

COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF LADYSMITH

January 23, 2017

6:30 p.m.

Council Chamber

Video: Prior to the meeting being called to order, those present at that time viewed a plow museum promotional video that was revised from a previous version to incorporate suggestions the Council had made. One new suggestion was that the museum's location be clearly referenced as it has not been as yet.

Roll Call. Members present: A. Hraban, M. Hraban, R. Moore, B. Morgan, J. Pearson, M. Platteter, M. Reynolds, B. Stoneberg. Absent: none.

Others present: R. Carlson, A. Christianson 1 and 2, K. Gorseger, A. Lobermeier, A. Kenyon, L. Klink, J. Pohlman.

Call to Order:

Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order and served as chair.

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mrs. Stoneberg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Motion was made by A. Hraban, seconded by Moore and carried by voice vote to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2017 Council meeting.

Agenda:

Motion was made by M. Hraban, seconded by A. Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve the evening's agenda.

Hearings and Appearances:

ICAA Housing Director A. Christianson 2 distributed copies of articles suggesting how communities might go about attracting and retaining millennials.

Resolutions and Ordinances:

None.

District and Committee Reports:

District One, Mr. Platteter:

Mr. Platteter noted, in response to a question, that the Library Board will again take up the subject of Saturday openings at its February 14, meeting. Apparently two of the current staff have agreed to work Saturdays on a temporary basis.

District Two, Mr. B. Morgan:

Mr. Morgan referenced a Personnel meeting held Jan. 18th to review the City Administrator's job description in preparation for his retirement. He added that Adm. Christianson has now put those plans off. Mrs. Stoneberg noted disappointment that a

presumed recording of that meeting was blank. Adm. Christianson invited her to stop by for a review of that meeting and the handouts reviewed therein.

Mr. Morgan asked if the caution lights by the Middle School can be turned off while that school is closed to save money. It was noted they were put in for the City many years ago based upon a request from the school. Unfortunately, the cost to disconnect and re-connect them would be higher than leaving them on.

Mr. Carlson referenced two summaries he had passed out. One listing 2016 rail display accomplishments. The other listing planned 2017 rail display work.

District Three, Mr. M. Hraban:

Motion was made by M. Hraban and seconded by Moore to authorize Camp Flambeau to build the frame for and the Fine Arts Center Gallery to do artwork for a new Welcome to Ladysmith sign to be located near USDA offices at the west edge of the City. It is to be of identical design to those on the south, north and east approaches. While the cost is difficult to zero in on with Camp Labor the three that are up were believed to have cost about \$1,100 each when erected several years ago. Roll call vote: Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Moore-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Hraban thanked Kent and Shari Kavanagh for donating some very nice work benches for use in the rail display workshop at the Enterprise Center.

Mr. Hraban urged everyone to attend upcoming School Board meetings where critical long term decisions are likely to be made.

Mr. Hraban told how he encountered a possible business prospect by chance at the Enterprise Center and was able to connect him with Mr. Gorsegner, then Mr. Christianson.

District Four, Mr. R. Moore:

Mr. Moore had nothing to report.

District Five, Mrs. B. Stoneberg:

Mrs. Stoneberg noted a desire to have a Legal Affairs meeting and cited a handful of dates that may work.

District Six, Mr. A. Hraban:

Mr. Hraban advised that the Public Works Committee met just prior to this meeting and dealt with the following, actions on some of which will be added to the next All Committee agenda: addition of a chiller at the WTP; 2017 manhole replacement plan; 2017 crack fill, poly seal and chip seal list; and, possible water main reconstruction on W. 2nd from Lake to Pederson.

Mr. Morgan stated that some streets like Fritz Ave. W. are in worse shape than those (Center, E. 8th, and Pederson) rebuild plans are being developed for. It was acknowledged that streets those plans are being developed for were selected in part because they are ones that grant funding is most likely to be secured for to reduce the City's cost, and in part because they have undersized water mains. Mayor Reynolds expressed optimism that the new administration will support increased infrastructure re-construction.

District Seven, Mrs. J. Pearson:

Mrs. Pearson made a motion, which was seconded by Moore to have the Fine Arts Center Gallery create six 4'x8' vintage holiday greeting card enlargements for \$1,509. These will be used as decorations either downtown or Memorial Park, or both. It is intended that they will be made available for viewing prior to next holiday season in hopes that private businesses or individuals will sponsor them (\$250 each?). Roll call vote: Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Moore-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes. Motion carried.

Mrs. Pearson mentioned that the Park Board will meet at 5:30 p.m. on January 25th. Mr. Hraban questioned whether nearby property owners and the City's insurance carrier have been consulted about the amphitheater plan. Dave Lane at Lamperts is preparing preliminary plans. Questions were also raised about what non-construction costs the City is expected to pay will be, and how those will be covered. These are to include design and engineering costs, utility costs, and, perhaps, others. The Lions need to see cost estimates after design is complete to know what they will commit to when. Thus far the City has only committed to covering the cost of preliminary design of the amphitheater seating.

Mrs. Pearson also advised that the P&FC wants to send officers Stolp and Schmit to Washington, D.C. from May 12-16 to visit the National Law Enforcement Memorial. The cost is expected to be about \$1,000 each.

Police and Fire Dept. Reports, A. Lobermeier:

Chief Lobermeier elaborated on the National Law Enforcement Memorial visit.

Public Works Dept. Report, Mr. K. Gorsegner:

DPW Gorsegner noted the City's brush chipper is in need of replacement at some point. He provided a leaflet advertising a discontinued Terex model currently available at a deeply (40%) discounted price.

DPW Gorsegner advised that the City has received its Focus on Energy rebate for lighting replacement at the City shop.

Administrative Report, Mr. A. Christianson:

Members were reminded that WisDOT wants to know whether the City is willing to pay \$8,300 to have the pedestrian lights at W. 2nd and Lake relocated, or whether the City just wants them taken down at no charge.

Adm. Christianson reported that he will be meeting with the Rusk County Property Committee on March 10th to seek its support for a plow shed building to increase display capacity at the plow museum considerably at a comparatively small cost.

Adm. Christianson reported that he met the previous week with the manager and a couple vendors from the farmer's market in regard to what that group might do to bolster any effort to construct a new pavilion, or upgrade the present one. They will get back with a reply, which he will pass along to the Council.

No objections were stated to allowing a responsible party to remove conifer tree seedlings from the Highway 8 road bank adjacent to the ranger station.

There was discussion of making silhouettes of servicemen ascending the ramp into one of the passenger cars at the rail display. Mr. Carlson expressed concerns about these possibly blocking the view of the car for photographers, as the hand car shed has.

It was reported that Xcel's insurance carriers will no longer allow holiday roping (garland) to be hung off street light poles. An "underbuild" using rebuilt salvaged poles the City has likely wouldn't pass muster with the City's insurance carrier as these rebuilds would not be engineering approved. They likely wouldn't provide required clearance above the roadway either. This was investigated as one of the most recurring themes on local chat sites is bringing back the garland and large decorations that once hung over Miner Ave.

Adm. Christianson has yet to hear back from WisDOT or CN about the planned veterans mural setback from Lake and Miner Avenues.

Attorney's Report, Mr. A. Kenyon:

Nothing to report.

Mayor's Forum, Mr. M. Reynolds:

Mayor Reynolds reported that the initial meeting of the Ladysmith Tourism Commission went very well.

Licenses and Permits:

Motion was made by A. Hraban, seconded by Moore and carried by voice vote to approve tavern operator's licenses for Matthew Busko and Stephanie Richard, both for Krist Oil. Both have been approved by LPD.

Adjourn:

At about 7:45 p.m. motion was made by A. Hraban, seconded by Moore and carried by voice vote to adjourn.

Recorded by: _____

Alan Christianson
Adm.-Deputy Clerk

RESOLUTION #2017-01 RECOGNIZING OLD WARNER CEMETERY

WHEREAS, over the past couple of years, considerable effort has been put forth in both improving the appearance of what has come to be known as the "Old Warner Cemetery" and in researching its past.

WHEREAS, the physical effort has turned a once important, but since forgotten, corner of the community into an attractive asset and the research seems to indicate that, although some interments were relocated to Riverside Cemetery or elsewhere, that some undoubtedly remain at the Old Warner Cemetery; perhaps simply never found, or never sought by a family that moved on.

WHEREAS, the City of Ladysmith is appreciative of both these efforts and hereby commends those who made them.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Ladysmith that it does hereby recognize and name the Old Warner Cemetery for what it is, a closed cemetery, with appropriate signage, and that the Council does hereby agree that it will maintain this property although it shall remain closed to further interments.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Ladysmith that it does hereby agree to post the names of those believed, pursuant to the above referenced research, to be interred there in the same places as those interred at Riverside Cemetery are posted.

_____ by voice vote at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Common Council held the ___ day of _____, 2017.

Signed: _____
Marty Reynolds
Mayor

Attest: _____
Alan Christianson
Adm. Dep. Clerk