

As there were no other appearances, the Hearing was closed at 5:40 p.m.

The Mayor introduced Errin Welty from the Wisconsin Economic Development Corp. (WEDC) who traveled here from Madison (via Rice Lake) to review findings she has made about workforce housing in Wisconsin, which findings might be helpful to Ladysmith. She emphasized the need for good management of units. Her comments seemed to clarify issues and shed a more positive outlook for some of those present. A copy of a handout she used in conjunction with her presentation is attached.

Mr. Kenyon was asked and replied to a question about local residential rental rates. He provided a detailed response by housing size, type, age and condition. It is his sense that "management housing" is one type needed here, rented for, perhaps, \$1,500/month, while housing for young couples with children is another. He noted the latter use homes that offer 1,200-1,800 sq. ft., rented for \$800-1,000/month.

Mrs. Welty noted that when more housing is available it generates housing sales as folks move into types that better suit them given their age, family size and other factors. This in turn, makes what they've left available allowing the cycle to continue and ultimately better meeting needs of more households.

Attention then turned to a petition from downtown property owners and business operators seeking City support for construction of a farmer's market pavilion. It was suggested that, if other uses of a pavilion were to be identified, and the "farmer's" reference were to be eliminated, there would be more support. A couple possible additional uses mentioned were the following:

- As a weather protected venue for live outdoor music downtown.
- As a community flea market.

Both Errin Welty and local Farmer's Market Board member Gary Pomeranke spoke in favor of such project.

It was noted that the Ladysmith Community Industrial Development Corp. has pledged to cover half the cost of such pavilion. That Corporation's Board of Directors is made up of bankers, lawyers, realtors and management personnel who are typically very conservative in investment decisions they make in our community. They obviously support this project. The following were among several other reasons cited for proceeding:

- TIFD #8 has monies on hand, which could cover this investment.
- The new location has increased traffic at nearby businesses such as Village Parlor.
- Current market vendors are pleased with this location, which is easier to access and has considerably more parking than the previous site, while getting away from the busy RR.
- The market's primary benefit to the City is to attract folks downtown where they often patronize other businesses as well.

Resolutions and Ordinances:

Motion was made by M. Hraban and seconded by Stoneberg and carried by voice vote to approve Resolution #2019-01 to provide for levying special assessments to repair or replace identified sections of deteriorating or failed sidewalk, curb and gutter.

District and Committee Reports:

District One, Mr. Platteter:

Mr. Platteter distributed minutes from the previous week's Library Board meeting.

District Two, Mr. B. Morgan:

Mr. Morgan had nothing to report, adding that he did plan to ask questions during others' reports.

District Three, Mr. M. Hraban:

Mr. Hraban highlighted matters considered at the January 9, Property Committee meeting. He also advised that the R. C. Emergency Government Comm. has met twice lately as it continues work on planning for changes in future ambulance service.

District Four, Mr. J. Fields:

Mr. Fields reminded those present that the Community Development Committee will meet at 5:15 on Jan. 16th.

District Five, Mrs. B. Stoneberg:

Mrs. Stoneberg stated that she couldn't express how relieved her family is that Jayme Closs has been found, adding that everyone's efforts to keep her plight front and center helped her to be quickly identified when she escaped her captor. The family is grateful for the overwhelming level of support. Others present echoed these feelings.

Mrs. Stoneberg also advised that the Police and Fire Commission will meet Jan. 16th at 5:15 p.m. at the Fire Hall.

District Six, Mr. A. Hraban:

Mr. Hraban advised that the PW Committee will meet Jan. 21st at 2 p.m.

District Seven, Mrs. J. Pearson:

Mrs. Pearson has nothing to report.

Police and Fire Dept. Reports, K. Julien:

No report.

Public Works Dept. Report, Mr. D. Parker:

Mr. Hraban noted that DPW Gorseger told him road work presently planned for 2019 will be the most done in a single year in a long time.

Administrative Report, Mr. A. Christianson:

Action was requested to authorize seeking bids for construction of a clean fill disposal facility on a City-owned site off the north end of Meadowbrook Rd. Mr. Morgan stated his opinion that stumps should not be used in forming the berm on the north side of the fill site. It is anticipated that salvaged concrete slabs with rebar will be laid up in the manner of a retaining wall. Motion was then made by Pearson, seconded by M. Hraban and carried by voice vote to

Attorney's Report, Mr. A. Kenyon:

Mr. Kenyon had nothing to report. Recalling that Mr. Kenyon had indicated earlier in the meeting that a community needs five things to attract residents and that he only commented on the need for "amenities", Mrs. Rodriguez Cerra asked what the others are. Mr. Kenyon replied good housing, good medical facilities and good educational facilities.

Mayor's Forum, Mr. Christianson:

Mayor Christianson again echoed thoughts about Jayme Closs being found. He went on to note that:

- Former residents are making lots of comments on social media about positive strides Ladysmith is making.
- We owe it to our residents and taxpayers to improve roads.
- Former resident Matt Jablonsky will be giving a talk on drug addiction, how to recognize and avoid it. His presentation will be Monday, February 4.

Licenses and Permits:

None.

Adjourn:

Upon motion by A. Hraban, which was seconded by Morgan and carried by voice vote the meeting was adjourned at about 7:40 p.m.

Recorded by:

Alan Christianson
Adm.-Deputy Clerk

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