

COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF LADYSMITH
February 10, 2020 5:15 p.m. Council Chamber

Roll Call.

Members present: A. Christianson 2, J. Fields, B. Groothousen, A. Hraban, B. Morgan, M. Platteter, B. Stoneberg. Absent: M. Reynolds.

Others present: R. Carlson, A. Christianson 1, K. Gibbs, K. Gorseger, Z. Gotham, J. Hoover, A. Kaiser, A. Kenyon, J. Kenyon, L. Klink, S. Moore, D. Parker, C. Schultz, J. Verdegan.

Call to Order:

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

Pledge of Allegiance:

Mr. Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Motion was made by Hraban, seconded by Platteter and carried by voice vote to approve the minutes of the January 27, Council meeting.

Agenda:

Motion was made by Hraban seconded by Stoneberg and carried by voice vote to approve the evening's agenda, with item 17) a. advanced to Hearings and Appearances.

Hearings and Appearances:

Project Engineer Zech Gotham appeared to explain the following Change Orders, many of which were adjustments for actual quantities of materials used and others of which were necessitated by unforeseen underground conditions such as encountering and having to remove and dispose of underground fuel storage tanks.

*C.O. #1 with Haas Sons, in the amount of (-) \$33,133.37, for changes in quantities of materials used on the Summit Ave. reconstruction project.

*C.O. #3 with Haas Sons, in the amount of (+) \$3,998.66, for changes in quantities of materials used on the Fritz Avenue resurfacing project from W. 5th St. n. to W. 9th St. N.

*C.O. #3 with Haas Sons, in the amount of (+) \$139,407.71, for various additional work items on the CDBG-assisted Fritz and Worden Ave. reconstruction projects.

Mr. Gotham noted these Change Orders increased the total project costs by 4.79%.

Mr. Hraban made a motion and Morgan seconded to approve. Roll call vote: Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; Groothousen-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; Hraban-; Reynolds-absent. Motion carried.

Mr. Morgan asked why a CN flagman was dispatched for full days and at considerable cost when there was little activity on Fritz Ave. DPW Gorseger replied that new CN insurance standards require a flagman to be present even when a worker is merely walking through a construction zone.

Ray Carlson appeared to report that SHOT will test oxygen at Corbett Lake and to request approval to have Morgan and Parmley check sediment depths in Corbett Lake while there is still ice. The cost will be \$400-600 as a professional service cost to TIFD #9. Motion was made by Stoneberg and seconded by Groothousen to approve. Roll call vote: Morgan-yes; Groothousen-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; Hraban-yes; Reynolds-absent; Platteter-yes. Motion carried. Mention was made of possible need to test annually.

Mr. Carlson will leave one full copy of the Corbett Lake Management Plan Annual Progress Report at the media table and send the other two to WDNR and SEH. The Report was approved at the Jan. 27, Council meeting. Mr. Carlson also mentioned that the assistance Mark Nelson had provided him is now being ably carried on by Mr. Parker.

Licenses and Permits:

None.

Resolutions and Ordinances:

Mr. John Kenyon appeared to advocate approval of an ordinance amendment to allow consideration of constructing two family dwellings in one family zoning districts with benefit conditional use permit. Such permits are considered by the Planning Comm. on a case by case basis. He stated that this change will help address a housing shortage, which is making it difficult to attract new residents here. Motion was made by Groothousen and seconded by Morgan to adopt Ordinance #2020-01 to amend the Zoning Code to list two-family residential dwellings, a/k/a duplexes, as eligible for consideration by Conditional Use Permit in R-1, one-family zoning districts.

Mr. Hoover commented that there are a few places where well done tiny homes might also be appropriate to consider by conditional use permit. He then passed around sketches depicting how attractive these could be.

The next step for Mr. Kenyon is to apply for a conditional use permit for the duplex he desires to build.

District and Committee Reports:

District One, Mr. Platteter:

Mr. Platteter advised that there will be a Library Board meeting on Feb. 11th, at 5 p.m.

District Two, Mr. B. Morgan:

Mr. Morgan asked Mr. Parker to look for plans for the last resurfacing of W. 5th St. N. to determine when that was done. He went on to say that Bob Thompson Exc. rebuilt the street and Russ Thompson Exc. did the underground work.

District Three, Mr. B. Groothousen:

Mr. Groothousen called attention to the minutes of the Jan. 30, Planning Comm. meeting on pages 7 and 8 of the Council packet, and also advised that the Commission will meet next on Tues., Feb. 25th to consider possible creation of TIFDs #12 and #13.

District Four, Mr. J. Fields:

Mr. Fields reminded those present that the Personnel Committee will meet following this meeting.

District Five, Mrs. B. Stoneberg:

Mrs. Stoneberg had nothing to report.

District Six, Mr. A. Hraban:

Mr. Hraban called attention to the Feb. 3, All Comm. minutes on pages 9-11 of the meeting packet. Mr. Hraban also reported that the Transit Board met Feb. 7th to approve its budget for 2020, and that there is an Emergency Govt. meeting upcoming.

District Seven, Mr. M. Reynolds:

Mr. Reynolds was absent.

Police and Fire Dept. Reports, K. Julien:

Chief Gibbs reported that the fundraiser Ladysmith Family Restaurant held recently netted \$3,016 each for the Sheriff's Dept., Police and Fire Departments. He also noted that \$2-3,000 of repairs may be needed to a Rural Community Fire Dept. tanker, which that entity will need to pay for, and that heating equipment at the approximately 16-year-old fire hall is in need of attention.

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

DPW Gorsegner asked approval of a couple small Change Orders relating the armory conversion project. There will be an increase in concrete work to provide better inside drainage at a cost of \$3,840, but a decrease in related plumbing saving \$1,000, for a net increase of \$2,840. Motion was made by Hraban and seconded by Groothousen to approve.

Motion was made by Hraban, seconded by Morgan and carried by voice vote to approve the right of way plat for the 2021 Lake Ave. and E. 3rd St. (Lake to River Ave.) resurfacing project. Some small parcels are needed to facilitate upgrades to some corners and to handicap access ramps at key locations.

Administrative Report, Mr. A. Christianson:

Adm. Christianson requested approval of a lease revision with TNT Auto to change the leased premises from 719 Summit Ave. to 1207 Doughty Rd. and to extend the renewal term from 6 months to one year, while leaving the lease rate the same at \$550/month. Motion was made by Hraban, seconded by Stoneberg and carried by voice vote to approve.

Adm. Christianson also asked for affirmation of an earlier commitment to proceed with a mural featuring some (10) well-known former residents to go on the reverse side of a Vets' mural to be relocated along the north driveway into the fire hall. That mural is now located on the E. 2nd St. side of a former hardware store, whose owner has asked that it be moved. This will be a \$4,496 cost to TIFD #8. Motion was made by Fields and seconded by Hraban to approve. Roll call vote: Fields-yes; Stoneberg-no; Hraban-yes; Reynolds-absent; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; Groothusen-yes. Motion carried.

Adm. Christianson distributed a draft resolution providing for dissolving TIFD #5, which encompasses the Weather Shield North and South Plants. It is expected that this District will need to be dissolved by April 15th, and that District #9 will need to be reduced in size, both for the purpose of reducing the City's total value in all districts below 12%, so that it can create new Districts #12 and #13. New districts may not be created if the total is greater than 12%, which Districts #5, #8, #9, #10 and #11 currently are; at 13.82%.

Adm. Christianson handed out and read aloud the attachment hereto entitled Keeping 3M Out and, Economics. After, Mr. Carlson stated he had worked for 3M for 23 years. Mr. Morgan added that he was once told of 3M sending out letters to six communities, including Ladysmith, seeking a location for a new plant, but that the City Clerk simply threw the letter in the trash.

Referring to the City's Snow Removal Policy he had distributed at the previous meeting, Adm. Christianson asked if anyone had any concerns with it. Mr. Morgan then asked why it is snow isn't just blown off of E. 6th St. S. rather than trucking it away. The DPW invited him to call the next day to talk about it.

Attorney's Report, Mr. A. Kenyon:

Nothing to report.

Mayor's Forum, Mr. Christianson:

Mayor Christianson stated that it is good to see folks like John Kenyon and John Hoover interested in building needed new housing.

The Mayor again called attention to Fun on the Frozen Flambeau activities planned for the upcoming weekend and to local music that will be offered at the Drop Zone a/k/a VMA. Multiple Frozen Flambeau activities will be held at the Fairgrounds on Saturday and the ice fishing contest will be at Lake Flambeau on Sunday.

The Mayor advised that an effort is underway to get the Army National Guard Band here. While the band doesn't charge for its performance it does request that food and lodging be provided. Bob and Johanne Williams have agreed to discount the price of rooms, but further support will likely be needed from the Council grants and aids discretionary line.

The Mayor expressed concern over the recent death of a 6-year old girl and severe injuries to her 4-year old sister after both were struck by a vehicle passing a school bus with its lights activated along S.T.H. 73. He asked folks to take their time and be careful.

Closed Session:

None.

Adjourn:

Upon motion by Hraban, which was seconded by Morgan and carried by voice vote the meeting was adjourned 6:34 p.m.

To: Ladysmith City Council,

My name is Robert Lincoln and I am the Commander of the Veterans Memorial Assn. (VMA) Here in Ladysmith. Recently Jump River Electric Donated the lighted sign in front of their office to the VMA

The Reason I'm writing this letter is to ask the Board for permission to place the sign in the new City Garages front lawn so as it can be seen from Hwy 27.

The VMA currently has two signs on the lawn that would be removed and replaced by the new one.

I would also like to request a power line from the City Garage building to the new sign, to which we would gladly pay for, and also gladly pay a fee per month to the City for the power.

I feel this action would greatly improve our business and our ability to serve our area veterans and this great community.

I appreciate your time
Thank You

Robert A. Lincoln
Robert A. Lincoln
Commander VMA.