

**COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDING OF
THE CITY OF LADYSMITH**

Monday, March 22, 2021 5:15 pm Rusk County Board Room

Members Present: M. Platteter, B. Morgan, B. Groothousen, G. Schueller, J. Kenyon, A. Hraban, M. Reynolds, Mayor K. Vacho

Others present: K. Gorsegner, A. Christianson, A. Kenyon, S. Kavanagh, D. Parker, K. Julien, John Pohlman, III, Kyle Gibbs, Ray Carlson. On-line: Hollis Helmecci.

Call to order. Mayor K. Vacho called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

Roll Call. Clerk Kavanagh took roll call and a quorum was present.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Marty Reynolds.

Minutes and Agenda. Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by J. Kenyon, to approve the March 8, 2021 Council minutes and this evening's agenda. Motion carries by unanimous voice vote.

Public appearances. No public appearances.

Ordinances and Resolutions.

Resolution 2021-03. Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by J. Kenyon, to approve Resolution 2021-03 Preliminary Resolution Declaring Intent to Exercise Special Assessment Police Powers under Section 66.0703, WI Stats, in relation to the 2021 Five Downtown Street Project. B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, J. Kenyon-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes. Motion carried

Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by M. Platteter, to approve the Report of the Director of Public Works on Lake Ave E, 1st St, E 2nd St, W 3rd St and W 4th St along with Appendix "A" and Schedule "B". Motion carries by unanimous voice vote.

The council reviewed the Notice of Public Hearing and Notice of the Pre-construction Site Visit letter that will be sent to all affected property owners; the pre-construction site visit is scheduled for April 15, 2021 at 5:15 pm.

Ordinance 2021-01. Motion by B. Groothousen, seconded by J. Kenyon, to approve Ordinance 2021-01 Amending Zoning Code to Allow Single Family Homes between 450-720 sq ft. by Conditional Use Permit in R-1 Districts. Motion passes with 6-yes, 1-no (Morgan).

It was clarified that these family homes would need to meet the UDC building code and be placed on a basement or foundation with normal setback requirements. These structures would also need a Conditional Use Permit issued by the Planning Commission.

Resolution 2021-04. Motion by B. Groothousen, seconded by J. Kenyon, to approve Resolution 2021-04 authorizing the administrator to apply for an Outdoor Recreation Grant through the DNR. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

This resolution allows Adm Christianson to apply to the DNR for 1:1 matching grant funds to be used towards the construction of a new Veteran's Memorial Pavilion. The Jaycees have raised almost \$60,000 towards construction of a new pavilion and if funding is adequate, they would like the project to include a kitchen and bathrooms. The DNR allows a municipality to apply for grant funds for one project per year.

Resolution 2021-05. Motion by J. Kenyon, seconded by A. Hraban, to approve Resolution 2021-05 authorizing the administrator to complete an AARP Grant Application. Motion carries by unanimous voice vote.

District 1, Platteter. Nothing to report.

District 2, Morgan.

Corbett Lake Long Range Management Plan. It was clarified that the Public Works Committee is responsible to begin working on the new Corbett Lake Long Range Management Plan which needs to be done every 10 years. Mr. Carlson asked that all council members begin to think about what they would like to complete in the next 10 years at Corbett Lake.

Mr. Groothousen reported that the Property Committee is responsible for management and maintenance of the rail display.

Mr. Morgan has plans to meet with the manager of an Eau Claire painting company on April 6th. He will inquire about the use of an epoxy paint to seal up the foundation blocks at the fire station to stop any further moisture issues.

Motion by B. Morgan, seconded by J. Kenyon, to sell the Mt. Senario score board and air handler unit by posting them online for bids. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Motion by B. Morgan, seconded by M. Platteter, to approve Dave Roth's verbal quote of \$1,800 to power wash and paint ramps and the flatcar shed. B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, J. Kenyon-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by B. Morgan, seconded by J. Kenyon, to approve Dave Bailey's quote of \$600 to alter and install steel gates over three rail display openings to be fastened to the side and the floor of the car, expense covered by TID #9. G. Schueller-yes, J. Kenyon-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by B. Groothousen, seconded by J. Kenyon, to approve JL Electric's quote of \$5,000 to complete lighting the rail extension covering. J. Kenyon-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Morgan has contacted members of the Mennonite Church about their willingness to clean up the train cars prior to opening the rail display for tours. Lonnie Orme is not able to paint the baggage ramps and derrick; it is too big a job for him. Efforts will be made to seek quotes on completing the painting on the baggage ramps and derrick; quotes will then be brought back to council.

District 3, Groothousen. Nothing to report.

District 4, Schueller. Mr. Schueller did not attend the Library Board meeting but M. Reynolds did attend the meeting to answer any questions on the heating, ventilating and air conditioning issues. Following this discussion, the project seems to be back on track.

District 5, Kenyon. Finance Committee met to approve the monthly invoices prior to the Council meeting.

District 6, Hraban. Nothing to report.

District 7, Reynolds. M. Reynolds reported that an Eau Claire heating contractor doesn't feel there is much more they can do with the heating system at the former elementary school. It is hoped that the current boiler system will operate through the end of this winter season.

The pump is now operational at Parker's Pond. After the pond is drained down, the intention is to clean out debris by using the Vactor and then set the float so it can run on its own.

Police and Fire Report. Chief Gibbs reported that Indianhead Glass will be replacing 3 doors at the Fire Hall at a cost of \$10,900; the cost of doors and installation have been included in their 2021 budget.

Chief Julien reported that an ordinance violation occurred when a registered sex offender purchased a home in a restricted area of Ladysmith. Notice was delivered to the individual regarding the appeal process.

Chief Julien reported that the Rusk County Sheriff's Dept and Ladysmith Police Dept are stepping up their drug enforcement and, since Christmas, it has resulted in 30 arrests (75% have been within the City of Ladysmith). Last night, there was a large arrest involving heroin. The Police & Fire Commission will be meeting on Wednesday night, March 24, 2021 at 5:00 pm.

Public Works Report. Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by B. Morgan, to accept the auction results of \$1,035.00 for the CH&E Self Priming Pump and \$506.00 for the Magikist Pulse De-Icer. M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-no, G. Schueller-yes, J. Kenyon-yes, A. Hraban-yes. Motion carried.

The 2020 Consumer Confidence Report was provided to all council members and the report is also being published in the Ladysmith News, as required. Ladysmith Driftbusters' Snowmobile Club is hosting an appreciation brunch for landowners on Sunday, April 11th at Cedar Lodge and city council members are invited to attend.

Librarian, Hollis Helmecci, thanked the public works crew for the work they do to keep the Library's lawn mowed in the summer and the sidewalks cleared of snow/ice in the winter.

Administrator's Report. Motion by J. Kenyon, seconded by B. Groothousen, to purchase the former Barb's Flowerland property for the balance of special assessments owing on the property; the property transfer must include an easement allowing access to the Reisner Dental Clinic's back entry. M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, J. Kenyon-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes. Motion carried.

The last quote received to demo the building was \$18,750 but there is also the possibility of redeveloping the building; the current property owner is agreeable to either scenario. Mr. Kenyon will look into whether TIF funding can cover the demolition costs.

The Planning Commission met on March 9th to review the preliminary plans for TID 13, 14 and 15. Consensus was also reached on amending the Zoning Code to allow single family dwellings 450-720 sq ft by use of a Conditional Use Permit in R-1 districts.

Attorney's Report. Nothing to report.

Licenses and Permits. Motion by M. Reynolds, seconded by A. Hraban, to approve Operator Licenses for Patrick Groothousen, Carol Paus, Antwan Chambers and Emma Warner along with a Street Use Permit to the Ladysmith Alano Club for their Easter Egg Hunt on March 27, 2021. Motion carries with 6 yes, 1-abstain (Groothousen).

Mayor's Forum. Nothing to report.

Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by B. Groothousen to adjourn at 6:33 pm. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted.

Shari Kavanagh, City Clerk