

**COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF LADYSMITH**

March 12, 2018

6:30 p.m.

Council Chamber

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

Others present: A. Christianson 1 and 2, K. Gorsegner, J. Hoover, K. Julien, L. Klink, G. Schueller, J. West.

**Call to Order:**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

Mr. Platteter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes:**

Motion was made by Moore, seconded by A. Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve the minutes of the February 26, 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:**

It was reported that, owing to a date conflict with another well-established bike race, the planned Gravel Grinder race has been rescheduled to Sept. 8<sup>th</sup>. This is likely to require both volunteers to assist, issuance of a temporary beer license, and temporary closure of nearby streets to facilitate ending the race at the Memorial Park amphitheater.

**Resolutions and Ordinances:**

Motion was made by Stoneberg, seconded by Morgan and carried by voice vote to adopt Resolution #2018-04 identifying responsibility for oversight of various facilities.

**District and Committee Reports:**

**District One, Mr. Platteter:**

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

**District Two, Mr. B. Morgan:**

Mr. Morgan asked Adm. Christianson if he had also received call from Congressman Sean Duffy's representative Jim Miller about assisting Ladysmith in getting a rail quiet zone designation. He indicated that, yes, he had, but then stated that this inquiry has resulted in the Office of the Commissioner of Railroads issuing an order to the City and WisDOT requiring the following:

-That the temporary median at the Lake Ave. rail crossing be painted (WisDOT will) by May 1<sup>st</sup>.

-That the permanent median at the same rail crossing is to be put in with raised concrete as originally required. This is owing to the City's continued pursuit of a quiet zone as the City cannot qualify for such designation unless this crossing is "protected" by a raised median.

These issues will be reviewed with Rep. Edming at a March 14, Legal Affairs meeting.

**District Three, Mr. M. Hraban:**

Mr. Hraban reported that Rusk County's Emergency Gov't. Committee will meet at 8 a.m. on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

It was mentioned that serious consideration needs to be given to painting the exterior of City Hall soon, so that the stucco doesn't absorb water and create more issues as it did at the library. A quote of \$3,520 has been received from the local painter that just did the interior painting at City Hall. This will be slated for action at a future meeting.

**District Four, Mr. R. Moore:**

Mr. Moore called attention to minutes of the March 5, All Committees meeting.

Mr. Moore noted that the Finance Committee met earlier in the evening to consider issues created by the State's mandate that communities which impose room taxes have Tourism Commission's to determine how these funds are applied. The Finance Committee inadvertently applied these 2017 taxes to past uses while the new Tourism Commission prefers to apply it somewhat differently. And 2018 budget plans will need to be revised to deal with both budgeted items and Commission desires. There will be further meetings to deal with this.

**District Five, Mrs. B. Stoneberg:**

Mrs. Stoneberg called attention to minutes of the March 5, Legal Affairs Committee meeting. Mrs. Stoneberg advised that, at that meeting, the burning permit form (included in meeting packets) was revised to eliminate the permit fee and to provide a separate denial form should that be needed from time to time. This was done after the Committee was advised that, as a matter of policy, police officers are not allowed to handle cash. That being the case, permits could not be issued on weekends or after hours. Motion was made by Stoneberg, seconded by A. Hraban and carried by voice vote to adopt the revised burning permit app form attached to these minutes.

Mrs. Stoneberg also noted another meeting is planned to be held March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. with State Rep. James Edming expected to be in attendance.

**District Six, Mr. A. Hraban:**

Mr. A. Hraban made a motion, which was seconded by M. Hraban to approve purchase of a flatbed truck package from Chilson Motors of Cadott for \$29,469.50. Mr. Morgan objected to such purchase stating it was just a re-visitation of an attempt to convert a fire truck that had been taken out of service into a flatbed. He added that the last time he saw

one in use was about 1970. DPW Gorsegner noted the following in response to questions and comments:

- A one-ton truck chassis costs about the same as a crew cab or extended cab pickup.
- Other bids were received, including from Toycen, but the Chilson bid for its Dodge package (with steel frame and wood bed) was about the same as the Ford and Chevy dealers prices for a chassis only. To be street legal these chassis would each need to have an aftermarket bed added at an additional cost of over \$3,000.
- Although the City did receive quotes it is not required under WI law to take the lowest price for equipment [as different brands of equipment are not considered equal].
- One advantage a flatbed usually has over a pickup is that the flatbed can be loaded heavier and by a forklift.
- The new flatbed will replace a 1999 model pickup.

Roll call vote: Platteter-yes; Morgan-no; M. Hraban-yes; Moore-no; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Stoneberg and seconded by Pearson to approve purchase of a 2018 ¾ ton crew cab pickup from Toycen for \$29,036.80. This will replace a 2000 model that had been involved in a collision, was bought back by the City from the insurance company, and essentially then rebuilt. It has 113,000 miles on it, is now badly rusted, shimmies, and burns oil. Some of the same discussion of the flatbed was repeated and a question about spending a bit more to buy local was raised. It was noted, in response, that everyone prefers to buy local when price quotes are close. And that these two new trucks are not additions to the fleet but, rather, replacements of 18 and 19 year old trucks that are used daily. Roll call vote: Morgan-no; M. Hraban-yes; Moore-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes. Motion carried.

**District Seven, Mrs. J. Pearson:**

Mrs. Pearson had nothing to report.

**Police and Fire Dept. Reports, K. Julien:**

Chief Julien was asked by Mr. Moore if plow truck drivers can have strobes on when traveling, but not plowing. It is felt this is likely not an issue, but he will look into it.

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

The DPW asked for approval of a Morgan and Parmley invoice, in the amount of \$7,360, for design work on the Summit Ave./ W. 5<sup>th</sup> St. N. project. Motion was made by A. Hraban and seconded by M. Hraban to approve payment. Roll call vote: M. Hraban-yes; Moore-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes. Motion carried.

**Administrative Report, Mr. A. Christianson:**

Adm. Christianson called attention to a letter from Fine Arts Center Gallery rep Phil Ruege wherein the Gallery requests approval of selected sidewalk locations for a Chalkfest planned to be held during the Mardi Gras from July 19-22. Motion was made by M. Hraban, seconded by A. Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve.

**Attorney's Report, Mr. A. Kenyon:**  
Absent.

**Mayor's Forum, Mr. M. Reynolds:**  
Mayor Reynolds had no comment at this time.

**Licenses and Permits:**

Motion was made by Moore, seconded by A. Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve a change of agent to Jennifer Kidd for Krist Oil, who has been approved by LPD.

**Closed Session:**

Motion was made by Moore and seconded by A. Hraban to go into closed session at 7:30 p.m. with candidates A. Christianson 2 and Jim West invited to stay, along with John Hoover. Roll call vote: Moore-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes. Motion carried.

**Adjourn:**

The meeting was adjourned from closed session at about 7:50 p.m. with no action having been taken therein.

**Recorded by:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Christianson  
Adm.-Deputy Clerk

**Publication:**

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