

MONONA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
November 4, 2019

The regular meeting of the Monona City Council was called to order by Mayor O'Connor at 7:02 p.m.

Present: Mayor Mary K. O'Connor, Alderpersons Nancy Moore, Andrew Kitslaar, Doug Wood, Jennifer Kuhr, Kathy Thomas via telephone, and Molly Grupe

Also Present: City Administrator Bryan Gadow, Finance Director Marc Houtakker, Recreation Director Jake Anderson, Library Director Ryan Claringbole, Public Works Director Dan Stephany, Fire Chief Scott Sullivan, and City Clerk Joan Andrusz

ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Alder Grupe notes a typographical error in the October 16, 2019 Committee of the Whole minutes. In the first paragraph, the figure \$149.00 should be \$149,000.

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Grupe to approve the Minutes of the October 16, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting as amended, was carried.

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Moore to approve the Minutes of the October 21, 2019 City Council meeting, was carried.

A motion by Alder Kitslaar, seconded by Alder Moore to approve the Minutes of the October 23, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting, was carried.

APPEARANCES and PUBLIC HEARING

There were no Appearances or Public Hearing.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

1. Approval of Application for 2019/2020 Operator License:
 - a. Donald D. Dean II, Ken's Meats & Deli
2. Approval of Renewal Application for 2019/2020 Operator License:
 - a. Alissa C. Fiscus, Immaculate Heart of Mary Church
3. Approval of Application for 2019/2021 Operator License:
 - a. Anthony R. Benner, Speedway – Monona Drive

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Recreation Director Anderson reported he has received no further public input about the Riverfront park name since the last meeting. "Grand Crossing" was chosen unanimously by the Parks & Recreation Board. The sign style will be the same as other parks and include the words, "A City of Monona Park".

Alder Moore stated it should be known as “Grand Crossing Park” to be consistent with other City parks, shelters, and beaches which include those words in their names. This would be the only such facility not so named. There is extensive business signage at the location and it may not be clear that it’s a public park. Alder Grupe reported this was a comment made at the start of the naming process. Alder Wood stated this was discussed by the Parks & Recreation Board and Alder Kitslaar agreed the decision was made but there was not a strong preference either way. It is a more modern choice that fits in with the facilities in the area. It seems like people call it Grand Crossing Park anyway.

A motion by Alder Moore, seconded by Alder Grupe to amend “Grand Crossing” to “Grand Crossing Park” as the Name of the City Park at 6320 Inland Way, was carried.

Alder Moore pointed out the book title in the last “Whereas” section is incorrect and should be “Monona in the Making”. In addition, in the interest of sensitivity to Native Americans that information recorded by Caucasians is not always correct, she brings forth the following: A motion by Alder Moore, seconded by Alder Kuhr to amend the last “Whereas” section to, “...according to the book, “Monona in the Making”, the name Grand Crossing appears to be an historical reference used by Native Americans to describe that area of the Yahara River upon which the park is located.” Alder Wood reported that, according to the Dane County Place Names book he referenced, the term “grand crossing” was not used by Native Americans, but was a name given to a confluence of several Native American trails at that location and is probably of French origin. Alder Grupe proposed an amendment that the maker and second agreed upon.

A motion by Alder Moore, seconded by Alder Kuhr to amend the last “Whereas” section of Resolution 19-10-2377 as follows: “Whereas, the name Grand Crossing is an historical reference used to describe that area of the Yahara River as outlined in the book “Monona in the Making.”, was carried.

A motion by Alder Grupe, seconded by Alder Wood to approve Resolution 19-10-2377, as amended, Approving “Grand Crossing Park” as the Name of the City Park at 6320 Inland Way, was carried.

City Administrator Gadow reported there are no changes to the Assessor agreement since the last meeting. At that time the Finance & Personnel Committee met with an Accurate Appraisal, LLC representative who then stayed for the City Council meeting. Approved will be the full value program for the 4 years of the contract.

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Moore to approve Resolution 19-10-2376 Approving a Proposal from Accurate Appraisal, LLC for Services Related to the Assessment of Properties. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of amendments to Resolution 19-11-2380 Adopting the 2020 Operating Budget and Establishing a Tax Levy:

Amendment 20-01: To increase the 2020 Operating Budget by \$1,902 to increase a Public Works crew employee wage. Alder Kitslaar reported this reduces the 4-year plan to increase this employee’s wage, as discussed in Closed Session, to a 3-year plan. It is unknown what could happen in 4 years. Public Works Director Stephany expressed appreciation; this is a valuable employee and this brings him up to the proper level quicker.

Amendment 20-02: To decrease the 2020 Operating Budget by \$2,000 in Traffic Control Maintenance. Alder Kitslaar stated this will pay for the previous budget amendment. If insurance doesn't pay for light pole or traffic signal damage there is enough left in the account based upon history, or Fund Balance can be used.

Amendment 20-03: To increase the 2020 Operating Budget by \$1,784 to increase the Media Coordinator salary and increase Media Other Revenue by \$1,920 to include the School District share of recording School Board meetings. Alder Kuhr reported there was a miscalculation of the amount the School District is providing. The Media Coordinator will primarily be at the high school. These increases are as discussed by Director of Community Media Will Nimmow at the Committee of the Whole.

Members described additional amendments they plan to put forward. Alder Kuhr proposes an additional \$1,000 increase for the Library Youth Services Coordinator, paid for by reducing both Building and Equipment Maintenance budget lines by \$250 each and reducing Newsletter costs by \$500. Reducing the newsletter printing cost has been discussed, including reduced size and email distribution. Finance Director Houtakker will research those costs. Alder Wood stated he will propose some portion of the Fund Balance be used to pay off debt to get that account closer to the 20% policy threshold. Mayor O'Connor asks members to get amendments in as soon as possible so they can be included in the next meeting packet.

A motion by Alder Wood, seconded by Alder Kitslaar to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 19-11-2379 Requesting Exemption From County Library Tax, was carried.

Library Director Claringbole reported this is an annual requirement to recognize that the enough funds have been appropriated past an amount calculated on equalized values and the prior year's county tax rate so Monona won't be taxed by Dane County to help support the Dane County Library.

A motion by Alder Kitslaar, seconded by Alder Moore to approve Resolution 19-11-2379 Requesting Exemption From County Library Tax, was carried.

A motion by Alder Grupe, seconded by Alder Kitslaar to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 19-11-2378 A Preliminary Resolution Declaring Intent to Exercise Special Assessment Police Powers Under Section 66.0703, Wisconsin Statutes for Street Improvements to McKenna Road, was carried.

Public Works Director Stephany described the work planned and the assessment district. The assessable portion is the curb and gutter and road width. The total assessed won't exceed 60% of the City's cost, and can be paid in installments over 8 years. This will be determined at a public hearing and is contingent upon Public Works Committee approval. Alder Moore stated there was discussion about extending work all the way to the school. Public Works Director Stephany responded it was extended but not on Maywood Road; that is out of the scope of work. Sidewalk on Greenway Road won't be assessed.

A motion by Alder Kuhr, seconded by Alder Grupe to approve Resolution 19-11-2378 A Preliminary Resolution Declaring Intent to Exercise Special Assessment Police Powers Under Section 66.0703, Wisconsin Statutes for Street Improvements to McKenna Road, was carried.

A motion by Alder Grupe, seconded by Alder Moore to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 19-11-2381 Purchase Approval for the Replacement of Self-Contained-Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Bottles, was carried.

Fire Chief Sullivan reported this will replace the bottles carried on Firefighter's backs. The bottle's lifespan is 15 years; the current stock has exceeded this and need immediate replacement. He held off on replacement because he applied for a grant. The grant wasn't awarded; there were more applications than funds available. City Administrator Gadow reported there is funding in the Capital Budget by reducing the HVAC Repairs account and increasing borrowing in 2020.

A motion by Alder Grupe, seconded by Alder Moore to approve Resolution 19-11-2381 Purchase Approval for the Replacement of Self-Contained-Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Bottles. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

A motion by Alder Grupe, seconded by Alder Moore to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 19-11-2382 Amending the 2019 and 2020 Capital Budgets for the Purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Bottles, was carried.

Fire Chief Sullivan reported this action will fund the previous Resolution.

A motion by Alder Grupe, seconded by Alder Moore to approve Resolution 19-11-2382 Amending the 2019 and 2020 Capital Budgets for the Purchase of Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Bottles, was carried.

City Clerk Andrusz provided information on Ordinance 11-19-723 Adopting a Records Retention Schedule. The City is required to adopt, in full, a Records Retention and Destruction Schedule as approved by the Wisconsin Public Records Board. The Board approved the Wisconsin Municipal Records Schedule in August, 2018, updated from the 1980 version. Because the Schedule lists specific records and destroy dates, redundancies in the Ordinance were eliminated.

REPORTS

Alder Kitslaar reported the Tourism Commission met 2 weeks ago and awarded almost \$45,000 to various organizations with the goal of increasing hotel room stays in the City. Contracts for projects will be received soon.

Mayor O'Connor reported she was notified by developer Steve Doran that The Current will receive a Gold Award from the Associated Builders and Contractors of Wisconsin for Projects of Distinction and Excellence in Construction in a February ceremony, and extends her congratulations. She thanks those who attended the Education Foundation event for their support.

APPOINTMENTS

A motion by Alder Grupe, seconded by Alder Kitslaar to approve Kristie Schilling to the Transit Commission (effective immediately – April 2020), was carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion by Alder Grupe, seconded by Alder Kitslaar, to adjourn was carried. (7:41 p.m.)

Joan Andrusz
City Clerk