

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Mayor David called the regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Watertown to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 7, 2014, in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following members present: Alderpersons McFarland, Smith, Berg, Larsen, Zgonc, Coughlin, Tietz, Maron and Romlein. (9) Absent: None (0). Also present were Fire Chief Greg Michalek, Police Chief Tim Roets, City Engineer Jaynellen Holloway, City Attorney Will Gruber and City Clerk/Treasurer Cindy Rupprecht.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag.

MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

Mayor David inquired if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, September 16, 2014. There being none, the minutes were approved as presented.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Barry Baumann, 1303 S. Ninth Street, was present to discuss dip netting from the Milwaukee Street Bridge. Barry reminded the Council that this has been allowed for more than 100 years. This area of the bridge, about 20 feet in length is the only viable area in the City which allows this. He understands that there may be damage to the bridge, but he recommends that mechanical pulling devices, which have been damaging the bridge be prohibited and that signs about regulations and permits be erected so that those dip netting know the rules.

Brad Blanke, 114 N. Tenth Street, who is a citizen member on the Park, Recreation & Forestry Commission, was present also to speak regarding dip netting. He informed the Council that the Rock River Rescue group originally was in favor of keeping the dip netting going, however; they now have no objection to prohibiting this, as they see that the rules are not being followed or respected.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee, September 17, 2014. 1. Joint meeting with the Transit Commission to discuss 2015 Budget and Capital purchases. Transit Manager Pat McGinty explained the ridership and projected costs for 2015. The Transit Commission previously recommended at an August meeting that a \$0.25 across the board increase, with the exception of a child traveling with an adult, be put into place. He explained the rate increase, the first in six years, is needed to reduce the amount of the City or local share required to operate the system. After discussion by both Committees, it was recommended to increase the fares as soon as possible in 2014 to help keep the City share down for the remainder of this year. The Transit Budget is also calling for the purchase of two mini-vans, which are replacement vehicles. Resolutions will be presented on the entire Taxi Services and Contracts. 2. Review the crop land bids. Two bids were received. The first was for \$201.00 per acre, totaling \$11,457.00 over three years. The second bid was \$175.00 per acre, plus a \$1,500.00 bonus, which comes out to \$12,000.00 over three years, with the entire payment being made by December 31, 2014. This bid was made by Rosy Lane Farms. A resolution will be presented recommending Rosy Lane Farms for the crop land lease. 3. Discuss 2015 Budgets. The Mayor handed out the Budgets. A schedule was worked out for the Committee to work on the Budgets, with the first meeting being on September 22, 2014. Another meeting will be held on September 29, 2014 and a third on October 6, 2014. 4. Closed Session per Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(c) to discuss performance evaluations and personnel issues. Motion was made and seconded to go into closed session. Following the review of performance evaluations, a motion was made and seconded to return to open

session, where Alderperson Tietz moved to approve the performance evaluations, which passed unanimously. The report was received and placed on file.

Finance Committee, September 22, 2014. 1. Mayor David discussed the summary of the Budget. He went through every department in the city explaining how he reached the decisions he did and the items that he cut. Department Heads then were invited to come in and discuss each of their individual departments. Present to speak were Police Chief Roets, Interim Park & Rec. Director Cindi Braasch, City Engineer Jaynellen Holloway, Library Director Peg Checkai, Water Systems Manager Kevin Freber, Street Superintendent Rick Schultz and Cable TV Coordinator Jill Nadeau. Following the presentations by Department Heads, the Committee then discussed several of the items that were brought up during discussions with the Department Heads. These will be discussed at the next meeting. The report was received and placed on file.

Finance Committee, September 29, 2014. 1. Closed Session per Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(c) to discuss personnel issues. Before moving to go into closed session Mayor David informed the Committee that he had appointed Alderperson Smith to be the Chairman during the Budget deliberations, per our City Ordinance. Motion was then made to go into closed session and carried on a roll call vote. Following discussion in closed session, a motion was made and seconded to reconvene to open session. 2. 2015 Budget discussions. Fire Chief Michalek was present to discuss his budget. Following his presentation the Committee then made general discussions regarding the budget. The general consensus of the Committee was that an effort should be made to try and fund the position being requested by City Engineer Holloway, which would be split between Engineering and Building, Safety and Zoning. The result of adding this position could save on outside engineering and survey fees that we are currently paying. As a way to do this, Chairperson Smith was recommending that the Branding Initiative be cut by approximately \$20,000.00. Chairman Smith also noted the increase in the library was about 7.75%, where all other departments were coming in at around 3%. His recommendation was to cut approximately \$32,000.00 of their request. The Committee also reviewed the Capital Budget and would like to look at Reserve Accounts to see if there is any additional money that could be available for street work. All members would review the budget and come up with any additional thoughts or cuts at the next meeting. The report was received and placed on file.

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

Mayor David presented a communication from Statewide Services recommending the denial of a claim from Ashley Rollert, 604 N. Votech Drive. Alderperson Smith moved for the disallowance of this claim, seconded by Alderperson Tietz and carried on a voice vote.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Certified accounts in the amount of \$576,643.70 were presented for payment. Alderperson Romlein moved to pay all certified accounts, seconded by Alderperson Maron and carried on a roll call vote: Yes – 9. No – 0.. (Complete listing of accounts payable is on file and open for public inspection in the office of the City Clerk/Treasurer.)

REPORTS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

The following reports were presented: Community Development Authority – August 21, 2014. Family Center Board – August 23, 2014. Payroll Summaries – Sept. 3-16 & Sept. 17-30, 2014. Reserve Balances – September 30, 2014. Transit Commission – September 17, 2014. Zoning Board of Appeals – September 16, 2014. All reports were accepted as printed.

ORDINANCES

Ord. #14-24, to amend Section 2.02(4) of Chapter 2, Length of Service for Appointments to Committees.

Sponsor: Mayor David. From: The Finance Committee. Alderperson Smith moved for the adoption of this ordinance on its second reading, seconded by Alderperson Berg and carried on a roll call vote: Yes – Smith, Berg, Larsen, Zgonc, Coughlin, Tietz, Maron and Romlein (8). No – McFarland (1).

Ord. #14-25, to amend Section 8.085(2), Dip Netting from Bridges Prohibited was presented. *Sponsor: Alderperson Tietz. From: The Park, Recreation & Forestry Commission.* Alderperson Tietz moved for the adoption of this ordinance on its first reading, seconded by Alderperson Zgonc. Alderperson Smith then made a motion to recommend that this ordinance be referred to a standing Committee, Public Safety & Welfare Committee, seconded by Alderperson Romlein. After discussion regarding whether this should be reviewed by Public Safety or Public Works, Alderperson Smith then moved to amend the recommendation to refer this ordinance from Public Safety to the Public Works Commission, seconded by Alderperson Romlein. This amended motion to refer carried on a roll call vote: Yes – McFarland, Smith, Berg, Larsen, Zgonc, Coughlin, Maron and Romlein (8). No – Tietz (1). The motion to refer also carried on a roll call vote: Yes – McFarland, Smith, Berg, Larsen, Zgonc, Coughlin, Maron and Romlein (8). No – Tietz (1).

RESOLUTIONS

Exhibit #8084, to increase taxi rates. *Sponsor: Mayor David. From: The Finance Committee.*

Exhibit #8085, to enter into the 2015 Taxi Operating Grant. *Sponsor: Mayor David. From: The Finance Committee.*

Exhibit #8086, to enter into a contract with PTI. *Sponsor: Mayor David. From: The Finance Committee.*

Exhibit #8087, for the 2015 Taxi Lease. *Sponsor: Mayor David. From: The Finance Committee.*

Exhibit #8088, the Taxi Capital Grant Application. *Sponsor: Mayor David. From: The Finance Committee.* All five of these resolutions were all presented. Alderperson Coughlin moved for the adoption of all of these resolutions, seconded by Alderperson Smith and carried on a roll call vote. Yes – 9. No – 0.

Exhibit #8089, to enter into a lease agreement for 19 acres of crop land located near the Airport with Rosy Lane Holsteins, LLC. in the amount of \$12,000.00 for three years, payable by December 31, 2014 was presented. *Sponsor: Mayor David. From: The Finance Committee.* Alderperson Romlein moved for the adoption of this resolution, seconded by Alderperson Tietz and carried on a roll call vote: Yes – 9. No – 0.

Exhibit #8090, to request exemption from Library Tax from Dodge County. *Sponsor: Mayor David.*

Exhibit #8091, to request exemption from Library Tax from Jefferson County, *Sponsor: Mayor David.* Alderperson Zgonc moved for the adoption of these two resolutions, seconded by Alderperson Smith. Alderperson Smith moved to amend the dollar amount in the resolutions to \$707,092.00 to reflect the latest appropriation being made by the Finance Committee. This was seconded by Alderperson Maron and carried on a voice vote. The motion for the adoption of these resolutions carried on a voice vote.

Exhibit #8092, to enter into an EMS Agreement with the Village of Reeseville was presented. *Sponsor: Mayor David. From: The Finance Committee.* Alderperson Coughlin moved for the adoption of this resolution, seconded by Alderperson Zgonc and carried on a roll call vote: Yes – 9. No – 0.

Exhibit #8093, to amend our BESTflex Plan Eligibility Requirements was presented. *Sponsor: Mayor David.* Alderperson Smith moved for the adoption of this resolution, seconded by Alderperson Berg and carried on a roll call vote: Yes – 9. No – 0.

Exhibit #8094, to authorize the submission of a grant to American Transmission Company. *Sponsor: Mayor David. From: The Finance Committee.*

Exhibit #8095, to authorize the submission of a grant to the Wisconsin DNR Urban Forestry Grant Program. *Sponsor: Mayor David. From: The Finance Committee.* Both resolutions were presented. Alderperson Tietz moved for the adoption of these two resolutions, seconded by Alderperson Romlein and carried on a roll call vote: Yes – 9. No – 0.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Barry Baumann, 1303 S. Ninth Street, again addressed the Council, thanking them for referring this back to Committee and not just pushing the prohibition through. He also commented that allowing dip netting with permits will need enforcement by the Police Department.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Alderperson Coughlin moved to adjourn, seconded by Alderperson Larsen and carried on a voice vote. The time being 7:48 p.m.

Cynthia D. Rupprecht

City Clerk/Treasurer

CDR/dn

(Complete video of Council Proceedings on DVD.)

(DISCLAIMER: These minutes are uncorrected and any corrections made thereto will be noted in the proceedings at which these minutes are approved.)