

MONONA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
March 2, 2020

The regular meeting of the Monona City Council was called to order by Acting Kitslaar at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Council President Andrew Kitslaar, Alderpersons Molly Grupe, Nancy Moore, Doug Wood, Jennifer Kuhr, and Kathy Thomas

Excused: Mayor Mary K. O'Connor

Also Present: City Administrator Bryan Gadow, City Attorney William Cole, Director of Administrative Services Leah Kimmell, Public Works Director Dan Stephany, Assistant Fire Chief Dan Eklof, and City Clerk Joan Andrusz

ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Grupe to approve the Minutes of the February 17, 2020 City Council meeting, was carried.

APPEARANCES

Acting Mayor Kitslaar welcomed Devin Renner, MESBA's new Executive Director. Mr. Renner introduced himself and provided background information.

PUBLIC HEARING

There was no Public Hearing.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion by Alder Moore, seconded by Alder Wood to approve the following, was carried:

1. Approval of Application for 2019/2020 Operator License:
 - a. Modesty M. Spinks, Speedway – Monona Drive
2. Approval of Application for 2019/2021 Operator License:
 - a. Samuel C. Timmons, Breakwater

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Director of Administrative Services Kimmell distributed reviewed the minor revisions that were made to the following policy based upon suggestions from the last meeting. This was reviewed by City Attorney Cole, who added one revision on Page 3(F.) regarding disruption to City operations. Alder Moore and Acting Mayor Kitslaar expressed appreciation for the quality of her work and the length of time it took to create this policy.

A motion by Alder Kuhr, seconded by Alder Thomas to approve Resolution 20-2-2393 Adopting a Policy to Provide a Paid Family Care Leave Benefit for City Employees, was carried.

City Administrator Gadow reported corrections were made to the following Ordinance as requested at the last meeting. This version was approved by the Public Safety Committee. A list of collector streets has been included. Deposit checks will be held and returned when barricades are returned in good condition. Alder Moore requests the fee be raised to \$25 due to administration and staff time and to place a higher value on the permit.

A motion by Alder Moore, seconded by Alder Thomas to amend Ordinance 2-20-726 Amending Section 395 of the Code of Ordinances Relating to Neighborhood Block Parties; And Creating a Penalty to amend the Fee Schedule from \$10 to \$25 for this permit and to change the word “residents” to “households” in the neighborhood approval requirement, was carried.

Members discussed the 75% household approval requirement and whether it should be reduced to 51%. Acting Mayor Kitslaar reported the Parks & Recreation Board discussed this; an event on a smaller street could be denied because of the low number of households. Alder Thomas requested that the City Administrator have the authority to approve an event if it is denied. City Administrator Gadow reported this percentage varies across communities; he is willing to make decisions based upon circumstances. City Attorney Cole suggested language.

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Grupe to amend Ordinance 2-20-726 Amending Section 395 of the Code of Ordinances Relating to Neighborhood Block Parties; And Creating a Penalty, adding the following to Subsection C.(4) “...issuance of the permit, or as otherwise directed by the City Administrator or their designee, based on the size of the street to be closed or public safety considerations.”, was carried.

Alder Kuhr questioned the issue of barricade drop-off by City staff versus residents picking them up. Public Works Director Stephany responded this has been no problem. It is easier for the Public Works Department to deliver them; they are a large item to transport and the Department has the trucks.

A motion by Alder Kuhr, seconded by Alder Grupe to approve Ordinance 2-20-726 Amending Section 395 of the Code of Ordinances Relating to Neighborhood Block Parties; And Creating a Penalty as amended, was carried.

NEW BUSINESS

City Administrator Gadow introduced Resolution 20-3-2395 Purchase Approval of Radio System Upgrade and Assistant Fire Chief Eklof provided information. This replacement project is being driven by AT&T. Cable replacement took a long time to accomplish. The equipment is at the end of its life and soon won't be maintained. Microwave replacement at the water tower in one year instead of the three years that were planned for this project saves \$23,000. Costs were reviewed. Alder Thomas reported this was approved by the Public Safety Committee.

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Kuhr to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 20-3-2394 Amending the 2020 Capital Budget for the 2020 Industrial Drive Interceptor Project, was carried.

Public Works Director Stephany reported Dane County is waiting for the City's action. This should be contingent upon the Public Works Committee approving this on March 4. This second year of bid prices are the same as last year. 70% of the pipe capacity is the City's so the City takes on 70% of the cost. MMSD takes ownership after completion. Funds will come from the McKenna Road project.

A motion by Alder Kuhr, seconded by Alder Grupe to approve Resolution 20-3-2394 Amending the 2020 Capital Budget for the 2020 Industrial Drive Interceptor Project. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

Public Works Director Stephany provided information on Resolution 20-3-2396 Award of Bid for the McKenna Road Improvement Project. There were seven bidders; he and the engineer planned high and the bids came in lower so he is able to fund the previous action and lower resident assessments. The project will be done by August 14 before school starts. The 5-way intersection work will be done after school is out.

Public Works Director Stephany provided information on Ordinance 3-20-728 Establishing Parking Restrictions at Various Locations. This has been requested by the Public Works crew so plowing, street sweeping, and brush pick-up can be allowed and completed. Residents will be notified in the newsletter and website. Acting Mayor Kitslaar questioned whether residents will know about this before the next meeting, as they may want to comment. Public Works Director Stephany stated notifying apartment residents may be difficult. He will get addresses to send a letter or postcard; residents won't be affected until next winter. Members discussed notification options and letting the Public Works Committee decide, and whether time periods should be included. Acting Mayor Kitslaar stated this is service oriented, not safety, and other streets could be considered.

Public Works Director Stephany provided information on Ordinance 3-20-729 Establishing Parking Restrictions on Inland Way and Yahara Lane. Public Works Department staff prefers Option #1, year-round parking restrictions to allow street sweeping and snow plowing. Photographs were reviewed showing what staff has encountered. Staff can't get their jobs done or provide service. Residents are forced to park in streets and commercial lots. The Public Works Committee will review this on March 4. Option #2, with restrictions during specified calendar dates, was reviewed. City Attorney Cole reported there is a parking arrangement between The Current, Avid Hotel, and Monona Grove State Bank; they can regulate that themselves. City Administrator Gadow reported both options have been provided to The Current management; he is waiting for their feedback.

Public Works Director Stephany provided an Update and Possible Discussion of Bridge Road Reconstruction Project and Plans for Spring Road Closure. The project had to stop due to early snow in October last year. Temporary asphalt was applied and is heavily damaged. There is less than a foot of frost, but with the snow melt and rain being held by the road, there will be more damage. The road has to be closed to allow the roadbed to dry. Asphalt plants open in early April. There will be a 2-week shutdown. He knew this was coming; he will leave two lanes open as long as possible. Notices and alerts will be sent. Homburg Contractors will use the digital sign and barrels are in place. City Administrator Gadow reported a PSA is already being broadcast on WVMO.

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Grupe to Convene in Closed Session under Wisconsin Statute Section 19.85(1)(e), Deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session (San Damiano). On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

REPORTS

Alder Grupe reported the Wisconsin Council of Geographical Names has approved the re-naming of Squaw Bay to Wiicawak Bay. The next step will be approval from the United States Board of Geographic Names.

City Clerk Andrusz reported the February 18 Primary Election featured a successful launch of Badger Books which were Deputy Clerk Alene Houser's project. The electronic poll books were very well received by poll workers and voters alike. She congratulates Monona voters on the 29.37% turnout, which isn't too low considering there was only one race on the ballot.

City Administrator Gadow reminds members to get their committee re-appointments to Director of Administrative Services Leah Kimmell or Mayor O'Connor as soon as possible.

Acting Mayor Kitslaar congratulates election workers and Clerk's office staff for the successful introduction of new voting technology.

APPOINTMENTS

There were no Appointments.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Grupe, to adjourn was carried. (9:02 p.m.)

Joan Andrusz
City Clerk