

**PLATTEVILLE COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
FEBRUARY 24, 2015**

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

ROLL CALL

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

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Platteville Regional Chamber of Commerce – Kathy Kopp presented the Tourism Entity Report for 2014, Action Plan, Strategic Plan, and Financial Statement, along with the 2015 Action Plan and Strategic Plan. Kopp commented that tourism is the largest growing industry in Wisconsin and the impact in Grant County continues to grow. According to the Dept of Tourism’s annual report, the 2013 economic impact on Grant County was \$41.3M. As Platteville is the largest community in Grant County and because we have the largest number of hotel rooms, restaurants and retail outlets, the Dept of Tourism unofficially told her that we can conservatively say that 50% of the economic impact for the County comes from Platteville - \$20.65M in 2014. Kopp also noted that in 2014 the City approved a 1% increase in room tax that became effective January 1, 2015. The Chamber has not budgeted the additional 1% and is working to create a “wish list” of possible marketing strategies that could be implemented later in the year when there is a better idea of the revenue from the room tax.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Motion by Bonin, second by Denn to approve the consent calendar as follows: February 10, 2015 Regular Council Meeting Minutes; Payment of Bills in the amount of \$3,626,881.38; “Class A” Combination Beer & Liquor to Kwik Trip Inc., La Crosse, (Kara L Loeffelholz, Agent) for premises at 430 S Water Street (Kwik Trip #795); Temporary Class “B” Beer License to St Augustine Parish at 135 S Hickory Street for Fish Fry on March 6 and March 27; One-Year Operator License to Sierra A Gaffney and Emma K Schultz; and Two-Year Operator License to Bree K Harker, Jason L Hendrickson, Chelsae L Hill, and Christopher C Mill. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS, OBSERVATIONS AND PETITIONS, if any.

None.

REPORTS

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

ACTION

Final Plat – First Addition to Golden Heights Subdivision – City Manager Larry Bierke distributed the staff memo from the February 10, 2015 meeting that was missing from the packet and reviewed the request to approve the final plat for the First Addition to Golden Heights Subdivision with the condition that the applicant enter into a development agreement with the City to govern the installation of the infrastructure and improvements necessary to convey storm water through the drainage easement within this subdivision.

At the last Council meeting a question was raised regarding storm water to which Public Works Director Howard Crofoot provided a memo recommending that the developer agreement include provisions that the City be responsible for the extension of the current culvert, installation of an end wall and suitable rip rap on the north end of Mr. Reddy's property at a cost not to exceed \$10,000 and that the cost be absorbed by the 2015 Storm Sewer capital project budget. Motion by Denn to table for more information because of the differences between the preliminary plat and final plat – doesn't include the fill notation, agreement with drainage easement, and wording of parcels/lot. Motion failed due to lack of a second. Bonin stated that a plat fill notation is frivolous farce and dismissed rumors about bad fill noting that the tires that were there were used to get the heavy equipment over the curb and there were no stumps buried. He doesn't know why there is such a big stink about it. Seeboth-Wilson asked City Attorney Brian McGraw if the City would be liable if the fill ended up being "bad" fill and someone's personal property was damaged as a result of it to which McGraw responded no. Denn stated he discussed this with Councilor Kilian before the meeting and that Kilian stated if the snow were gone, the tree stumps were visible. Denn also said that part of the construction materials were clay tiles, heresy, but that's why he'd like more information. Owner Paras Reddy stated that he thought it was inappropriate to bring in a member's views who was not present. He has developed a lot of properties and he knows the value of the property, wouldn't want to ruin the value of the property, and finds it insulting that someone would say that there are stumps under the snow. He offered to remove the snow and show them right now. He offered before to give soil samples, hire a company to drill and take samples and if the results are substandard for building, he will pay for the cost; if standard that someone else would have to pay. He noted that in any application, time is of the essence and if this is dragged on because of unsubstantiated rumors and innuendo, he has a cost. The street was developed in 2002 and was accepted by the City in 2003. The encroachment of the drainage system happened then and when the City accepted it, someone in the City should have noticed, liability is on the part of the City. He's the only developer in the City that is minority and is not asking for special recognition or special treatment, just wants to be treated like every other developer in town. He noted other properties in town that have fill and wanted to know why he was being judged differently on the fill issue. Discussion was held about the difference in wording with the parcels because one of the lots was sold in the meantime. With regard to development agreement, Mr. Reddy asked that the City construct the culvert by June so that he can do the rest of the filling. McGraw stated that the City intends to have it done this year. He asked that the Council approve the final plat contingent upon the developer and the City entering into a develop agreement and the final plat showing the dedication of the drainage was to the City of Platteville. Motion by Denn, second by Stockhausen to accept the Final Plat First Addition to Golden Heights Subdivision with the addition that it will include the fill notation and a drainage easement agreement contingent upon the developer agreement and that Staff has the right to finalize the developer agreement. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote. Mr. Reddy stated that he would not sign a developer agreement as long as there was a fill notation.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

Appeal of Certificate of Appropriateness Denial – 130 Market Street – City Manager Larry Bierke explained that the Historic Preservation Commission reviewed a Certificate of Appropriateness application for the property at 130 Market Street and denied the request to modify the front porch. The applicant would like to remove the existing front porch, which is not original to the building, deteriorating, and pulling away from the building, and replace it with a smaller porch with a different style. The applicant believes the proposed porch is closer in style to the original porch, would expose more of the original façade and would open the building more to the park. The Commission denied the request because the proposed smaller porch would alter the appearance of the building. Section 27.04 allows the applicant to appeal any denials to the Common Council. Action at next meeting.

WORK SESSION

Quarterly Meeting with UW-Platteville Chancellor – UW-Platteville Chancellor Dennis Shields and Rob Cramer met with the Council and talked about their next steps regarding the significant challenges and implications the proposed State budget may have on the University – approximate \$5 million structural

deficit, as many as 70 positions cut or reduced, program consolidations – while maintaining a tuition freeze and having the UW system be a separate entity rather than a State agency. The Chancellor stated that of the possible 70 positions to be reduced, currently there are 18 that are vacant. Daus stated that a Joint Finance hearing was announced to be held in the Platteville area and was interested in knowing that date and any talking points that might strengthen any voice they have. Chancellor Shields urged the public to contact their representatives and senators. They are committed to keeping Platteville a point of access. With regard to the Bus/Transit System, Seeboth-Wilson noted that the City and University have jointly applied for a federal and state grant (50/50) to expand bus routes across town, are meeting to oversee the transition, and are on track to hand the shuttle bus over to the City on May 16. Other topics touched on were significant progress on retention and graduation rates, enrollment holding strong, students approved adding on to the PAC, remodeling Boebel Hall, not new building projects. In closing, Daus presented Chancellor Shields with a draft social host ordinance that the License Committee has been working on with the Police Department and asked if the University was interested in providing input, to which the Chancellor stated that they would.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Seeboth-Wilson, 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*. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

The Council reconvened in open session at 9:36 PM.

ACTION ON CLOSED SESSION

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Bonin, second by Denn to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Martin, City Clerk