

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

Mayor McFarland called the regular meeting of the City of Watertown Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, October 1, 2019, in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

ROLL CALL

Roll call showed the following members present: Ald. Mudler, Tortomasi, Ruetten, Larsen, Holthaus, Raether, Maron and Kilps. Absent: Schmid. Also present: Police Chief Robert Kaminski, Fire Chief Kraig Biefeld, Engineer Jaynellen Holloway, City Attorney Rose Simon-Silva, Zoning Administrator Jacob Maas, and Clerk/Treasurer Elissa Friedl.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING

Mayor McFarland inquired if there were additions or corrections to the minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, September 17, 2019. There being none, the minutes were approved as presented.

COMMENTS & SUGGESTIONS FROM CITIZENS PRESENT

Amber Smith, 709 Emmet Street, representing the Main Street Program, was present to speak regarding Special Event Permits. She stated she understands the need for security for events but would like to see a cap on the fees charged to events for this and inquired whether there are different avenues such as hiring their own security instead of having Police staff. Smith stated the community needs/wants more events and would like to close Main Street like other cities do. She feels the special event approval process is exhausting and would like to hear more ideas on how to make things work. She asked that the Council consider her comments as they consider fees in terms of advocating for downtown revitalization.

Ina Trummer, 807 Fieldcrest Court, was present to discuss the proposed tax increase. She stated the City should stop subsidizing the Cable TV station and the taxi service and that other social programs should be cut and run by volunteers, not employees. She stated that since 2009 her taxes have risen 29% and that the water bill is continuously increasing. She opined that Mayor and Alderperson salaries are too high. She stated she has never had more than a 2% increase in Social Security, but property taxes increase by 4% or more. Trummer added she feels the Council should start balancing the budget and stop putting the City further in debt. She said the School Board referendum said there would be a zero increase but it was misrepresented. She lamented that she can't do anything about it alone and no one shows up at Council Meetings to say anything. Trummer also stated she doesn't agree with all the liquor licenses issued in the City to businesses whose primary business is not selling liquor. She suggested the Mayor and Council make this City something they can be proud of, giving examples like Cedarburg, West Bend and Menomonee Falls. She asked that the City quit giving money to developers, stating that we do not need any more apartments. In conclusion, Trummer offered praise for the work of the Police and Fire Departments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee, September 23, 2019. Minutes of September 9, 2019. Motion carried to approve. Request to hire Water Utility Technician Phillip Braunschweig at Grade F, Step 3, \$19.70 per hour and offer to additional candidates if necessary. Motion carried to approve this hire. MSA's quote for Retaining Wall Inspection and Repair Concept for the SE Quadrant Riverwalk, south of E. Main Street. This was the only quote received. Motion carried to approve this quote. Hiring Jacob Mueller for solid waste position at Grade D, Step 2, \$16.89 per hour and offer to additional candidates if necessary. Motion carried to approve this hire. Request for compression adjustment for Zoning Administrator/Grant Writer Jacob Maas to Grade M, Step 6, \$32.66 per hour. Motion carried to approve this adjustment

effective September 23, 2019. Credit card purchases over \$10,000. Information only, no action. Request to un-restrict remaining funds in Flooding 2018 Acct. #05-58-11-01. Motion carried to deny un-restricting these funds at this time. Mayor's initial presentation of 2020 Budget. Mayor McFarland pointed out various items in the budget that support the goals of providing a safe and progressive environment for residents and employees. She reminded the Finance Committee of upcoming meetings from October 2-9 to hear presentations by Department Heads regarding specific sections of the budget and encouraged them to contact Department Heads in advance with questions. Report received and placed on file.

Plan Commission, September 23, 2019. Site Plan Review minutes of September 9, 2019. Motion carried to approve. Plan Commission minutes of September 9, 2019. Motion carried to approve. 104/106 S. Maple Street, public hearing for CUP request for garage, exception to maximum height regulations. Owner wants to construct a garage with a height of 20 feet 0.5 inches. There being no one present to speak, the hearing closed. 104/106 S. Maple Street, CUP request for a garage. Motion carried to approve the CUP with height restriction of 20 feet 0.5 inches maximum. 800 N. Church Street, CUP, public hearing for Group Development. Owner is looking to create a group development. It is currently zoned General Business (GB). There being no one else wishing to speak, the hearing was closed. 800 N. Church Street, CUP, request Group Development. Motion carried to approve the CUP with conditions that it meets Fire code compliance, storm water compliance, and obtain a dumpster permit if required. N9349 Horseshoe Road, Extraterritorial CSM. Owners are looking to create a 1.11-acre lot and an 8.33 acre outlot from a 35.02-acre parent parcel. Motion carried to approve preliminary CSM with the condition that they maintain right-of-way designation, 33 ft. from road center line on CSM. Preliminary review and set public hearing date, Amend Section 550-57B: Temporary Land Use, Outdoor Assembly. This comes after discussion of Ordinance #19-20, Special Event License. The Zoning & Floodplain Administrator has made the determination that Chapter 550 should not be involved in Special Events. Motion carried to set a public hearing date of October 15, 2019. Report received and placed on file.

COMMUNICATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Mayor McFarland and Fire Chief Kraig Biefeld presented Public Safety Heroic Citizen Awards to Ryan Kuehl, Jessica Kuehl, Dennis Fiedler and Jason Graef for their actions on July 27, 2019 when they were the first to arrive on the scene of a fire and took action to notify occupants, rescue property and help keep the fire under control until help arrived.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Certified accounts in the amount of \$643,401.01 were presented. Ald. Kilps moved to pay all certified accounts, seconded by Ald. Larsen and carried by roll call vote: Yes-7; No-0; Abstain-Ruetten. (Complete listing of accounts payable is open for public inspection in City Clerk/Treasurer's office.)

REPORTS AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Reports presented: Cable TV Regulatory Board-Sept. 10, 2019; Employee Advisory Committee-July 9, 2019; Health Board-Aug. 22, 2019; Main Street Program-Aug. 21, 2019; Parks, Recreation & Forestry Commission-Sept. 9, 2019; Payroll Summary-Sept. 11-24, 2019; Redevelopment Authority-Sept. 18, 2019; and Site Plan Review Committee-Sept. 23, 2019. Ald. Tortomasi questioned item #11 of the RDA minutes. He felt it should say RDA will wait until a contractor is chosen and decide what to do with materials. Mayor McFarland agreed to follow-up with Kristen Fish on this matter; all other reports were accepted as presented.

ORDINANCES

Ord. #19-20, to repeal and amend Article II, Section 428-7 thru 428-10 "Special Events License" of Chapter 428, "Public Events" was presented. *Sponsor: Mayor McFarland. From: Licensing Board.* Ald. Raether moved for adoption

of this ordinance on its second reading, seconded by Ald. Maron. Following discussion revolving around the insurance requirements for special events and the fee structure for reimbursement of City services, motion was made by Ald. Tortomasi, seconded by Ald. Larsen to refer this back to Licensing Board and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0.

Ord. #19-21, to amend a portion of Section 500-3C, "Traffic Stop Signs Shall Be Placed At The Following Locations", southwest corner of Evergreen Drive, Evergreen Drive shall stop for Welsh Road was presented. *Sponsor: Ald. Raether. From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee.* Ald. Raether moved for adoption of this ordinance on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Mudler and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0.

Ord. #19-22, to repeal Section 500-6(B)(2), "Parking Limitations", two spaces on N. Tenth Street was presented. *Sponsor: Ald. Raether. From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee.* Ald. Mudler moved for adoption of this ordinance on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Ruetten and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0.

Ord. #19-23, to create section 500-6(B)(2), "Parking Limitations", two spaces on N. Ninth Street was presented. *Sponsor: Ald. Raether. From: Public Safety & Welfare Committee.* Ald. Raether moved for adoption of this ordinance on its first reading, seconded by Ald. Maron and carried by roll call vote: Yes-8; No-0.

RESOLUTIONS

Res. Exh. #8876, to adopt the Department of Health Services-Division of Public Health Consolidated Contract: Communicable Disease & Prevention Public Health Emergency Preparedness was presented. *Sponsor: Mayor McFarland.* Ald. Raether moved for adoption, seconded by Ald. Maron and carried by roll call vote; Yes-8; No-0.

Res. Exh. #8877, to request exemption from Dodge County Library tax was presented. *Sponsor: Mayor McFarland.* Ald. Larsen moved for adoption, seconded by Ald. Tortomasi and carried by voice vote.

Res. Exh. #8878, to request exemption from Jefferson County Library tax was presented. *Sponsor: Mayor McFarland.* Ald. Maron moved for adoption, seconded by Ald. Raether and carried by voice vote.

Res. Exh. #8879, to authorize issuance of taxicab license(s) to Fast Ride LLC was presented. *Sponsor: Mayor McFarland. From: Licensing Board.* Ald. Raether questioned if the company had gotten more insurance. Mayor McFarland informed the Council that she had spoken to the applicant and was waiting on that. Ald. Tortomasi expressed concern over subsidizing a taxi service with a lot of complaints. Ald. Raether noted the City's service is a shared ride service and Fast Ride has higher prices. Raether reported ridership is up and complaints are down. Mayor McFarland explained the City's taxi service is not subsidized but intended to be a three-part funding mechanism of federal, state and local dollars. Ald. Ruetten said several people attended Licensing Board to attest to the new service being needed. Ald. Larsen talked about it being our public transportation, explaining that our buses went away, which were always subsidized by the government. Larsen moved for adoption, seconded by Ald. Holthaus and carried by voice vote.

Closed Session per Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(g), to discuss confidential settlement regarding ongoing litigation in Lenius vs. the City of Watertown (213-215 W. Main Street). Motion was made by Ald. Kilps, seconded by Ald. Raether to move into closed session and carried by roll call vote; Yes-8; No-0 at 7:59 p.m.

Reconvene to open session. Motion was made by Ald. Kilps, seconded by Ald. Maron and carried by voice vote, the time being 8:23 p.m.

Decision regarding Lenius vs. the City of Watertown (213-215 W. Main Street). In open session, motion was made by Ald. Kilps, seconded by Ald. Raether to approve the settlement agreement and release between Dean Lenius and the City of Watertown regarding property located at 213-215 W. Main Street. Motion carried by roll call vote; Yes-8; No-0.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council at this time, Ald. Kilps moved to adjourn, seconded by Ald. Maron and carried by voice vote at 8:25 p.m.

Elissa Friedl, Clerk/Treasurer

(Complete video of Council Proceedings on DVD.)

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