

PLATTEVILLE COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
AUGUST 26, 2014

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Dick Bonin, Barbara Daus, Mike Denn, Ken Kilian, Council President Eileen Nickels, Amy Seeboth-Wilson, and Barbara Stockhausen. Absent: None.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Seeboth-Wilson asked to have separate action on the August 12 Regular Council Meeting Minutes. Motion by Kilian, second by Bonin to approve the consent calendar as follows: July 15 Special Council Meeting Minutes; Payment of Bills in the amount of \$413,550.72; "Class A" Combination Beer & Liquor License to Julie G Loeffelholz, Platteville, for premises at 110 W Main Street (Julie's Da Vine Wine & Stein); Temporary Class "B" Retailers License to serve fermented malt beverages to Platteville Jaycees for Platteville Dairy Days at Legion Park on September 5-7; One-Year Operator License to Karlie L Miller and Jonathan R Yogerst; Two-Year Operator License to Whitney M Wiederholt; and Banner Permits to UW-Platteville for October 1-12 and Platteville Elk's Lodge from September 8-17. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

Motion by Seeboth-Wilson, second by Denn to approve the August 12 Regular Council Meeting Minutes with the change of absent to excused for Seeboth-Wilson for roll call. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS, OBSERVATIONS AND PETITIONS, if any.

Ryan Hettinger of 1150 Fox Ridge Road commented on the success of his summer internship funded by PACCE (Pioneer Academic Center for Community Engagement), helping downtown businesses apply for energy savings by updating their lighting systems. He is working to facilitate having this program done every year.

Christina Curras, on behalf of UW-Platteville, provided an update on the tornado damage to campus. Over 400 residence hall rooms were damaged and all will be ready by move in Friday. Engineering Hall – most classrooms will be usable. Memorial Park – over a 1,000 trees were removed and portions of the trails are back open to the public, with violators ticketed if they are in restricted areas. Stadium lights are in the process of being installed and turf being removed – should be ready to go by September 8. They have tracked more than 12,000 staff hours towards the tornado recovery process.

Jason Klovning of 127 Pine Grove announced his interest in serving on the Airport Commission when a vacancy occurs.

REPORTS

- A. Committee Reports – Meeting reports were submitted by the Historic Preservation Commission, Library Board, Water & Sewer Commission, Freudenreich Committee, and Forestry, Parks and Recreation Committee.
- B. Other Reports
 - 1. Building Inspectors Report
 - 2. Department Progress Reports – Written progress reports of department operations and activities were submitted by the Library, Senior Center, EMS, Recreation, Community Planning & Development, Director of Administration, Public Works, City Manager, and City Attorney.
 - 3. December 31, 2013 Single Audit Report

ACTION

- A. *Contract 15-14 Street Repairs and Maintenance* – Motion by Kilian, second by Denn to award Contract 15-14 Street Repairs & Maintenance to Iverson Construction for the bid price of \$145,293 as presented. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.
- B. *Contract 9-14 TID #5 Bike Trail* – After discussion of the bids coming in considerably higher than what was budgeted for this project, it was moved by Denn, second by Bonin to reject all bids and rebid the WalMart Bike Trail project in the spring of 2015. Motion carried 6-1 with Stockhausen voting against.
- C. *Kallembach Housing Bids* – Motion by Daus, second by Denn to table action on the housing bids until the next meeting and appoint a small group consisting of two council members and three staff members to rank the bids in the meantime according to the point system listed in the request for proposal. Motion carried 6-1 on a roll call vote with Bonin voting against. The group will consist of Mike Denn, Amy Seeboth-Wilson, City Manager Larry Bierke, Community Planning & Development Director Joe Carroll, and City Attorney Brian McGraw.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

- A. *Public Transportation Hours and Schedule (Taxi and Shuttle)* – Public Works Director Howard Crofoot explained that the feasibility study findings show that it is feasible to combine two public transportation systems (Shared Ride Taxi service provided by the City and the Shuttle Bus service provided by the University) to improve public transportation in Platteville. Two scenarios were presented: 1) combine the two systems, keep the level of service the same as is right now and receive additional Federal and State tax funded subsidies to reduce the tax burden on City taxes and to reduce the amount of Student Fees necessary to support the system – estimated maximum savings could be just under \$91,000 to be allocated between the City and University; or 2) combine the two systems, keep the funding level by the City and University the same as 2014 and leverage this local funding to increase service levels for the combined system – allowing the shuttle bus to have additional stops that may be more convenient for City residents and allow the Shared Ride Taxi service to expand hours, especially for Sunday afternoon and evening. Or a combination of the two ideas could be adopted. Crofoot asked if the Council would be interested in including this topic on the same public hearing needed for the shared ride taxi program for 2015. It would include separate discussion and action to combine the two systems and/or make changes to the existing shared ride taxi service hours. Seeboth-Wilson indicated that she would be involved in discussion, but would recuse herself from any action on this topic due to her related employment at the University. It was the consensus of the Council to include the topic at the Shared Ride Taxi Service Public Hearing scheduled for the September 23, 2014 Council meeting.
- B. *EMS/Hospital Discussion* – President Nickels reviewed that there have been many EMS related discussions over the years, recognizing that EMS calls for service increase every year, a new building is needed, and an additional ambulance is needed. EMS Administration Brian Allen was asked to list some pros and cons of a city vs hospital based EMS, which was provided. Nickels stated that discussions with the local hospital CEO are at a point where the hospital would have to incur time and money to determine whether the hospital based EMS service would even be viable for both entities. He wanted to know if the full Council was in favor of continuing the discussion of possibly switching to a hospital based paramedic type of service. Council discussion included wanting to know what the pros and cons of losing the final say in EMS activities were; concern with having no control over fee schedules, escalating costs; whether the City wanted to go to a paramedic based service rather than stay at the current level; belief that EMS/health care is not the City's business anymore and to look to the local hospital to provide this service; and whether to offer to other outside entities or non-profits if the City does change the services. It was the consensus of the full Council to continue the hospital based EMS discussion with the local hospital.

- C. *Downtown Parking Time Restriction Ordinance* – Proposed ordinance is in response to a business owner request to extend the current 2 hour parking downtown to 3 hour parking and that the citation for violation be reduced from the current \$20. The concern was that some businesses require longer service to customers than 2 hours. Public Works Director Howard Crofoot presented an ordinance that would change 40 signs on streets in the downtown area to reflect 3 hour parking (using laminated stickers rather than replacing full signs), in addition to 7 additional signs in parking lots that currently designate 2 hour parking. Crofoot noted that the current 2 hour parking ordinance was a compromise designed to allow maximum use of prime parking spaces by customers during the day with appropriate turnover. Concerned that lengthening the time allowed to park and reducing the forfeiture could cause employees and tenants to take up valuable spaces that could be used by customers. Denn and Kilian stated it was a good idea to extend to 3 hours, but not to change the citation amount. Seeboth-Wilson pointed out that the reason most Main Streets have 2 hour parking limits is to prompt turnover – the longer you let people park, the less access there is to customers throughout the day. Action at the next meeting.
- D. *Downtown Parking Citation Change Ordinance* – It was the consensus of the Council to not pursue a business owner request to reduce downtown parking citations dollar amounts from \$20 to \$10.
- E. *Revenue Ideas Researched Information* – The revenue ideas presented to the Council will be discussed during the 2015 budget process. The City Manager proposed 2015 budget document will be delivered to the Council on September 23, with the first meeting (including Department Heads) to be held on Monday, October 6 at 5 PM.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Daus, second by Denn to adjourn to closed session per Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session – *Considering the Purchase of Downtown Properties* – and to come back into open session to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0 on a roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Kilian, second by Daus to adjourn. Motion carried 7-0 on roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Martin
City Clerk