

MONONA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

July 2, 2012

The regular meeting of the Monona City Council was called to order by Mayor Miller at 7:37 p.m.

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

Also Present: City Administrator Patrick Marsh, Project Coordinator Janine Glaeser, Laurel Sukup from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Rick Eilertson, Fitchburg Environmental Legacy Engineer, Public Works Director Dan Stephany, Ben Zeller of Vierbicher Associates, Cable Coordinator Andrew Hagen, Ken Swanson and Tom Lynch of Strand Associates, Laura J. Humphrey and Lisa Robertson of Timbers-Selissen Land Specialists, Inc., and City Clerk Joan Andrusz

ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Speight to approve the City Council minutes of June 18, 2012, was carried.

APPEARANCES

Mayor Miller read Fire Chief Scott Sullivan's announcement of fire safety measures and Fourth of July fireworks procedures to be followed due to the dry conditions.

Mayor Miller read a Certificate of Appreciation from the Monona Fire Department for Dale Ganser, who could not be present to accept.

Mayor Miller informed those present of the Appearance process and three-minute time limit.

The following individuals appeared before the Council and spoke against the Green Tier Charter:

- Al Anding, 4921 Tonyawatha Trail
- Jeffrey Horn, 639 Eaglewatch Drive, DeForest
- Tom Burns, 5607 Chestnut Lane, McFarland
- George Frank, 1502 Buena Vista Drive, Sun Prairie
- Sandy Bakk, 6611 Meredith Way, McFarland
- Paul Lembreich, 102 North River Street, Janesville
- Jack Leeder, 1705 Randolph Road, Janesville
- Stacy Horne, 1105 Birch Haven Circle
- Kirsten Lombard, 210 North Paterson Street #2, Madison

The following individuals registered against the Green Tier Charter:

- Sue Fietzer, 4815 Roigan Terrace
- Michael Fietzer, 4815 Roigan Terrace
- Lori Ring, 5501 Winnequah Road
- Steve Barr, 5501 Winnequah Road
- Edward Folger, 5508 Schluter Road

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- Dan Gillette, 5221 Tonyawatha Trail

The following individuals appeared before the Council and spoke in favor of the Green Tier Charter:

- Heather Gates, 207 West Dean Avenue
- Susan Vogt, 5502 Goucher Lane
- Rick Eilertson, 5520 Lacy Road, Fitchburg
- Robin Schmidt, 5606 Tonyawatha Trail
- Paul Meyer, 4706 Shore Acres Road
- Lisa Gundlach, 404 Midland Lane

The following individuals registered in favor of the Green Tier Charter:

- Sara Whalen, 5302 Maywood Road
- John Whalen, 5302 Maywood Road
- D. Lynn Levin, 5310 Schluter Road
- Andy Richards, 4553 Winnequah Road
- Mark Lederer, 5310 Schluter Road
- Rob Everhart, 1304 Nishishin Trail
- Cynthia Everhart, 1304 Nishishin Trail
- Debra Alldredge, 204 West Dean Avenue

PUBLIC HEARING

There was no Public Hearing.

CONSENT AGENDA

There was no Consent Agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Wood to remove from the table Consideration of Resolution 12-06-1867 A Resolution in Support of the Green Tier Charter for Legacy Communities, was carried.

Project Coordinator Glaeser provided information on the history of sustainability efforts in the City, this project, and that the City Attorney's review found no issues with this agreement.

Mr. Eilertson reported Fitchburg has an on-going relationship with the Department of Natural Resources with grants received based on points accumulated. Ms. Sukup stated the goal is to recognize communities that work beyond compliance. Municipalities maintain control of what and how much they want to do, with no penalty for non-action. Membership creates a more formal commitment to sustainability.

Members received assurance that plans would be approved by the Council. The City is already doing many of the suggested ideas. Creating a plan, easier grant applications, and sharing of processes between communities are positives. The option to opt-out is clear and simple.

Mayor Miller passed the gavel to Council President Busse and spoke from the podium. He agreed with members that the public dialog was positive and welcomed, and review of this program was much more thorough as a result. Mayor Miller stated this is a good program for Monona, and having sustainable practices is good for attracting businesses. The public dialog allowed myths and facts to be sorted out.

Alder Busse suggested an amendment to the motion as follows: In the "Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved" section a final sentence would be added: "Plans submitted to the Green Tier Legacy Communities program will require review and approval by the Common Council." The mover and second agreed.

A motion by Alder Speight, seconded by Alder O'Connor to approve Resolution 12-06-1867 A Resolution in Support of the Green Tier Charter for Legacy Communities as amended, was carried.

Public Works Director Stephany distributed an amended page and reported the City Attorney reviewed the Water Disconnection Policy and made revisions. Notification procedures to be used prior to disconnection were reviewed. The Public Service Commission requires shut-offs occur on Tuesdays and Wednesdays to avoid weekends. A reconnection charge applies. The Building Inspector becomes involved after three days of shut-off. At the last meeting \$80,000 was reported as 90 days past due. That figure has now increased to \$100,000.

Public Works Director Stephany stated he wants to implement this in March 2013 so residents can be given ample notice of the policy change, especially those who wait to pay until they receive the year-end notice. The funds need to be collected on a regular basis to fund on-going operations. Ample warning will be given before water is shut off. Mayor Miller stated that the Building Inspector's schedule must be taken into account, and there will be an exception for winter months.

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Thomas to amend Resolution 12-06-1870 Approval of Water Disconnection Policy to add the phrase, "...to be effective March 15, 2013" to the end of the "Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved" section, was carried.

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Holmquist to approve Resolution 12-06-1870 Approval of Water Disconnection Policy as amended, was carried.

NEW BUSINESS

City Administrator Marsh introduced Mr. Zeller who provided information on Resolution 12-07-1871 Creating Tax Incremental District No. 7 and Approving the Redevelopment Area No. 7 Plan Amendment. The area was West Dean Avenue to Winnequah Road. This now extends south to Lofty Avenue. The City needs to stay within its 12% debt limit. The City owns three of the included parcels, and many others ready for redevelopment are included. Slides showing the area were displayed. This would be a maximum 27 year blight elimination district that could close early.

Mr. Zeller explained the administrative cost could include staff and CDA work related to the project. City Administrator Marsh stated this is spread across 27 years, and will entail extensive legal and audit work. Past TIDs underestimated this expense, so it was increased to be more realistic. Alder Thomas stated these funds would not be needed once the project is complete. Alder Busse suggested a professional firm could provide marketing assistance. Alder Wood stated funds can be moved, and more may be needed for legal expenses.

Mr. Zeller stated the City's Comprehensive Plan calls for increased density along Monona Drive, multi-family housing, and mixed use commercial and residential structures. Alder Holmquist questioned TID 8 having only \$4 million available. Mr. Zeller and City Administrator Marsh stated it has a very small boundary and includes a park and a parcel worth only \$200,000.

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Mr. Zeller reported Resolution 12-07-1872 Declaring Redevelopment Project Area No. 7 a Blighted Area goes along with the previous Agenda item. 50% of an area has to be considered blighted to allow a TID District for redevelopment.

City Administrator Marsh reported on Resolution 12-07-1873 Authorizing Proceeding with Planning for Tax Increment District No. 8 in the City of Monona. A proposal has been submitted for the Hickory Lane mobile home park area that will be reviewed by the Plan Commission next Monday. Proposed is a \$20 million mixed-use project including high-end apartments with restaurants designed to take advantage of the outdoor areas. A decision to proceed will be made within 30 days. The CDA wants to start the planning process. If approved, costs will be incurred that can't be recouped.

The following items were moved forward in the Agenda to allow ample time for the Closed Session.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no Miscellaneous Business.

REPORTS

Alder O'Connor reported the new bus schedule began today. A new bus will be displayed at the Festival this week; City Administrator Marsh confirms it will be in the beer garden area. There is an iPhone app available that tracks the bus's location.

Cable Coordinator Hagen reported Middle School student's final projects will be broadcast on the City's cable channel next week as YPTV – Young People's Television.

Mayor Miller reports the Monona Community Festival and fireworks are on schedule despite the heat and dry conditions, and he will be serving in the wine area to meet with the public. The Lake Monona Water Walk event starts Friday evening, with children's events on Saturday, and on Sunday a sunrise ceremony at 9:00 a.m. at Frost Woods Beach led by an Ojibwa Grandmother who has walked around all the Great Lakes.

APPOINTMENTS

A motion by Alder O'Connor, seconded by Alder Wood to approve the following Appointments, was carried:

1. Kathy Thomas, Election Inspector.
2. Sue Carr to the Library Board, effective July 1, 2012–July 1, 2015.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Speight to Convene in Closed Session under Wisconsin Statute section 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 (Monona Drive Property Acquisition), was carried.

After reconvening in Open Session:

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Speight, to adjourn, was carried. (10:33 p.m.)

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Joan Andrusz
City Clerk