

## MONONA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

August 6, 2012

The regular meeting of the Monona City Council was called to order by Mayor Miller at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Mayor Robert Miller, Alderpersons Jim Busse, Doug Wood, Chad Speight, Mary O'Connor, Brian Holmquist, and Kathryn Thomas

Also Present: City Administrator Patrick Marsh, Julie Lemke from Monona Meadows, Police Chief Walter Ostrenga, Public Works Director Dan Stephany, Ken Whitehorse, and City Clerk Joan Andrusz

### ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder O'Connor to approve the City Council minutes of July 30, 2012, was carried.

### APPEARANCES

Mayor Miller read and presented a Proclamation in Recognition of Monona Meadows on their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Ms. Lemke invited those present and the public to a brat fry event on August 16 from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Dianne Aldrich, 6020 Kristi Circle, appeared before the Council and provided information on the Lake Monona Water Walk. An associate distributed information to members.

### PUBLIC HEARING

There was no Public Hearing.

### CONSENT AGENDA

There was no Consent Agenda.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no Unfinished Business.

### NEW BUSINESS

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Wood to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 12-06-1865 Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Dane County for Land Mobile Radio Frequency Exchange, was carried.

Police Chief Ostrenga reported Dane County has asked several municipalities to give up a frequency that is close to one they need to use. Dane County would then help procure another frequency and would pay any fees. Alder Busse reported a correction of the frequency number from 155.200 to 155.520. The mover and second agreed.

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Wood to approve Resolution 12-06-1865 Approval of Memorandum of Understanding with Dane County for Land Mobile Radio Frequency Exchange as amended, was carried.

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A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Wood to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 12-08-1874 Award of Contract for 2012 Road Maintenance Program, was carried.

Public Works Director Stephany reported the Public Works Committee chose the low bidder for 2012 Capital Budget milling, base repair, and paving of four street sections. There is one other project out for bid within this budget.

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder O'Connor to approve Resolution 12-08-1874 Award of Contract for 2012 Road Maintenance Program. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Wood to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 12-08-1875 2012 Emergency Generator Purchase, was carried.

Public Works Director Stephany reported the Public Works Committee chose the second-to-lowest bidder because the equipment is made of stronger materials and maintenance is included. The SCS BT Squared engineer endorsed this choice, and this firm currently performs equipment maintenance. Installation will be separate, bids are currently under review, and Council approval will be sought in September. This project will be very close to budget.

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Holmquist to approve Resolution 12-08-1875 2012 Emergency Generator Purchase. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

A motion by Alder Busse, seconded by Alder Wood to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 12-08-1876 Approval of Proposed Remodeling and Construction of an Addition on the Shell Station and Monona Mart at 1220 East Broadway, for Compliance with the East Broadway Redevelopment Area #6 Project Plan, was carried.

City Administrator Marsh reported this property is within redevelopment district TID 6, and any improvements have to be approved by the CDA and Council. The CDA has approved this project. Mr. Whitehorse expressed gratitude for the ease of working together with the City. Alder Wood questioned whether there was concern that this would delay any larger projects behind this property. Mr. Whitehorse stated there is a buy-out option not to exceed \$40,000 at 5 years, and this modest investment dresses up the area. Alder Busse reported the Plan Commission was enthusiastic about this plan, and the owner is aware of the risk. Mr. Whitehorse stated work will begin on Monday if approval is received tonight.

A motion by Alder Busse, seconded by Alder Thomas to approve Resolution 12-08-1876 Approval of Proposed Remodeling and Construction of an Addition on the Shell Station and Monona Mart at 1220 East Broadway, for Compliance with the East Broadway Redevelopment Area #6 Project Plan, was carried.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Mayor Miller began Discussion of Guidelines for 2013 Capital Budget Expenditures. The budget process will be reversed to begin with the Capital Budget. The usual focus is on the Operating Budget, which doesn't vary as much. Borrowing for Monona Drive can't be reduced, but meetings were held with the City Administrator, Finance Director, and staff to achieve \$1.5 million in voluntary reductions for 2013. There is a five-year plan in place but annual approval is sought. The City's equalized value was projected to be lowered due to residential property assessment decreases, but was increased 4% because of increased commercial projects. This is a better rate than any municipality in Dane County, and is also partially due to a correction of a previous incorrect assumption by Dane County that reduced the values last year.

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In these staff meetings it was learned that the Police Department purchased an additional squad car from the three that were approved using trade-in and drug forfeiture funds that brought the purchases in under budget. Concern was expressed that while nothing was done wrong, it may be against policy. Alder Thomas stated under-spending doesn't mean the remaining funds should be spent. Emergencies are accounted for within the budget. Alder Wood agreed it would have been better to come to the Council, who may have approved the purchase or use of the funds elsewhere. Mayor Miller reported City Administrator Marsh is currently working on a policy manual and this issue will be included. City Administrator Marsh stated that as soon as the manual is complete it will be available to Council members.

### REPORTS

Police Chief Ostrenga apologized for over-stepping his authority in the squad car purchase. Drug forfeiture funds that had to be used within the year seized helped purchase the K9 vehicle that transports the drug-sniffing dog. Savings of more than \$11,000 was achieved on equipment. The squad purchase was removed from the 2013 Capital Budget. The "Raids on Line" program makes crime statistics available on the City's website. Reports can be requested based on an address. Alcohol compliance checks resulted in only one under-age sale violation. Forged Operator licenses were discovered at a gas station, the result of a former manager cutting corners. In-depth bar checks found no licensed Operator on duty at one location, which was closed until licensed staff could arrive. Excess Capital Budget funds will be requested to be used to purchase new squad car video screens.

Alder Busse reported the Ad Hoc Facilities Committee commends staff for retro-fitting lighting to U.S.-made, energy efficient LED lights for an annual savings of \$6,500 and savings of \$150,000 over the product's life. With grant funds, the net cost to the City was zero.

City Clerk Andrusz reminds voters of the Partisan Primary on August 14, at which votes may only be cast within one party of the voter's choosing. Photo ID is not required, but voters must sign the poll book.

City Administrator Marsh reported work on the Lake Edge detention basin has been delayed due to ordering of materials. The project's deadline must be met or penalties must be paid. Monona Drive property acquisitions are complete, and all the requirements have been met for work to start in March 2013. The recent hire of a telecommunications lean government specialist recommended by the Municipal Administrators Association resulted in the discovery of 40 excess phone lines, extra services, and unnecessary charges. The audit will save \$7,000 per year. The School District is now using the firm for an audit, which will result in additional taxpayer savings.

Mayor Miller urges residents to tour the new homes on Femrite Drive, two of which are complete and on the market. The East Side Club 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on Saturday will feature a rib fest, which the Mayor will be judging. The next Council meeting will include scheduling of Capital Budget meetings for September. Alder Wood's "Monona Doug" blog, which served a great purpose for the community, has sadly ended.

### APPOINTMENTS

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

1. Bob Bocher to the Broadband Telecommunications Advisory Committee (effective immediately until May 2014).

Alder O'Connor abstained from the vote due to family connection to the Appointee.

### ADJOURNMENT

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A motion by Alder Speight, seconded by Alder Wood, to adjourn, was carried. (8:23 p.m.)

Joan Andrusz  
City Clerk