

MONONA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
August 19, 2019

The regular meeting of the Monona City Council was called to order by Mayor O'Connor at 7:05 p.m.

Present: Mayor Mary K. O'Connor, Alderpersons Molly Grupe (via telephone), Nancy Moore, Andrew Kitslaar, Doug Wood, Jennifer Kuhr, and Kathy Thomas

Also Present: City Administrator Bryan Gadow, Jeff Held from Strand Associates, Parks & Recreation Director Jake Anderson, and City Clerk Joan Andrusz

ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Alder Kuhr, seconded by Alder Wood to approve the Minutes of the August 5, 2019 City Council meeting, was carried.

APPEARANCES

The following individuals registered in favor of the Pedestrian & Bicycle Improvement Plan:

Sarah Smith, 5502 Monona Pass	Deb Benson, 4910 Tonyawatha Trail
Lindsey Miller, 709 Moygara Road	

The following individuals registered against the Pedestrian & Bicycle Improvement Plan:

Rachelle Miller, 6013 Winnequah Road	Steven Mylrea, 5618 Winnequah Road
John Lockwood, 4706 Winnequah Road	Kristen Halverson, 4706 Winnequah Road
Sumiyo Griesy, 500 Owen Road	Debra Seeliger, 6105 Winnequah Road
Steve Seeliger, 6105 Winnequah Road	Jan Marshall Fox, 5805 Winnequah Road
Mary Kretchmar, 6004 Winnequah Road	Susan Flynn, 6209 Winnequah Road
Michael Paulus, 6111 Winnequah Road	Cole Jolley, 6210 Winnequah Road
Collette Lee, 6207 Winnequah Road	Tina Godfrey, 6216 Winnequah Road
Mike Godfrey, 6216 Winnequah Road	Fred Hyde, 5902 Winnequah Road
Charles Martin, 6107 Winnequah Road	Marsha Janota, 5307 Winnequah Road
Shirley Robinson, 5202 Winnequah Road	Craig Aswegan, 6008 Winnequah Road
Matt Cushman, 812 Owen Road	Heidi Brown, 812 Owen Road
Kellie Unke, 6111 Winnequah Road	Nikki Studt, 6003 Winnequah Road
Andy Gaston, 6108 Winnequah Road (statement read by Claire Gehling)	

Mayor O'Connor read into the record the names of individuals who provided comment on the Pedestrian & Bicycle Improvement Plan via email:

Brian Mink, 1207 Birch Haven Circle	Ann Schroeder, 4909 Rothman Place
Mary Possin, 4509 Midmoor Road	Richard Nawratil, 411 Frost Woods Road
Melissa Zietz, 1411 Joyce Road	Lindsay Wood Davis, 4708 Roigan Terrance
Sue Carr, 4209 Winnequah Road	Erinn Monroe-Nye, 209 Femrite Drive
Amelia Speight, 4209 Winnequah Road	Merritt Singleton, 6003 Queens Way
Sharon Lehrer, 5801 Winnequah Road	Olivia Schroeder, 5008 Midmoor Road

Marsha Janota, 5307 Winnequah Road  
Carrie Nemesi, 4706 McKenna Road  
Cathy Bernards, 5104 Midmoor Road  
Zachary Barber, 4904 Winnequah Road  
Jessi Claringbole, 4711 Winnequah Road  
Mary Huelsbeck, 4801 Rothman Place  
Kevin Bjork, 5008 McKenna Road  
Rose Ebel, 4507 Wallace Avenue  
Debra Baer, 5300 Midmoor Road  
Chad Speight, 3905 Monona Drive  
Marena Kehl, 6302 Southern Circle  
Jacob Smith, 6113 Winnequah Road

Laura Hartog, 4710 Tonyawatha Trail  
Eric Mueller, 6003 Queens Way  
Laura Bjork, 5008 McKenna Road  
Claire Gehling, 6110 Winnequah Road  
Adam Miller, 709 Moygara Road  
Michael Basarich, 4907 McKenna Road  
Gillian Fink, 6307 West Gate Road  
Gerald Baer, 5300 Midmoor Road  
Tim Hamacher, 5706 Bridge Road  
Peter McKeever, 6302 Southern Circle  
Doug Pahl, 4418 Oak Court

Mayor O'Connor announced there would be a 3-minute limit for speakers. She requested there be no negative comments made toward Council members and no clapping or noise. There would be no back-and-forth dialog between speakers and Council members.

The following individuals appeared before the Council and spoke in favor of the Pedestrian & Bicycle Improvement Plan:

Mike Kuhr, daughter Elsa, 6103 Queens Way	Matt Gehling, 6110 Winnequah Road
Julie Byrnes, 6103 Winnequah Road	Claire Gehling, 6110 Winnequah Road
Ben Redding, 6019 Queens Way	Mary Possin, 4509 Midmoor Road
Sean Jindrich, 601 West Dean Avenue	

The following individuals appeared before the Council and spoke against the Pedestrian & Bicycle Improvement Plan:

Peter Karnes, 4811 Gordon Avenue	Cathy Karr, 4713 Tonyawatha Trail
Tom Thompson, 5705 Winnequah Road	Randal Smith, 4224 Winnequah Road
Logan Wondrey, 6217 Winnequah Road	Kim Gorichanaz, son Max, 6217 Winnequah Road
“Sunny” Schubert, 6107 Winnequah Road	Tim Casper, 5711 Winnequah Road
Kurt Studt, 6003 Winnequah Road	Ciel Ishatova, 4704 Winnequah Road
David Lehrer, 5801 Winnequah Road	Sharon Lehrer, 5801 Winnequah Road
George Lightbourn, 5900 Winnequah Road	Norman Flynn, 6209 Winnequah Road
“Jimmer” Yunek, 6106 Queens Way	David Schroder, 4219 Winnequah Road
Terry Doyle, 4704 Winnequah Road	Chris Bon Durant, 6209 Midwood Avenue
Bill Lee, 6207 Winnequah Road	

### PUBLIC HEARING

There was no Public Hearing.

### CONSENT AGENDA

A motion by Alder Kuhr, seconded by Alder Thomas to approve the following, was carried:

Approval of Applications for 2019/2020 Operator Licenses:

- a. Justin L. Myers, Angelo's
- b. Sunil K. Newar, Swad Indian Restaurant

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Mr. Held reviewed the Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements Plan and answered member's questions. There is no plan for widening any streets, including south Winnequah Road. Public meetings and input gatherings were reviewed. Sidewalks aren't as an impervious area as streets and roofs. Meeting minutes could be an appendix of the Plan. Bike boxes were removed in Madison, but were well-used. Other bicycle parking options could be provided.

All members thank the Ad Hoc Pedestrian and Bicycle Committee for their extensive work on this Plan.

Alder Wood clarified that the bicycle count was taken at the peak on a summer day. He reviewed safety and health issues and the history of the Ad Hoc Committee, where many engineering iterations by Strand Associates were reviewed and the Plan was unanimously approved. The City is not walkable. The Plan includes sidewalks and paths but not everywhere and with planning. Tree loss is inevitable but would be done minimally and carefully, such as meandering around important trees. The Plan is a long way from a project; budgeting is done one year with design the next year. He stands by the Plan; it is not perfect, but plans never are. It is not implementation; it will be part of the work of future Mayors and Councils.

Alder Thomas stated the Plan should be labeled "Proposal" rather than "Plan". Sidewalk maintenance, street markings, enforcement of bicycles stopping at stop signs, and speed enforcement are needed. Professional bicyclists need to be kept off the sidewalks but children should be allowed to ride them.

Alder Moore thanks the community for their input, especially those who sought out facts and shared well-thought-out ideas. She wants respectful dialog. As a resident, she is not happy about a sidewalk in the right-of-way in front of her house. But she understands it is not only about her, but about what is best for the community. She sees many near-misses for pedestrians and bicyclists. It is not in anyone's best interest to wait for a tragedy; it is better to act proactively. Tree loss is a concern and isn't best practice for sustainability, but the increase in transportation options more than makes up for that. The Plan is not deforestation or subtracting from the number of trees; any removed are more than replaced and wood is used in park furniture and buildings. It doesn't make sense to slow down on a Plan that has been worked on for 15 to 20 years. The City Council and Public Works Committee will consider citizen ideas. The Plan is a worthy guide now and for future work.

Alder Kuhr stated this is a non-binding Plan. It could be ignored; nothing is set to definitely happen. There is no plan for south Winnequah Road; she asks residents to send her their ideas and concerns about this area. She is so pleased residents are here and hopes they come to meetings more often. She hopes to meet with people and already has with several. The engineering plan will have public hearings, Public Works Committee meetings, and two City Council meetings before being finalized and approved. The Council needs to hear from residents, especially if they disagree with a proposal. She is in favor of the Plan for increased public safety. Alder Thomas urges residents to send comments to all members and to sign up for alerts on the City's website.

Alder Kitslaar read the statement of a resident and his walking habits. This issue has been an on-going discussion since 2006; don't wait for an accident to make changes. This Plan begins the process. The listening sessions will be improved. He doesn't think the Plan is perfect and doesn't agree with all of it, but it will improve the whole City. City Council members are residents, and are affected as well. Alder Grupe stated she agrees with member's comments and thanks all in attendance for their input.

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Moore to approve Resolution 19-8-2367 Review and Acceptance of Pedestrian and Bicycle Improvements Plan, was carried.

Mayor O'Connor called for a short break.

### NEW BUSINESS

A motion by Alder Kitslaar, seconded by Alder Wood to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 19-8-2368 Approving a Bid for the Purchase and Installation of a Refrigerated Outdoor Ice Rink System at Riverfront Park, was carried.

Recreation Director Anderson stated extra time is needed to order this customized equipment. The RFP ended up having to be done in-house so that took more time. He wants to open in November. The low bid was chosen of 4 received. They helped with design questions, had a more straightforward set-up, and positive references. Alder Wood reported Finance Director Houtakker said some cost may be TIF eligible. He is confident in Recreation Director Anderson's ability to provide a positive outcome as promised. Recreation Director Anderson stated he already has events planned and expects success.

A motion by Alder Kitslaar, seconded by Alder Wood to approve Resolution 19-8-2368 Approving a Bid for the Purchase and Installation of a Refrigerated Outdoor Ice Rink System at Riverfront Park. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

A motion by Alder Kitslaar, seconded by Alder Moore to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 19-8-2369 Approving the Purchase of an Ice Resurfacing Machine, was carried.

Recreation Director Anderson reported this is a dedicated ice machine to keep the surface smooth. A custom machine was needed for the small space. It can be branded; he will look for sponsors. It will last for 10 to 15 years. The lithium battery will be well cared for; replacement cost will be \$3,000 to \$4,000. The machine will be used 3 to 4 times per day and fits into the storage unit. The developer is sponsoring off site, off season storage. It is fairly easy to maintain, similar to a Public Works mower.

A motion by Alder Kitslaar, seconded by Alder Moore to approve Resolution 19-8-2369 Approving the Purchase of an Ice Resurfacing Machine. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

### REPORTS

Alder Kuhr reported Saturday's Monona Mound dedication event was wonderful with 60 people in attendance. She thanks Library staff, Community Media staff, and City Planner Doug Plowman for their help and involvement. On August 28 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center there will be a presentation on the architectural survey listing properties eligible for national designation as historical.

Alder Wood agreed the Mound dedication was great and the tribal speakers were especially poignant. The Parks & Recreation Board will include a bicycle tour tomorrow night.

Alder Kitslaar reported the Tourism applications are out and entities should send events publicity to City Administrator Gadow. The application process closes on October 1. The Committee will meet and assign funds. There is \$40,000 available this year.

Alder Moore reported the National Night Out, Sustainability showcase, and concert in Winnequah Park all on one night was a great success. She thanks Project Manager Brad Bruun, the Recreation Department, the Sustainability Committee, and the Police Department for their work and involvement.

Recreation Director Anderson reported the summer's last Pop-Up Biergarten in Schluter Park is on August 29. The Parks & Recreation Board bike tour tomorrow ends at the Riverfront park. On Sunday, October 6, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. there will be an event unveiling the Riverfront park. Name ideas are needed. Former Mayor Bob Miller will be in attendance.

City Clerk Andrusz reported she leaves tonight for the Wisconsin Municipal Clerks Conference in Middleton. She will be there the rest of this week and is serving on the Conference Committee.

City Administrator Gadow reported staff have completed work on their Capital Budgets and will meet with Mayor O'Connor, followed by two Committees of the Whole meetings.

Mayor O'Connor reminded members that due to the Labor Day holiday, the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 3. Tomorrow will mark one-year since last year's major flooding event. She compliments the Landmarks Commission for the successful Monona Mound dedication event.

#### APPOINTMENTS

A motion by Alder Kitslaar, seconded by Alder Wood to approve the Appointment of Jordan Steward to the Tourism Commission (effective immediately–April 2020), was carried.

#### ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Kuhr, to adjourn was carried. (10:14 p.m.)

Joan Andrusz  
City Clerk