

COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF LADYSMITH
November 12, 2018 6:30 p.m. Council Chamber

Roll Call.

Members present: A. Christianson 2, J. Fields, A. Hraban, M. Hraban, B. Morgan, J. Pearson, M. Platteter, B. Stoneberg. Absent: none.

Others present: A. Christianson 1, K. Gorsegner, K. Julien, A. Kenyon, L. Klink, D. Parker, J. Pohlman, V. Spooner.

Call to Order:

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Platteter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Motion was made by A. Hraban, seconded by M. Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2018 Council meeting.

Agenda:

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

Hearings and Appearances:

Children's Librarian Valerie Spooner commented on the success of the first Mayor's Reading Challenge then joined the Mayor in presenting medals and participation certificates to a large group that assembled. It was reported that 51 people were involved and that they read for a total of 72,313 minutes.

Resolutions and Ordinances:

It was explained that the City's water utility is currently operating at a less than acceptable rate of return. Two options are available. The City is allowed [by PSC] on its own to adopt a so-called "simplified rate increase", or to follow exacting procedures for a full rate increase. While it is felt adoption of a simplified rate increase is a good idea at this time the City is likely to need to follow the more involved procedure in 2019. Motion was made by Stoneberg and seconded by M. Hraban to approve a simplified water user rate increase of 3%. Roll call vote: Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by M. Hraban, seconded by A. Hraban and carried by voice vote to adopt Ordinance #2018-07 to provide for Public Works Charges for certain services.

Motion was made by M. Hraban and seconded by Pearson to adopt Resolution 2018-22 ordering repair or replacement of certain sidewalks, mostly in the SE quadrant of the

City. Roll call vote: Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by M. Hraban, seconded by Pearson and carried by voice vote to adopt Resolution #2018-23 a preliminary resolution declaring intent to exercise special assessment police powers under Section 66.0703 Wis. Stats. relating to sidewalk repair and replacement. Roll call vote: M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by M. Hraban, seconded by Stoneberg and carried by voice vote to adopt ordinance #2018-eliminate requirement that bonds be purchased for staff members that handle cash, as City has insurance for this. Roll call vote: Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes. Motion carried.

District and Committee Reports:

District One, Mr. Platteter:

Mr. Platteter advised that the Library Board will meet at 5 p.m. November 13th.

District Two, Mr. B. Morgan:

Mr. Morgan reported that the Personnel Committee met in closed session Nov. 8th to address issues relating to hiring a Comptroller to replace Mrs. Verdegan who is retiring.

District Three, Mr. M. Hraban:

Mr. Hraban called attention to minutes of the Oct. 29, Property and All Committees meetings. He also noted that the Rusk Co. Emergency Government Committee will meet at 8 a.m. on Nov. 14th.

Mr. Hraban made a motion, which was seconded by Stoneberg to accept Rands Trucking's Proposal to demo and dispose of structures at the old animal shelter site for a fee of \$2,600, as a cost to the animal shelter. Roll call vote: Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes Motion carried.

It was reported that the Fire Chief wants the Council to hold off on accepting The Gutter Guy's Proposal to furnish and install new seamless rain gutter on the north side of the fire hall for \$3,550.

Mr. Hraban hopes to have JMC minutes available for the next meeting as several actions were approved at its Nov. 8, meeting.

District Four, Mr. J. Fields:

Mr. Fields set a Community Development Committee meeting for Monday, Nov. 19th at 4:30 p.m.

District Five, Mrs. B. Stoneberg:

Mrs. Stoneberg had nothing to report.

District Six, Mr. A. Hraban:

Mr. A. Hraban made a motion and M. Hraban seconded to accept the Northern Seamless' Proposal to replace the ballasted rubber roof at City Hall for \$15,400, as a cost to building maintenance. Roll call vote: A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. A. Hraban made a motion and M. Hraban seconded to approve Change Order No. 1 with McCabe on the W. 2nd St. N. project, in the amount of (-)\$762.14, to account for actual material quantities used. Roll call vote: Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. A. Hraban made a motion and M. Hraban seconded to approve final Pay Request No. 5 from McCabe, in the amount of \$1,552.75, on the W. 2nd St. N. Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. A. Hraban made a motion and seconded by to approve Change Order No. 2 with McCabe, in the amount of (+)\$20,630.54, to account for actual material usage on the E. 8th St./Pederson Ave./Center Ave. project. Roll call vote: Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. A. Hraban made a motion and M. Hraban seconded to approve final Pay Request No. 5, in the amount of \$17,349.65, on the E. 8th St. S./Pederson Ave./Center Ave. project. Roll call vote: M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Hraban made a motion which was seconded by Fields and carried by voice vote to authorize the Mayor to sign the project acceptance form for both the W. 2nd St. N. and E. 8th St. S./Pederson Ave./Center Ave. projects.

District Seven, Mrs. J. Pearson:

Mrs. Pearson asked who organizes Winter Magic, adding that some folks on social media are seeking additional activities. It was noted, in response, that Clerk Kavanagh takes the lead on this.

Police and Fire Dept. Reports, K. Julien:

Chief Julien reported that he received a resignation letter from Office Makina on 10/30 and that Dan Andrews from Tomahawk has been hired to replace him.

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

Motion was made by M. Hraban and seconded by A. Hraban to approve an MSA invoice in the amount of \$3,375, for SDWLP administration and another in the amount of \$7,500 for CDBG administration. Roll call vote: Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by M. Hraban and seconded by Stoneberg to accept the gravel bid of \$3,850 from Thompson Excavating. Roll call vote: Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-abstain; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by M. Hraban and seconded by A. Hraban to accept JL Electric's Proposal to light the west side of the mural west of the P.O. for \$3,560. There was discussion of lighting the east side at the same time for an additional \$280/unit, but JL had noted that would not be a problem to do at a future date. Roll call vote: Roll call vote: A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes. Motion carried.

It is currently anticipated that the veteran depictions for this mural will be installed the week after Thanksgiving.

Administrative Report, Mr. A. Christianson:

Adm. Christianson asked for approval of expenditure of \$1,200 for roofing materials for the 1920s House garage to be used for volunteer work space as a cost to The Mining Fund. Motion was made by M. Hraban and seconded by A. Hraban to approve. Roll call vote: Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes. Motion carried.

Roll call vote: A. Hraban-; Pearson-; Platteter-; Morgan-; M. Hraban-; Fields-; Stoneberg-. Motion ed.

Adm. Christianson advised that Hoover Const. feels it can rehab the double doors on the north side of the fire hall for about \$1,000; a fraction of the \$5,000(+) cost for new fiberglass doors. These doors provide access to both the local and area departments to refill air tanks. This rehab is expected to extend their useful life by several years. Motion was made by Stoneberg and seconded by A. Hraban to approve. Roll call vote: Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes. Motion carried.

Adm. Christianson recalled a previous recommendation to add interest to both the visitor center and Lake Ave. rail displays by adding three railroad worker depictions to be done by the City's mural artist. In this case the depictions would be of volunteers. One standing in the locomotive as a conductor at a cost of \$275 to TIFD #9. Two seated in the motorcar on Lake Ave. as a \$550 cost to TIFD #8. Motion was made by M. Hraban and seconded by A. Hraban to approve. Roll call vote: Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by M. Hraban and seconded by Stoneberg to approve the All Committees recommendation to contract with SEH for a base price of \$32,500 to investigate the feasibility of converting either the former armory or the former elementary school into a community center. Mr. Morgan restated his earlier objection to not using the local bidder on the grounds that an out of town contractor would be more likely to charge

for additional travel costs that might offset their lower base bid. Mr. Fields stated that he concurs with Mr. Morgan's desire to use local contractors as much as possible, but also understood Mrs. Pearson's thoughts on bringing in outside ideas. He went on to say that he will vote yes to keep this effort moving forward. Roll call vote: M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-no; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-no. Motion carried.

Adm. Christianson a desire to move forward with the next steps in developing a clean fill disposal site, for which the City has obtained a DNR facility permit. He stated the purpose is to create an industrial site on a portion of this same property, which portion is currently covered with 2002 tornado debris. Motion was made by M. Hraban, seconded by A. Hraban and carried by voice vote to authorize proceeding with next steps to develop DNR approved clean fill site off north end of Meadowbrook Rd.

-Apply for DNR grading permit for area within 500 ft. of surface water (river).

[-Seek quotes for bulldozing stable debris south of site to form initial berm on north side.]

[-Seek quotes for constructing access road along west side of site.]

Motion was made by Morgan and seconded by A. Hraban to accept Doug's Plumbing Proposal to get plumbing operational in former armory garage at an estimated cost of \$3,000, as a cost to The Mining Fund. Roll call vote: Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Fields asked about success finding larger vintage style holiday decorations. Adm. Christianson stated that, while he found 6-8" tall decorations in a recent catalog, these appeared to be covered with parade float material and be ringed with mini lights. Mayor Christianson, on the other hand, found some blow molded ones and will seek more info about them. It was mentioned that it is no longer possible to hang decorations across Miner Ave. as Xcel doesn't want wind load on its poles, the poles are not located the street from each other, and in building anchors were largely lost during the tornado.

Attorney's Report, Mr. A. Kenyon:

After stating that he will wait for another meeting with a few items owing to the length of this evening's agenda Atty. Kenyon did call attention to articles in Affordable Housing magazine which featured senior housing in floors above a hospital and ????. He noted that there is a continuum of housing needs.

Mayor's Forum, Mr. Christianson:

Mayor Christianson asked approval of his nomination of Dave Lane to serve on the Housing RLF Board, citing his knowledge of housing materials. One slot had been open for a time. Motion was made by Fields, seconded by Stoneberg and carried by voice vote to approve.

The Mayor also asked approval of his nomination of Sue Moore to the Tourism Commission noting she has been very involved for some time in community promotion activities. Motion was made by M. Hraban, seconded by A. Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve this appointment.

The Mayor advised that Housing Consultant Dave Porterfield will stop in Ladysmith on November 26th at 11 a.m. His firm, Movin Out, feels our City could field a very competitive application for multi-family housing assistance. Anyone interested was invited to attend this meeting.

The Mayor noted some folks are confused about their reassessment notices. Mr. Hraban advised that the Board of Review will meet Nov. 29th, but advised people to meet directly with the assessor during the so-called "Open Book" session.

The Mayor reported that he had attended an Adult Day Services open house where he met an Iraq war veteran who had paid quite a price, but is receiving help thanks in part to the Wounded Warrior Project and similar assistance programs. He then asked veterans in the room to stand and be recognized. Mr. Gorsegner, Mr. M. Hraban and Mrs. Pearson all received applause for their service to Country.

The Mayor reported that the Youth Commission decided on its own to survey their peers and will meet to discuss the results of that survey on Nov. 28th. Mr. M. Hraban offered to meet with the Commission should they want to speak with someone who is familiar with local governmental processes.

Licenses and Permits:

None.

Other:

Referring to agenda item 20) language "modifications to City Hall staff work hours", Mr. Pohlman cautioned the Council to keep in mind staff works for the public, not the other way around.

Closed Session:

Motion was made by A. Hraban to go into Closed Session under authority granted in S. 19.85 (1) (c), Wis. Stats. Roll call vote: Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by A. Hraban, seconded by A. Hraban and carried by voice vote to return to Open Session.

Motion was made by Fields and seconded by A. Hraban to go into Closed Session under authority granted in S. 19.85 (1) (e) Wis. Stats. Roll call vote: Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by A. Hraban, seconded by Fields and carried by voice vote to return to Open Session.

Motion was made by Stoneberg and seconded by A. Hraban to make an offer of \$1,500 to Rusk County to purchase Lots 4,5,8 and 9 in Block 8 of Greenwood Park Addition,

which the County acquired by tax deed. Roll call vote: Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Morgan, seconded by Al Hraban and carried by voice vote to offer position of Comptroller to selected individual at same pay scale retiring Comptroller is receiving.

Adjourn:

Upon motion by A. Hraban, which was seconded by Morgan the meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.

Recorded by: _____
Alan Christianson
Adm.-Deputy Clerk

Publication:

Date submitted: _____

Date published: _____