

MONONA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
March 17, 2014

The regular meeting of the Monona City Council was called to order by Mayor Miller at 7:29 p.m.

Present: Mayor Robert Miller, Alderpersons Kathy Thomas, Jim Busse, Mary O'Connor, and Brian Holmquist

Excused: Alderpersons Doug Wood and Chad Speight

Also Present: City Administrator Patrick Marsh, Public Works Director Dan Stephany, Finance Director Marc Houtakker, Financial Consultant Jeff Belongia, Recreation Director Jake Anderson, Paul Reed of Harmony Construction, Project Coordinator Janine Glaeser, and City Clerk Joan Andrusz

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Alder Busse, seconded by Alder Holmquist to approve the Minutes from March 3, 2014, was carried.

APPEARANCES

Mayor Miller read a Proclamation Declaring March as Meals on Wheels Month in the City of Monona. Nicole Schultz, Independent Living Development Fund Director introduced herself and expressed appreciation for the City's support.

PUBLIC HEARING

There was no Public Hearing.

CONSENT AGENDA

There was no Consent Agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Public Works Director Stephany reviewed changes made to the following Resolution as discussed at the previous meeting. DNR rules state private wells don't have to be abandoned at the time of the property's sale. A pamphlet regarding cross connections was distributed that will be given out as required when services are inspected, which businesses are required to do every two years. The Public Works Department doesn't have enough staff to do these inspections. Guidelines for residents will be on the website and in the City's Newsletter.

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder O'Connor to approve Ordinance 3-14-659 An Ordinance Concerning the Water Utility, was carried.

City Administrator Marsh reported per State statute local governments can't prohibit smoking in outdoor areas that are not the City's property. The City's smoking Ordinance preceded the State statute and should be updated. Business owners can prohibit smoking if they so choose.

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Busse to Amend Previously Adopted Ordinance 2-14-657 Permitting the Outdoor Consumption of Alcohol to remove the prohibition of smoking in outdoor areas, was carried.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Holmquist to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution No. 14-03-1963 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$3,160,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes, was carried.

Finance Director Houtakker reported this is borrowing for 2014 Capital projects, less utility and project savings. Mr. Belongia reported this is a 9½ year issue with a net tax rate of \$2.3 million annually. Low yields drive down net interest costs, and will be used toward the first interest payment. The average life is 6.310 years. The City's AA+ Standard & Poors rating helped achieve the very favorable true interest cost of 2.310% which is consistent with past rates.

A motion by Alder Holmquist, seconded by Alder O'Connor to approve Resolution No. 14-03-1963 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$3,160,000 General Obligation Promissory Notes. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

Public Works Director Stephany reported on the following Resolution. Six bids were received with the low bidder chosen and approved by the Public Works Committee on March 5. Old storm sewer will be replaced with a new structures including a manhole and two catch basins. Residents were notified on February 20 and a second notice will be mailed soon. Work will start June 7 with completion by August 22. The intersection will be closed during the day, but open to emergency vehicles.

A motion by Alder Busse, seconded by Alder Thomas to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 14-03-1965 2014 Tonyawatha Trail / Wyldhaven Avenue Storm Catch Basin and Main Replacement, was carried.

A motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Busse to approve Resolution 14-03-1965 2014 Tonyawatha Trail / Wyldhaven Avenue Storm Catch Basin and Main Replacement. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

Recreation Director Anderson provided information on Resolution 14-03-1961 Award of Contract for 2014 Arrowhead Park Playground Equipment, a 2014 Capital budget project to replace aging equipment. The five proposals received were reviewed by the public. The chosen contractor was not the lowest bidder, but the design was the overwhelming favorite. The contract is not to exceed \$60,000 for all components including pathway and signage, except concrete work.

Recreation Director Anderson provided information on Resolution 14-03-1962 Award of Contract for 2014 Lottes Park Shelter Architectural Services. Engineering for this project was approved at the last meeting; this is for the project design. The low bid was chosen, and will be reviewed by the Facilities Committee on Wednesday.

Recreation Director Anderson provided information on Resolution 14-03-1964 Approving Bids for 2014 Oneida Park Shelter and Authorizing a Contract for a Construction Manager for Construction Related Thereto, which was tabled by the Finance & Personnel Committee earlier tonight. Three contract categories came in too high and were re-bid.

Alder Busse questioned the fact that the Construction Manager is paid as a percentage of the total project, which would seem to encourage over-spending to increase pay or an unfair reduction in pay if savings were achieved. This will be reviewed by the Facilities Committee. Mr. Reed responded he always works on this basis, and did so on the Fireman's Park project. He usually shares savings 60/40, but the City will

get 100% of any savings he is able to obtain along with the reduction in the cost of his services. His incentive is to obtain repeat business.

Mayor Miller reported he and City Administrator Marsh met with a contractor who questioned the Construction Manager's role and as a competitor of Mr. Reed did not want to divulge trade secrets. The position does prevent mistakes but at a high cost. Mr. Reed responded his 7% fee is transparent, with no hidden fees or mark-ups. Contractors are self-performing, doing all the different types of work on a project. The Construction Manager ensures the best price. Bids are public record so Harmony Construction doesn't know any more information on a contractor than anyone else.

Project Coordinator Glaeser stated competitive bids can be sought for the Construction Manager but it makes sense to go with someone with a positive history and proven qualifications.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no Miscellaneous Business.

REPORTS

Recreation Director Anderson reported a contest comparing and ranking the City's playgrounds to award a champion is on the City's website as a fun way to evaluate parks. Mayor Miller reported he brought a dog park proposal to the Park & Recreation Board with the Public Works Garage and Waterman Way Park areas considered. The public will be asked for input.

Project Coordinator Glaeser reported educational materials about the solar panels will be on the website.

City Clerk Andrusz announced the contests on the April 1 Spring Election ballot and that in-person absentee voting is now available in City Hall. A sample ballot will be posted on the City's website.

City Administrator Marsh reported the final parts of the Monona Drive project will be worked on March 31 through May 21. The March 25 CDA meeting is cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

Mayor Miller reminded residents that 50th Anniversary Library cards are available for \$5.00. City Administrator Marsh reported the Library project will be reviewed by the Facilities Committee.

APPOINTMENTS

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

1. To the Board of Review:
 - a. Robert Larsen, Chair (May 1, 2014 – April 30, 2015)
 - b. Judy Lynn, 1st Alternate (May 1, 2014 – April 30, 2015)
 - c. Kellie Unke, 2nd Alternate (May 1, 2014 – April 30, 2015)
 - d. Richard Mastenbrook (May 1, 2014 – April 30, 2017)
 - e. Pat Chermak (May 1, 2014 – April 30, 2017)

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Alder Holmquist, seconded by Alder Busse to adjourn, was carried. (8:16 p.m.)

Joan Andrusz
City Clerk