reported that Public Safety Day is this Saturday and is hoping to see everyone there. Walmart has a Volunteer assistance program, so they are hoping to get a half dozen from Walmart to help them to help cook. This public safety day has been a success for several years.

8th Ave South Asphalt

Barbian reported that when Kwik Trip was working on their road, it was discovered that there is about 20 or 30 feet that was not repaved where 8th Ave South connects with Northland Drive. He spoke to Engineer Brotzler, and said it would be a good idea to have the Kwik Trip contractor do that section as well. The Estimate would be about $4000.

EDMONDS MOVED TO HAVE THE KWIK TRIP CONTRACTOR PAVE THE 20-30 FEET OF 8TH AVE SOUTH THAT WAS NOT DONE WHEN NORTHLAND DRIVE WAS REPAVED. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Resolution 18-42 – accept FAA Airport Grant

Barbian advised that this project is regarding the design of the runway, taxiway and lighting. The FAA Grant documents have been received. This is approval to sign and send it off.

EDMONDS MOVED TO HAVE THE KWIK TRIP CONTRACTOR PAVE THE 20-30 FEET OF 8TH AVE SOUTH THAT WAS NOT DONE WHEN NORTHLAND DRIVE WAS REPAVED. ZIMMER SECONDED THE MOTION. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.
2019 CIP and Preliminary Budget

Each Department went over their Capital Improvement Items, explaining the new items that have been added.

Resolution 18-43 – call for public hearing for Habitat Easement

Barbian reported that a public hearing needs to be held to create a utility and drainage easement on the Habitat for Humanity property.

Zimmer moved to approve Resolution 18-43 calling for a public hearing for September 27. Edmonds seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

Barbian reported that he is working on a Conservation Partnership Legacy grant program with WSB as they have a grant rider who has been successful with this program.

There is a Company in industrial park looking at an expansion, so he is exploring the option of a TIF District.

Lawrence advised that him and Barbian have been discussing the part time Chief. One township is concerned that they would have less say with the fire department. He is suggesting a Committee to work through the job description and hiring.

Edmonds asked where we were on the Community Development position. Barbian responded that he is waiting to hear back from one person that he is wanting to be part of the review and interview committee.

Adjournment

Zimmer moved to adjourn the study session at 7:02PM. Reynolds seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,

Shawna Jenkins
City Clerk

ATTEST:

Paul Whitcomb, Mayor