

SPECIAL COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDING OF THE CITY OF LADYSMITH

Monday, February 19th, 2024 5:15pm

Ladysmith Council Chambers

Members Present: Mayor Robert Grotzinger, Nathan Johnson, Mike Hraban, Al Christianson, Steve Weiss, Al Hraban, John Hoover. **Absent:** Richard Ostenso.

Others Present: Al Christianson, Pat Rowe, Doug Parker, Kurt Gorseger, Sara Nelson, Terry Carter, Jacob Schmidt, Luke Klink, Kim Cummings, Ashley Schultz, Marty Reynolds, Gordon Pederson, Carol Rozak, Bill Dyson, Nick Voss.

Call to Order: Mayor Grotzinger called the meeting to order a 5:15 p.m.

Roll Call: Clerk Nelson took roll call and a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by M. Hraban.

Introduction of Guest, Public Hearings, Appearances, Ordinances, Resolutions and Public Comments.

Public Hearing for special assessments regarding Miner Ave Project:

- Marty Reynolds questioned if properties were assessed at a per square foot assessment rate.
- Carol Rozak questioned if any other type of funding was researched rather than assessing the property owners only; questioned implementing wheel tax for funding.
- Admn. Christianson reported that when Worden Ave was replaced, a board which included both effected business property owners and councilmen; studied potential methods and this was determined to be the most equitable.
- DPW Gorseger reported that this process has been done since 1902 and the vast majority of communities use assessments to help finance their street projects.
- J. Hoover spoke in disagreement of the special assessments.
- A. Christianson reported the special assessments amount to roughly 15.8% of the total revenue used to fund the complete project.
- M. Hraban spoke reiterating how much time and homework was involved in determining this method of assessing property owners was the most equitable.
- Bill Dyson- Ladysmith Federal inquired about additional special assessment estimates being mailed.

Public Comments:

- Ashley Schultz- Ladysmith Dental Center discussed concerns about building access to the public during reconstruction.
- Ashley Schultz- Ladysmith Dental Center discussed concerns about losing water/sewer during reconstruction project.

- Kim Cummings-Ladysmith Dental Center discussed concerns regarding staff parking.
- Admn Christianson reported that effective signage is still being discussed, but he will be acquiring the City of Rice Lake's signs for free that were used during their recent Main Street project. Admn. Christianson reported that once a new director for the Chamber is hired, future meetings will be held to further discuss signage and further communication plans.

Adjourn: Motion by A. Hraban; seconded by N. Johnson to adjourn at 5:58 p.m. Motion passed by voice vote. 6-yes. 0-no.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Nelson, City Clerk