

MONONA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
January 21, 2014

The regular meeting of the Monona City Council was called to order by Council President Wood at 7:31 p.m.

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

Excused: Mayor Robert Miller, Alderperson Kathy Thomas

Also Present: City Administrator Patrick Marsh, City Attorney William Cole, City Planner Sonja Reichertz, Project Coordinator Janine Glaeser, Police Chief Walter Ostrenga, and City Clerk Joan Andrusz

ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Alder Speight, seconded by Alder O'Connor to approve the Minutes from December 16, 2013, was carried.

APPEARANCES

Council President Wood read a Proclamation Recognizing School Crossing Guards Roy Armbrecht and John Anderson. Mr. Armbrecht made brief remarks.

Suzanne Wade, 6113 Midwood Avenue, appeared before the Council and spoke in favor of the Sustainability Plan.

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 Holmquist, seconded by Alder Speight to Convene in Closed Session under Wisconsin Statute section 19.85(1)(g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved (Veit & Company v. City of Monona). On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

Upon reconvening in Open Session:

City Attorney Cole provided information on Resolution 14-1-1953 Approving an Agreement with The Stark Collection Agency for Municipal Court Collection Services. The Municipal Court has contracted with this vendor since 2002 for collection of court fees that are unable to be collected by other means. They do a good job but are usually unsuccessful and the City is not charged unless fees are collected. Use of their services has decreased because the Court Clerk is able to collect through tax refunds or driver license issuance.

City Planner Reichertz provided information on Resolution 14-1-1952 Adopting Public Participation Procedures and Work Plan for Amending the City of Monona Comprehensive Plan, which State law requires to be updated every ten years. Components of the Resolution were reviewed including the requirement and schedule for public participation, along with the work plan. The Plan Commission has approved the Plan with no changes. City Administrator Marsh wants to start on the initial steps of the Plan as soon as possible.

A motion by Alder Busse, seconded by Alder Holmquist to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 14-1-1952 Adopting Public Participation Procedures and Work Plan for Amending the City of Monona Comprehensive Plan, was carried.

A motion by Alder Busse, seconded by Alder Holmquist to approve Resolution 14-1-1952 Adopting Public Participation Procedures and Work Plan for Amending the City of Monona Comprehensive Plan, was carried.

Project Coordinator Glaeser provided a Power Point presentation on Resolution 14-1-1954 Review of Draft Sustainability Plan and Approval to Proceed, including work that has been done to date and the need to collect further data. The City received a Renew Wisconsin award for "Most Innovative Renewable Energy Project" for the solar panel project. Members expressed appreciation for the amount of work and effort done. Alder Busse questioned the wording that appears to try to force residents to participate and suggests a change to "increase awareness". Also, transportation of school children needs to be coordinated with the School District. Alder Holmquist discussed setting strategies.

City Clerk Andrusz reported it has been difficult to schedule a Distinguished Service Award Committee meeting in December as required by Ordinance due to member's numerous other commitments. The Committee wanted to free up the time frame for the meeting while also allowing plenty of time for event planning.

A motion by Alder Busse, seconded by Alder O'Connor to suspend the rules and take action on Ordinance 1-14-655 Amending Section 2-4-24 of the Code of Ordinances Concerning the Distinguished Service Award Committee, was carried.

A motion by Alder Busse, seconded by Alder Holmquist to approve Ordinance 1-14-655 Amending Section 2-4-24 of the Code of Ordinances Concerning the Distinguished Service Award Committee. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no Miscellaneous Business.

## REPORTS

Alder O'Connor reported next Tuesday's Broadband Committee meeting at 6:00 will discuss the recent permission received for the City to start a radio station.

Alder Speight reported transit ridership has increased and the Transit Commission will hire a marketing firm to advertise the service.

City Clerk Andrusz reported there is no February Spring Primary. New vote tabulators and voter booths will be in use at the Spring Election on April 1. Voters will be urged to "Fill in the Oval and Wait for the Thank You."

City Administrator Marsh reported the Strategic Plan is near finalization and will be distributed to members and staff and posted on the City's website [mymonona.com](http://mymonona.com).

Council President Wood reported the Personnel Policy will be reviewed by the Finance & Personnel Committee.

City Planner Reichertz distributed the "Community Development Annual Summary – 2013" document.

Report from Police Chief Walter Ostrenga – Police and Dispatch: a Power Point report of 2013 Department activities was reviewed, including community outreach in the Citizen Academy, Neighborhood Watch, National Night Out, and social media use. Traffic grant use and major cases were reviewed, and a recent staff commendation was read. Other Department activities and concerns were outlined, including policy and manual updates, training, budget issues, squad repairs and condition, the staffing study, the hiring process, and potential retirements.

## APPOINTMENTS

A motion by Alder Holmquist, seconded by Alder Speight to approve the following Appointment, was carried:

Richard Bernstein, Election Inspector, effective January 1, 2014–December 31, 2015.

## ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Alder Speight, seconded by Alder O'Connor to adjourn, was carried. (9:00 p.m.)

Joan Andrusz  
City Clerk