

MONONA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
September 19, 2022

The regular meeting of the Monona City Council was called to order by Mayor O'Connor at 7:06 p.m.

Present: Mayor Mary K. O'Connor, Alderpersons Patrick DePula, Brian Holmquist, Doug Wood, Teresa Radermacher

Excused: Alderpersons Nancy Moore and Kathy Thomas

Also Present: Police Chief Brian Chaney, City Planner Plowman, Jeff Belongia from Huntington Securities, Inc., Interim Administrator/Finance Director Marc Houtakker and City Clerk Alene Houser

ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Holmquist, to approve the Minutes of the September 6, 2022 City Council meeting. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES, PUBLIC HEARING, CONSENT AGENDA and UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Appearances, Public Hearing, Consent Agenda or Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS

G.2.a. Consideration of Resolution 22-9-2589 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$2,500,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2022D.

Mr. Belongia explained that this is a bond refinance to control the levy for debt service. This refinance restructures the two large payments coming due out to 2034, which will avoid the bumps and valleys. Total interest over the life of the bond is 3.87%. The market has been volatile with rates climbing since January.

Motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Radermacher, to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 22-9-2589 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$2,485,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2022D. Motion carried.

Motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Radermacher, to approve Resolution 22-9-2589 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$2,485,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2022D. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

G.2.b Consideration of Resolution 22-9-2587 Amending the Boundary of Tax Incremental District No. 4.

Planner Plowman explained that this Resolution amends the boundaries of TID No. 4 to remove three poorly performing parcels that are dragging down the performance of the whole district. TID No. 4 was created in 2000 and is located on the Southern end of Monona Drive.

G.2.c Consideration of Resolution 22-9-2588 A Resolution in Recognition of Curt Witynski and Gail Sumi.

Mayor O'Connor explained that two long-term employees, Curt Witynski and Gail Sumi, of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities are retiring at the end of the year. This Resolution honors their service.

Motion by Alder DePula, seconded Alder Radermacher, to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 22-9-2588 A Resolution in Recognition of Curt Witynski and Gail Sumi. Motion carried.

Motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder DePula, to approve Resolution 22-9-2588 A Resolution in Recognition of Curt Witynski and Gail Sumi. Motion carried.

G.2.d Discussion and Possible Action Concerning Construction and Potential Funding of a New Public Safety Building.

Mayor O'Connor explained that the City contracted with FGM Architects to conduct a site feasibility analysis with the report presented last meeting. Decisions need to be made soon regarding moving forward with the project and going to an advisory referendum. Concept one is the preferred layout as it meets all goals and does not require relocating the existing well. She addressed questions that have been asked since the report was presented. A majority of the space proposed in the new building is space already needed to bring the facility to modern standards. The preferred concept requires moving the Fire Department to the top of the site to allow their equipment to pull through the new equipment bays. Fire Department offices and staff will move into what is now the City Hall administrative area as well as some new space. This will entail moving City Hall administration to the new part of the building. Space allotted to the administrative area includes a large multi-purpose room, which will be used for City Council meetings, Court, public safety training and other public meetings. The various studies that have been done in the last 10 years and how we have gotten to where we are now are located on a separate webpage on the City's website. Discussion followed regarding ways to get this information out to the public.

Motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder DePula, to move forward with a New Public Safety Building and preparing language for an advisory referendum. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

G.2.e Convene in Closed Session under Wisconsin Statute section 19.85(1)(d) Except as provided in s. 304.06 (1) (eg) and by rule promulgated under s. 304.06 (1) (em), considering specific applications of probation, extended supervision or parole, or considering strategy for crime detection or prevention (strategy for the safety and security of City Council meetings).

Motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Holmquist, to convene in Closed Session under Wisconsin Statute section 19.85(1)(d) Except as provided in s. 304.06 (1)(eg) and by rule promulgated under s. 304.06 (1)(em), considering specific applications of probation, extended supervision or parole, or considering strategy for crime detection or prevention (strategy for the safety and security of City Council meetings). On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

G.2.f Reconvene in Open Session Under Wisconsin Statute Section 19.85(2).

Upon reconvening in Open Session:

REPORTS

1. Updates/Discussion on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Efforts

Interim Administrator Houtakker reported that staff met with Nehemiah last Monday, which went well. Another round of Justified Anger classes is also starting this week.

Alder Radermacher reported she attended the vibrant hydrants event on September 11 to commemorate those who serve. The Monona ARC is looking for anyone who is interested in joining a session in October.

Mayor O'Connor reported she will be meeting with several people from the DEI and ARC group in early October. Also, she is looking for members of the community looking to serve with the implementation portion. Anyone interested should fill out an application to serve on a city committee, which is located on the City's website.

2. Update/Discussion on Sustainability Efforts.

Alder Radermacher reported reading a *Herald-Independent* article that Cottage Grove is putting solar on one of their municipal buildings. The article talked about this helping them towards meeting their resolution for 100% clean energy. There are a lot of tax credits and incentives out there that we need to look into for upcoming projects.

3. Committee Reports.

Alder Holmquist reported the Senior Citizen Committee met and discussed the budget and a few upcoming projects.

Alder Wood reported that the License Review Committee met last week and approved additional amplified device permits for Breakwater but only until 8:00 pm based on some noise complaints. Parks Board met last week and discussed the budget and the ADA parks plan. The ADA parks plan is long overdue; it is time to make the parks accessible. There is a beer garden at San Damiano September 24 starting at 4pm with house tours and a movie as well.

Alder Radermacher reported that Community Media met and discussed fundraising. WVMO is nearly 100% volunteer driven; funding needs to be sought out. Landmarks Commission has a big event coming up with the Frost Woods neighborhood. Sustainability Committee will have a new member in October. Reminder to leave your leaves out of the street.

Police Chief Chaney reported that crews are still working through a pandemic, and they are short staffed today due to that. He got his COVID booster this morning and will do his part to encourage his staff to be safe. COVID-related absences have taken a toll on the OT budget. He would like to avoid depleting that budget, but it is currently at 80-90%. The Public Safety Committee meets next week to create an eligibility list for full time officers and to hire a part time officer. The K-9 handler is receiving recognition as rookie of the year. He is willing to give the public tours of the Police Department because they need to know what the department is working with.

Interim Administrator Houtakker reported that he is working on dates for a public hearing for the Madison Metro. He informed staff today that he is in the process of initiating a hiring freeze; all hiring needs to be approved by both himself and Mayor O'Connor. COW for capital is September 29 with all departments presenting in one night. The draft budget will be available later this week.

Mayor O'Connor reported that she attended the vibrant hydrants on September 11. She conducted six half-hour tours of the San Damion house on Saturday with Andrew Kitslaar doing tours of the grounds. She sent her condolences to the Pyng family, friends and school; he was a great teacher.

APPOINTMENTS

There were no Appointments.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Holmquist, to adjourn. Motion carried (8:16 p.m.).

Alene Houser
City Clerk