



BLACKDUCK PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

MONDAY APRIL 24TH, 2017 10:00AM

MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: The Blackduck Public Safety Committee met in a scheduled meeting at City Hall at 10:00 a.m. on April 24th, 2017.

Roll Call

Councilors present: Mayor Patch

Staff Present: City Administrator, Christina Regas, Police Chief Jace Grangruth, Public Works Supervisor Bob Klug

Others Present: Ray Guthrie Owner/Operator Te Pee Tonka Resort, and Randy Noderman

Topics covered in the meeting were as follows:

1. DEDICATED ATV ROUTE THROUGH BLACKDUCK –

- a. Ray Guthrie requested a meeting with members of the Blackduck Public Safety Committee to discuss the need for a dedicated ATV Route through the City of Blackduck. After introductions, Regas allowed Guthrie the opportunity to discuss the needs of the ATV club that he is forming in the Blackduck area.
 - i. Old Railroad Grade – Guthrie commented that the railroad grade has not been designated as an ATV trail. The ATV club that is being formulated will take over the maintenance of the trail from Funkley to County Road 20. At which point they will work with the DNR to make it a designated route for ATV's. Guthrie reported that making it a designated trail will help with the enforcement of the trail.
 - ii. Trestle Damage – Guthrie reported that there is a need for an alternate route for ATV travel to connect the railroad grade now that the Trestle has been damaged. With the current restrictions in the City Ordinance for north South bound travel only in alleyways there is no way to reroute travel to the trestle. There is a need for a temporary trail. Guthrie stated if someone from Blackduck could attend a DNR meeting for the use of the trail with the club, then the level of importance of the Trail is higher than if it is used for single use.
 1. Mayor Patch asked if the ATV club has a route picked out. Guthrie stated that the ATV's can come out on Cedar Ave. and then travel along Railroad Ave. to get back onto the trail system. Noderman stated it would be nice if the ATV's had a way to access local businesses in town so that they could get fuel, and food or beverages. Chief Grangruth suggested bypassing the existing railroad grade and enter the City from the Scenic Hwy. Mayor Patch asked if there is enough shoulder for the ATV's to ride on. Klug stated there is on CSH 47, but not the Scenic CSH 39.
 2. Klug stated that entering Cedar Ave. from the railroad grade is fine as the entry point. The property on Cedar is owned by MnDot. Patch asked if the route to the north from Cedar Ave. prior to entering Main Street is a City street. Klug stated it is a City alleyway. Then travelers can connect to Railroad Ave. and reconnect the railroad grade.



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3. Speed Limit in City – Grangruth stated he would like to make sure the speed limit is controlled. Guthrie stated that when the signs go up on the designated route then it will be easier to enforce.
- iii. Route from the West – Noterman stated that Guthrie has started a new business at his resort and would like to have a route for the ATV's to enter Blackduck. Regas asked what is allowed on CSH 30. Patch stated that without a designated route normal regulations apply. Guthrie would like to have the travelers enter a controlled intersection so the ditch doesn't get ripped up. The important thing is to get the side-by-sides and the 4 wheelers and 3 wheelers on the same page with road access with Beltrami County.
- iv. Entering Wayside Rest Park – Mayor Patch asked Klug if ATV's entering Wayside Rest Park is an issue from Frontage Road. Klug stated if there is something going on, yes. Entering the Park to use the restrooms isn't an issue, but a trail designated through would be.
- v. County Approval – Grangruth stated if the County regulations change then the ATV's can go anywhere.
- vi. Trailheads – DNR Parks & Trails wanted to know if there is a trail head in the City. Regas reported that the City has possession of a parcel along 3rd St. SE that they wish to use as a trailhead for snowmobiling. Regas stated that the parcel will not work well as it is wetland and very low. Other parcels were suggested as a parcel for a trailhead for both ATV's & Sleds. The end suggestion was a parcel on 4th Street SE across from the bulk plant.
- vii. ATV Restrictions in City – Klug commented that he doesn't see any issues with ATV's and 4-wheelers on the road in the City. Mayor Patch agreed. Noterman stated that having an established ATV club will assist in making it easier for safe travel.
- viii. Making the City of Blackduck ATV Friendly – Mayor Patch stated that he sees no reason why the City can't be ATV Friendly. Grangruth agreed if the drivers are safe then he doesn't care either. Klug stated there is a speed limit that can assist in the enforcement. Klug asked what is wrong with using Summit into town and then connecting Railroad Ave. going East. Regas stated that if the City of Blackduck wants to be ATV friendly and can go anywhere in the City, then perhaps the County will follow suit. Regas stated that all the City would need to do is take public comment regarding changing the Ordinance. There are some restrictions in the Ordinance that would need to remain, like the operational hours.
- b. Process for Changes – Regas recommended the council meet on the revision of the Ordinance and hold a Public Hearing to take Public Comment on the revisions. The ATV club is meeting with Dave Shotsco from the DNR on May 1st, 2017 at Hillcrest at 7pm. Then the City could have a public meeting to decide if the Ordinance can be revised.
- c. Directing Tourists – Guthrie wants to know which way the City wants them to go now. Grangruth says use Railroad and Frontage and Cedar Ave. so they can get back on the railroad grade. Klug stated that the ATV club would be noting the route on a trail map they would create for the tourists and the club would be marking the trail with signs.



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- d. Signing Details – The group shared many ideas for placement of signs and types of signs. Many of the existing obstacles will get changed when the conversations begin with the County and the State.
- 2. ADJOURN** – Council adjourned their work session at 11:05am.

Christina Regas, City Administrator

Rudy Patch, Mayor