

PLATTEVILLE COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
January 13, 2015

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: Barbara Daus, Mike Denn, Ken Kilian, Council President Eileen Nickels, Amy Seeboth-Wilson, and Barbara Stockhausen. Excused: Dick Bonin

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Kilian, second by Denn to approve the consent calendar as follows: December 22, 2015 Regular Council Meeting Minutes; Payment of Bills in the amount of \$6,897,683.10; December Financial Report; One-Year Operator License to Danielle F Nicks and Elizabeth T Reuter; Two-Year Operator License to Kayleigh M Brooks, Brittany M Schmitt, and Alexander G Schulte; and Resolution 15-01 Official Appointment of 2015 City Assessor. Motion carried 6-0 on a roll call vote.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS, OBSERVATIONS AND PETITIONS, if any.

Platteville Main Street Program Executive Director Jack Luedtke provided an update on the Main Street Program and distributed a progress visit summary report from the Wisconsin Main Street Program.

REPORTS

- A. Committee Reports – Meeting reports were submitted by the Water & Sewer Commission and Police & Fire Commission.
- B. Other Reports
 - 1) City Attorney – 2014 Itemized Statements
 - 2) Water & Sewer Financial Report
 - 3) Airport Financial Report
 - 4) Department Progress Reports – Written progress reports of department operations and activities were submitted by the Senior Center, City Attorney, Museum, Police, Public Works, EMS, Director of Administration, and Community Planning & Development.

ACTION

- A. *Intergovernmental Agreement for Taxi/Bus Service* – Amy Seeboth-Wilson excused herself from discussion and action on this agenda item due to a conflict of interest with her employment at UW-Platteville as the Sustainability Coordinator. Public Works Director Howard Crofoot incorporated comments from the last meeting into the proposed intergovernmental agreement between the City of Platteville and the University of Wisconsin-Platteville for a Platteville Transit System. He noted that the intent of the agreement was to outline duties and responsibilities and how costs were allocated. It assumes that the parties will continue the arrangement beyond the one year trial period and envisions a joint committee to make operational decisions between now and May with input from both organizations and final approvals by both. The agreement would also require UWP to pay a flat fee of \$12,000 in 2015 for administrative costs and public relations. Denn expressed concern with the wording of the agreement, tracking system, and how one-time/cash ridership would be handled. Crofoot clarified that the joint committee would make recommendations only. Final decisions still rest with the Council. Daus clarified that the operation of the bus would mirror the taxi service - the requirement that the tracking be done, but not the system and asked if the University agreed to provide tracking for the shuttle bus at no cost to the City? On behalf of the University, Sustainability Coordinator Amy Seeboth-Wilson responded that the University has not agreed and it would be up to the joint committee to discuss and make a recommendation. Crofoot also explained that if we don't use the tracking technology currently used by the University, Stratton Buses will need to do a manual tracking and that Russ Stratton was aware of that

requirement. More discussion about DOT tracking requirements and University tracking ensued. Citizen Rich Christensen of 10 S 3rd Street, expressed his concern with only one bid being submitted, the evaluation committee and SWWRPC, accused Seeboth-Wilson and Crofoot of misleading the Council, and suggested that the Council not approve the contract until they have all the information they need to make an informed decision. Stockhausen expressed concern about the abusive comments about a Council member and stated that attacking a member of the Council was not appropriate. Daus agreed and extended it also to staff members. City Manager Larry Bierke asked the Council if they would like him to explore policies on how to govern public comments so that it is not an attacking environment. Stockhausen encouraged the idea and Nickels encouraged people to consider public comments before making them. Motion by Denn, second by Kilian to table action pending a work session with more information on who pays for what and how the tracking system will work. Motion failed 2-3 on a roll call vote with Daus, Stockhausen, and Nickels voting against. Motion by Daus, second by Stockhausen to approve the intergovernmental agreement with the insertion of \$12,000 in #17, and modifying #18 to include wording relative to the expectation that the University continue to provide the tracking system. Motion carried 3-2 on a roll call vote with Denn and Kilian voting against.

- B. *Contract 6-14 – Bus Service* – Amy Seeboth-Wilson excused herself from discussion and action on this agenda item due to a potential conflict of interest with her employment at UW-Platteville as the Sustainability Coordinator. Crofoot explained that the RFP went out on a DOT vendor listing and only one proposal was received. The contract calls for a fixed price through December 31, 2016. The bid came in under budget which Crofoot noted could be used to offset the increased funding needed for the taxi operation. The fixed route bus contract will begin on May 16, 2015 and, if extended, could go through December 31, 2019. The Evaluation Committee recommended award of the contract to Russ Stratton Buses Inc. Denn expressed his concern that nothing in the contract talks about the cost of ridership, how it’s tracked, etc. Crofoot responded that the reporting information that the DOT requires for the taxi service is the same as will be required for the bus service. Motion by Daus, second by Stockhausen to award Contract 6-14 Bus Service in accordance with the recommendations of the Evaluation Committee to Russ Stratton Buses, Inc. at the contract price of \$41.55 per hour starting on May 16, 2015 with evaluation at the end of December 2016. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

- A. *Resolution to Update Employee Handbook* – City Manager Larry Bierke explained proposed changes to the Employee Handbook – updating the list of department heads, reinstatement of the 40 hour work week, and Wisconsin Retirement System verbiage. Action at next meeting.
- B. *Annexation/Rezoning – 680 East Business Highway 151* – Community Planning & Development Director Joe Carroll provided an overview of the property owner request to annex the 1.9 acre vacant property at 680 E Business Hwy 151. The annexation request meets all of the requirements of the State statute. If the annexation is approved, the applicant requests that the property be rezoned to B-3 Highway Business District. The property owner has a developer interested in buying the property for a retail development, therefore the reason for the annexation request. The Plan Commission approved the request at their January 5 meeting. Stockhausen questioned driveway access, to which Carroll responded that they will be using the existing driveway of the clinic which will be expanded. Action at next meeting.
- C. *Kallembach Property Update* – Community Planning & Development Director Joe Carroll provided the Council an update on the status of the Kallembach properties that the City received through a legal judgment. Of the twelve properties that the Council took action to sell, all twelve were sold before the end of 2014. Two properties had buildings razed and four have building permits issued with remodeling started. Structures have been razed on the three properties that the City still owns. The Council thanked the Staff for all of their hard work with these properties and

getting these properties sold to recoup costs. Seeboth-Wilson also appreciated the fact that Habitat for Humanity was able to come in and take as much as they wanted prior to the three properties the City still owns being torn down.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Daus, second by Stockhausen 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 – *Possible Land Acquisition* and per Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(c) considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility – *Review Executive Search Proposals*, and return to open session to take action, if any. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

The Council reconvened in open session at 10:40 PM.

ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION TOPICS

No action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Seeboth-Wilson, second by Denn to adjourn. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Martin
City Clerk