

PLATTEVILLE COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
FEBRUARY 25, 2014

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Platteville was called to order by President Nickels at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

ROLL CALL

Present: Patrice Steiner, Mike Denn, Barbara Daus, Barb Stockhausen, Dick Bonin, Ken Kilian, and Eileen Nickels. Absent: None.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Aldersperson Steiner asked that item A. Council Minutes from the 2/11/14 meeting be pulled for separate action. Motion by Steiner, second by Nickels to approve the remaining items on the consent calendar as follows: Payment of Bills in the amount of \$7,549,153.68; Appointments to Boards & Commissions of which Lauren Furrer is appointed to the Community Development Board and Harold (Hap) Daus to the Parks, Forestry, and Recreation Committee; Extend Liquor License Premises to Parking Lot on March 8 from 11 a.m. to Midnight for Nick's at 74 ½ N Second Street; Two-year Operator License to Breana J Dieter, Jessica T Fuschino, Tricia L Gibson, Ambrose J Ingram, Marissa A Keating, Brandon J Roesch, and Shawn W Timmerman; Permit for Walk for National Multiple Sclerosis Society – WI Chapter (1 mile/3 mile) for April 27; and Banner for American Cancer Society Relay for Life for April 14-28. Motion carried 7-0 on roll call vote.

Aldersperson Steiner stated her comment on the council packet delivery was incorrect. Her comment was she feels giving staff an extra day to prepare packets would help city staff not feel so rushed. Therefore, Aldersperson Steiner is proposing that packets be delivered on Thursday afternoon rather than Wednesday afternoon. Motion by Steiner, second by Daus to approve the February 11, 2014, minutes as amended. Motion carried 7-0 on roll call vote.

City Manager Bierke introduced Ryan Simmons, the new Platteville Fire Chief, at this time. Mr. Simmons has been with the Fire Department since 2001 and has been the Assistant Chief for the last four years. Mr. Simmons commented he will strive to continue to move forward to protect the City and make appropriate changes to keep up with the 21st Century visions.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS, OBSERVATIONS AND PETITIONS

Bill Richard, 30972 Cty XX, Platteville, spoke on the advantages of a Community Center. He felt Platteville should have a central location for people of all ages, i.e. seniors to have their meals and be able to interact with persons of all ages, a location for teens to congregate, and a place for youngsters to get together. He talked to the Superintendent of Schools and OE Gray School was suggested as a good location.

Arlene Siss, 130 N Hickory St., spoke on this year's Historic Expo. The date this year is March 7 & 8. On March 7th, a fabulous meal will be served at the Trinity Episcopal Church at 6:00 p.m. at \$15 a plate ahead of time or \$20 at the door. Speaker Kent Scheuerell will be speaking on the history of Platteville and Grant County at Cunningham Hall at 7:00 p.m. On March 8th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Local vendors will be available to speak on historic/older homes, etc. This event will be held in the Council Chambers. There will also be an after hours event at the Badger Bar from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. of which owner, Diane Clark, will give a presentation on the history of the bar. Mark Speltz will be a guest speaker. There is no fee.

REPORTS

- A. Committee Reports – Meeting reports were submitted by the Airport Commission, Community Safe Routes Committee, Historic Preservation Commission, and Water & Sewer Commission.
- B. Other Reports – Other reports were submitted by the Building Inspector and Department Progress Reports. Alderperson Steiner asked Luke Peters, Recreation Coordinator, for further information on the extra shelving units being removed from the Auditorium. Recreation Coordinator Peters explained these shelves were previously used for storage and since items stored here were removed to other external facilities, these shelves were being removed to be relocated where they would be of more use. They had been stored in the Projector Booth.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. *Sidewalk Waiver: Culver's Restaurant – 375 E Business Hwy 151* – Community Development Director Joe Carroll explained this concerns a new commercial building. New construction, by Zoning Ordinance, requires installation of sidewalks along frontage of property if not already present. There are no current sidewalks on this side of the highway, however, there is sidewalk present on the other side of Highway 151 between Virgin Avenue and Ellen Street. Since there are no connecting walks, this item may be waived. The Safe Routes Committee approved the waiver. The new construction plans will not impact the stormwater management system. If sidewalks are not required to be installed as part of the project, the City maintains the right to construct sidewalks at a future date and assess the owner(s) of the adjacent land for the costs. Mike Penn, 220 Ellen St, stated he was agreeable to this project with the conditions of the sidewalk. Alderperson Stockhausen questioned the break in the lot line between Heisers, the strip mall and this property. Bruce Kroll, Culver's representative, stated the property is all owned by Tom Heiser. However, if sidewalk installation is required in the future, Culver's would be willing to work with Mr. Heiser on this. Motion by Denn, second by Steiner to approve the project with the sidewalk waiver. Motion carried 7-0 on roll call vote.
- B. *Ordinance to Adopt WI Statutes Regarding Unlawful Use of Computerized Communication Systems and Harassment* – Police Chief Doug McKinley explained the City needs to adopt WI State Statute 947.0125 Unlawful use of Computerized Communication Systems and 947.013 Harassment in order to have the ability to cite individuals cited with these offenses. Motion by Daus, second by Denn to adopt WI State Statute 947.0125 Unlawful Use of Computerized Communication Systems and 947.013 Harassment as presented. Motion carried 7-0 on roll call vote.
- C. *City Attorney Contract* – City Manager Bierke explained the current City Attorney contract expires April, 2014. The new contract will essentially be the same except for an increase in hourly wages from \$125/hr to \$150/hr. Motion by Steiner, second by Kilian to approve the new contract for Attorney McGraw as presented. Motion carried 7-0 on roll call vote.
- D. *City of Platteville Parks Endowment Fund – Beining Trust* – Luke Peters, Recreation Coordinator, explained this is a recommendation establishing the Legion Park Endowment Fund through the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, Inc. including an initial transfer of \$2,500 from the Platteville Baseball Sign Trust into the Fund. As revenue is collected from the outfield advertisements and batting cages, 50% of the proceeds will be transferred into the Fund. Billing for signs will be done by the City. Motion by Kilian, second by Stockhausen to approve the Parks Endowment Fund. Motion carried 6-0 on roll call vote with Alderperson Daus abstaining.

- E. *City Hall Task Force Plan Recommendation* - City Manager Bierke explained this recommendation is to approve the Task Force recommendation for improvements to the City Hall building. The City will hire an architectural firm to develop building plans for State approval. Motion by Denn, second by Steiner to accept the Task Force recommendation for improvements to City Hall and thank the Task Force for all their hard work. Motion carried 6-1 on roll call vote with Stockhausen voting no.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

- A. *PCA – Moving Platteville Outdoors Project* – Mike Penn of 220 Ellen St, Angie and Kris Wright of 910 Siemers St spoke on behalf of this project. Their comments concerned: \$50,000 match by City, municipality must submit grant to pave and light complete trail, trail would go from Chestnut Street bridge to just behind Menards, no motorized vehicles would be allowed, ATV's likely, snowmobilers would have access to bridge behind Culver's, trail placement as far as under/over current bridges, and Building Platteville would be the main organizer. Council concerns were: impact fee usage, types of vehicles, if any, allowed to use trail, show other commitments as they become available, multi-use on the trails has great impact, attract future bicycling events, and possible use of Room Tax revenue in future. This would have a 1.2 million dollar budget. Action on this will take place at the March 11th meeting.
- B. *Purchase of 4.8 acre parcel from Jim and Doris Harms* – City Manager Bierke explained this is an offer to purchase 4.8 acres of land for the stormwater pond expansion to better serve the 39 acres of land recently purchased to expand the industrial park. Melissa Pahl, PAIDC Director, commented the land is land locked and an easement will allow access. Funds will come from TID #4. Staff recommends approval of purchase of land from Jim and Doris Harms for \$150,000 plus closing costs as budgeted out of TID #4. This will be on the March 11 agenda for approval.
- C. *Rental License Inspection Program, Ordinances and Fees* – Community Development Director Carroll explained licensing fees have been revised to better reflect the amount of time it takes to conduct inspections and to cover the cost of Staff time. The proposed fee schedule would be a more accurate accounting of time spent by all concerned. After further discussion, it was decided this item would come back to the March 11th meeting for action.
- D. *Parking Lot – 4th and Furnace* – City Manager Bierke explained on January 16th the City of Platteville purchased the parking lot on the corner of 4th St and Furnace St. A survey of City employees willing to utilize this lot for parking for work was negative. The Police Dept. showed interest in this lot as they need more employee parking spaces. It could be used for reserved parking for citizens, but we currently have lots with unused reserved spaces. It was suggested to lease half the lot and use the other half for employees/Police Dept. usage. This item will be on the March 11th agenda for action.
- E. *Zoning Code Amendments – Building Height and Set-back Requirements* – Director Carroll explained there is a conflict with design standards concerning building heights and setback regulations. The Downtown Revitalization Plan includes design standards and guidelines and recommends allowable building heights in the downtown area. Current recommendation for downtown height is a maximum height of 50 feet. Current setback requirements require the building to be a certain distance from the property line. The proposed changes will increase the maximum building height and reduce the minimum building setback requirements. The Fire Department is aware of these possible changes. This will be brought back to the next Council meeting.
- F. *Contract 2-14 Weed & Grass Mowing* – Public Works Director Crofoot explained this is to enforce the tall grass Ordinance. Grasspro Lawn Care LLC bid \$65/hour or \$75/ minimum for Base Bid #1 and \$35/hour or \$39 minimum Base Bid #2. Staff recommendation is for the above-mentioned prices. Feldman Lawn from Benton, WI bid \$40.00/hour or \$40/minimum for Base Bid #1 rural type areas and \$40/hour or \$40 minimum for Base Bid #2 isolated residential

lawns. There was discussion which bid should be awarded. Staff said that this past year there were no areas under Base Bid #1, thus we should award to GrassPro since their Base Bid #2 was slightly lower than Felderman.

- G. *Extended Taxi Service Hours for 2014* – Director Crofoot explained this is a housekeeping item. In September, 2013, Council approved expansion of hours for the Platteville Shared Ride Taxi on Thursday, Friday, & Saturday nights from September to December, 2013. These hours would be extended to 3 a.m. the following morning. During 2014 budget sessions, Staff proposed to include the funding for the extended hours. Staff is asking Council to vote on a motion to continue the extended hours throughout calendar year 2014. The Platteville Shared Ride Taxi is continuing the extended hours until Council action. Questions concerned the Shared Ride Taxi offering Sunday afternoon hours also.
- H. *Legion Park Endowment Fund* – Coordinator Peters explained this is a recommendation establishing the Legion Park Endowment Fund through the Community Foundation of Southern Wisconsin, Inc. including an initial transfer of \$2,500 from the Platteville Baseball Sign Trust into the Fund. As revenue is collected from the outfield advertisements and batting cages, 50% of the proceeds will be transferred into the Fund. Billing for the signs will be done by the City.
- I. *Beining Trust Donations to EMS* – City Manager Bierke explained a donation was received from the Beining Trust for the EMS. Brian Allen, EMS Director, would like to use a portion of this trust to purchase two Zoll Auto Pulse machines for the ambulances. This will be on the March 11th agenda.
- J. *Contract 1-14: Broadway Reconstruction* – Council, Department Heads, and interested citizens looked at the plans concerning the Broadway Street reconstruction. After much discussion, this item will be brought back to the March 11th meeting for action.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Stockhausen, second by Bonin to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0 on roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Lowery
Deputy City Clerk