

COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF LADYSMITH
February 24, 2016 6:30 p.m. Council Chamber

Roll Call. Members present: K. Brown, A. Hraban, B. Morgan, J. Pearson, M. Reynolds, B. Stoneberg. Absent: M. Hraban, M. Platteter. A quorum was present.

Others present: A. Christianson, K. Gorseger, C. Huiras, A. Lobermeier, A. Kenyon, L. Klink, S. Martin.

Call to Order:

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Kenyon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Minutes of the February 22, 2016 Council meeting were distributed for review.

Agenda:

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

Hearings and Appearances:

Scott Martin of MSA appeared to describe a project whereby MSA would seek CDBG funds on the City's behalf to reconstruct three sections of street. Portions of Center Ave., Pederson Ave. and E. 8th St. It was noted, in response to a question, that the project outlined in one where need meets opportunity. The preliminary combined cost estimate for rebuilding these sections is near \$1,000,000, toward which the City could seek a maximum grant of 50%; \$500,000. An income survey of residents in at least the Pederson Ave. area is needed to confer eligibility for that part of the project. And since applications are due in May, decisions to proceed need to be made so those who put application together aren't rushed.

He offered a contract for services to make the application for a fee of \$10,000. He was asked to consider reducing that fee, but explained that fee is set to recover the actual cost of services provided. He did note that one way to get a somewhat lower fee would be to enter into an agreement similar to what MSA has with cities such as Merrill where the firm essentially serves as its City engineer on a semi permanent basis. That has the advantage of the firm learning more about the city's infrastructure, which simplifies work it needs to do and allows MSA's marketing budget to be eliminated.

A question was raised why other vendors aren't making proposals on this same project. It was noted, in response, that MSA asked to be on the agenda to make this proposal and that any engineering firm is free to do the same at any time. It was pointed out that Morgan and Parmley is working on plans for two other street projects, Corbett and

Summit. [SEH did some preliminary work on resurfacing Barnett and Gustafson Roads, but the private party needed to justify that project didn't go ahead with its expansion.]

Resolutions and Ordinances:

Motion was made by Pearson and seconded by A. Hraban to adopt Ordinance #2016-01 adding portions of W. 6th St. N. and Pederson Ave. to the list of designated heavy truck routes for a one year trial period. Motion was made, seconded and carried by voice vote to change the trial period to 13 months. The revised ordinance was then adopted by voice vote.

District and Committee Reports:

District One, Mr. Platteter:

Mr. Platteter was absent.

District Two, Mr. B. Morgan:

Mr. Morgan had nothing to report.

District Three, Mr. M. Hraban:

Mr. Hraban was absent.

District Four, Mr. K. Brown:

Mr. Brown had nothing to report.

District Five, Mrs. B. Stoneberg:

Mrs. Stoneberg had nothing to report.

District Six, Mr. A. Hraban:

Mr. Hraban had nothing to report..

District Seven, Mrs. J. Pearson:

Mrs. Pearson had nothing to report.

Police and Fire Dept. Reports, A. Lobermeier:

Chief Lobermeier had nothing to report.

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

The DPW reported that he and a couple PW Dept. crew members went to Holcombe the previous day to view a couple used air compressors. They prefer the larger (210 cfm), less costly one even though it has a lot more (1,736 vs. 537) hours on it. That is because it has adequate on-board storage area for the tools and accessories needed with it. Having these on board will save loading and unloading each time it is used. Used compressors tend to disappear quickly such that it is best to act quickly if one will meet the need. The current compressor is planned to be sold on an on-line auction site.

Motion was made by Morgan and seconded by Brown to authorize purchase of the 210 cfm compressor for \$8,900. Roll call vote: Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-absent; Brown-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-absent. Motion carried.

The DPW advised that the City's 17 year old steamer is near its end and will be costly to repair. This is the time of year when the steamer is needed most to open up storm water inlets and pipes that are frozen shut. An option may be to get a new one at about \$5,000.

Administrative Report, Mr. A. Christianson:

Adm. Christianson related that the very first time the City applied for assistance from the then new CDBG program, in 1977, it paid 15% of the requested grant amount (\$75,000 for \$500,000) for grant writing services. Motion was made by Brown and seconded by A. Hraban to approve the MSA Professional Services Agreement described earlier in the meeting by Mr. Martin provided, however, that he is to provide the City itemized costs for components of the \$10,000 fee. Roll call vote: M. Hraban-absent; Brown-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes. Motion carried.

Adm. Christianson distributed copies of a draft chicken keeping ordinance that combines elements of removing chickens from a list of animals that cannot be kept in the City and adds chicken keeping as an allowable conditional use that can be considered on a case by case basis by the Planning Commission. [This is tentatively slated for public hearing on March 14th.]

Adm. Christianson read a Proclamation endorsing the principles of fair and open housing to all persons. He explained that, although the City adopted a fair housing ordinance years ago, calling attention to it is required in conjunction any new application for CDBG funds. This Proclamation will be on the next agenda for Council action to endorse it.

Attorney's Report, Mr. A. Kenyon:

Nothing to report.

Mayor's Forum, Mr. M. Reynolds:

Mayor Reynolds stated that he went into the previous Council meeting with the intent of telling the log haulers present to talk to CN about their need to have the rail yard exiting improved. When he learned they had already done so, to no avail, that changed his thinking on the subject. He commended the Council for taking action to do what government is expected to do; to help resolve matters for its citizens.

Mayor Reynolds also advised that current plans are to not hold an All Committee meeting on Monday, February 29th.

Licenses and Permits:

None.

Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

ORDINANCE #2016-02

AMENDING CHICKEN KEEPING RULES

WHEREAS, the Common Council would like to lift the long time prohibition on chicken keeping within the City and, instead allow the practice on a limited basis as a means of supporting personal choices to live more sustainable lifestyles.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Common Council of the City of Ladysmith do hereby ordain as follows.

1. That existing Section 7-1-13 (c) (27) of the Municipal Code of Ordinances is hereby rewritten to read as follows:

(27) Except in properly zoned districts, horses, mules, ponies, donkeys, cows, pigs, goats, sheep or any animal raised for fur bearing purposes unless otherwise permitted elsewhere in this Code.

2. That Sec. 13-1-24 (b) (7) of the Municipal Code of Ordinances is hereby created to read as follows.

(7) Chicken keeping.

3. That this amendment ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication.

_____ by _____ vote at a regular meeting of the Common Council held the
__ day of _____, 2016.

City of Ladysmith

Proclamation Endorsing the Principles of Fair and Open Housing to All Persons

Be it known to all that the City Board of the City of Ladysmith proclaims that the City will endorse and adhere to the principles of fair and open housing to all persons.

The City of Ladysmith has adopted a Fair Housing Ordinance which guarantees equal housing opportunity to all Americans and helps provide access to affordable housing for all people, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, sexual orientation, ancestry, marital status, handicapped, income or family status. Fair Housing is consistent with the principle of equality and justice for all, and we all need to share in the effort to ensure that fair housing is a reality for all Americans.

Proclaimed this 29th day of February, 2016, by the City Council of Ladysmith.