

MONONA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
November 3, 2014

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 Brian Holmquist, Kathy Thomas, Jim Busse, Doug Wood, Chad Speight, and Mary O'Connor

Also Present: City Administrator Patrick Marsh, Finance Director Marc Houtakker, Recreation Director Jake Anderson, Scott Herrington from Vandewalle & Associates, Inc., J. J. Antonetti and Jeron Abegglen from Lantech Services, LLC, Director of Administrative Services Leah Kimmell, and City Clerk Joan Andrusz

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion by Alder O'Connor, seconded by Alder Speight to approve the Minutes from October 6, 2014 Committee of the Whole meeting, was carried.

A motion by Alder Busse, seconded by Alder Holmquist to approve the Minutes from the October 20, 2014 City Council meeting, was carried.

APPEARANCES

Peter McKeever, 6302 Southern Circle appeared before the Council and spoke regarding street maintenance relating to increasing chloride levels in lakes due to the use of road salt.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Miller declared the Public Hearing To Receive Public Input Regarding the Proposed 2015 Operating Budget open. The following individuals appeared before the Council and spoke in favor of increased Fire Department staffing:

- Assistant Fire Chief Bob Nelson, 302 Starry Avenue
- Assistant Fire Chief Dan Eklof, 5408 McKenna Road

Mayor Miller declared the Public Hearing closed.

CONSENT AGENDA

There was no Consent Agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A motion by Alder Speight, seconded by Alder O'Connor to remove from the table Resolution 14-09-1986 Approving a 2014 Capital Funds Transfer for Schluter Park Restroom Design, was carried.

Recreation Director Anderson reported this is the first step in this project, a transfer of Capital Budget funds for design costs of \$20,500.

A motion by Alder Speight, seconded by Alder O'Connor to approve Resolution 14-09-1986 Approving a 2014 Capital Funds Transfer for Schluter Park Restroom Design, was carried.

The following item was moved forward in the Agenda because it relates to this previous action.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Speight to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 14-11-1994 Award of Contract for Schluter Park Restroom Design and Construction Administration, was carried.

Recreation Director Anderson thanks Project Manager Shannon Haydin for her work on the RFP. Names and project amounts of the four bidding firms were announced. The low bidder, Dorschner & Associates was chosen after staff review and contact with all bidders. There is a "not to exceed" cost limit. The maker of the motion to approve and the second agree approval should be contingent upon City Attorney review and drafting of the contract review. Alder Busse reported this contractor built the Fitchburg bike hub and other public projects.

A motion by Alder Speight, seconded by Alder O'Connor to approve Resolution 14-11-1994 Award of Contract for Schluter Park Restroom Design and Construction Administration, contingent upon the City Attorney's review and drafting of the contract, was carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Alder Wood stated the following amendment brings City Ordinances into line with State Statutes. Lists of Operator's License applicants will appear periodically in the Council Consent Agenda.

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Speight to approve Ordinance 10-14-666 Concerning the Issuance of Operator's Licenses, was carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Alder Busse recuses himself from the discussion and vote on the following three Agenda items due to professional conflicts.

Both Resolution 14-11-1991 Authorizing a Contract with Vandewalle & Associates, Inc. for Planning Services for the Waterfront Redevelopment Master Plan in the City of Monona, Wisconsin and Resolution 14-11-1992 Authorizing a Contract with Vandewalle & Associates, Inc. for Planning Services for Development Management Assistance in the City of Monona, Wisconsin were discussed together.

Mr. Herrington reviewed the work his firm will do on the Triangle Project and hopes for a plan from the CDA early next year. The other contract would start on January 1, 2015. The scope of work was reviewed along with work already done.

City Administrator Marsh stated this is currently funded from TID 8, as it is within a half-mile of the Treysta project, and TID 8 will be reimbursed once the project is complete and increment is being received. Review will be done by the CDA and City Attorney who will put the contract into City contract form. Contract dates are January 1 through December 31, 2015.

For discussion of Resolution 14-11-1993 Approving the Boundaries of Redevelopment Area #9, Finding Such Area to be Blighted, and Approving a Redevelopment Plan for Said Redevelopment Area, Mr. Herrington provided a Power Point presentation that included a definition of "blight", and a map of the Triangle area. A Redevelopment District is in effect for as long as the CDA deems it needs to be in effect, so there is no rush to get the project done. The map showed how haphazardly lots were divided in the area. Goals of the plan were reviewed, including year-round use and gathering the community to the waterfront. A Master Plan is being worked on that includes commercial and residential mixed use, parking, and addressing stormwater management issues. A calendar of City approvals was reviewed, with final Council approval sought on November 17 and CDA on November 18. Property owners can object in writing to inclusion in the redevelopment. Condemnation action was reviewed but is not anticipated to be used. Redevelopment District 3 would be terminated because it is encompassed by Redevelopment District 9.

Finance Director Houtakker reviewed a summary of Resolution 14-11-1990 Adopting the 2015 Operating Budget and Establishing a Tax Levy, which would be an increase of \$136,000 or 2.4%. Debt service is exempt from the tax levy. The tax rate decreased from 6.12 to 6.02 per \$1,000 of assessed property value. The average home assessed at \$260,000 would see an increase of \$101 in property tax. This year the value of residential properties increased more than that of commercial properties. The fund balance would be 23.8%, higher than the 15% to 20% policy. He recommends keeping it there because of fluctuations in exempt computer aids, transportation aids, which can decrease a maximum of 10% and will go down next year, Library aid will be dropping, the possible increase in Fire Department staff, and health insurance, which started at a 12% increase and has been negotiated to a 7.5% to 8% increase. This percentage of increase costs \$80,000 every year. There could be a new Governor's budget. The City is grandfathered in to keep and use the hotel tax for purposes other than marketing, but this could

change.

Mayor Miller requested Mr. Antonetti and Mr. Abegglen provide information on problems that have occurred with the current email system. Mr. Antonetti provided information on a cloud-based system managed by governmental servers housed at Microsoft which has much larger storage. The current server would be removed. Updates and back-ups would be automatic, and a spam filter subscription would not be needed. It would take a week to “go live”. Current hardware would have to resynchronize with the cloud. Government licenses are more cost effective than outside products, but outside products could be added on. Security of personal notes was discussed.

Mr. Abegglen provided information on the MUFN network which is used by the Public Works Department now and maintenance has been approved in the budget. Wisnet is not included, but internet speeds are already fast internally. Uverse vs. MUFN was discussed, and further discussion should be done with staff. Mayor Miller requests more research on this.

City Administrator Marsh requests amendments be turned in by a week from this Wednesday at 5:00 p.m. Health insurance was discussed. The State plan increased by 7%, and Unity was the exception with a very low 3%, but the rest are in line with the City’s Physicians Plus increase of 8%. Director of Administrative Services Kimmell reported the State plan and the City’s current plan are not a straight comparison. An entity has to be members of a plan for three years until an actuary score is determined. Mayor Miller requests a full review mid-year including self-insurance.

Alder Wood confirmed with Finance Director Houtakker that the fund balance could be used and still allows carry-over of half of the current unspent levy amount. The cost of an additional Fire Fighter was discussed, with \$35,000 charged to both EMS and Fire for a total of \$70,000. Research is being done to consider the reduction in overtime and other costs, scheduling, and contract changes. This information will be provided to members by Wednesday.

REPORTS

Alder Wood reported that Saturday from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. the Library will provide a course on downloading ebooks. Also on Saturday at 2:00 p.m. the Library will host a presentation on effigy mounds by the Wisconsin Historical Society.

City Clerk Andrusz reminded listeners to come out to vote tomorrow from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and that voter photo ID is not required.

APPOINTMENTS

Alder O’Connor abstains from the following vote due to a personal relationship with one of those persons under consideration.

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

1. Susan Manning to the Community Media Committee
(effective immediately – May 2016).
2. Eric Redding to the Community Media Committee
(effective immediately – May 2017).
3. Carl Davick to the Community Media Committee
(effective immediately – May 2017).
4. Bob Bocher to the Community Media Committee
(effective immediately – May 2017).

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Alder Holmquist, seconded by Alder Wood to adjourn, was carried. (8:58 p.m.)

Joan Andrusz
City Clerk