

COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF LADYSMITH
April 21, 2015 6:30 p.m. Council Chamber

Call to Order:

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

Oath of Office:

As this was the Council's annual organizational meeting, Administrator-Deputy Clerk Christianson administered the Oath of Office to newly elected or re-elected members Mike Hraban, Jennifer Pearson, Mark Platteter, and Bonnie Stoneberg.

Roll Call of members present: K. Brown, A. Hraban, M. Hraban, B. Morgan, J. Pearson, M. Platteter, M. Reynolds, B. Stoneberg. Members absent: none.

Others present: A. Christianson, K. Gorsegner, A. Lobermeier, A. Kenyon, L. Klink, D. Parker, O. Platteter, J. Pohlman, D. Stoneberg, E. Tomasovich.

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 correct minutes of the April 13, 2015 meeting to indicate that the property Atty. Kenyon was referencing in his report was property located at 602 E. 8th St. S. Motion was then made by A. Hraban, seconded by M. Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2015 Council meeting as corrected.

Agenda:

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

Hearings and Appearances:

None.

Resolutions and Ordinances:

Motion was made by M. Hraban, seconded by Morgan and carried by voice vote to adopt Resolution #2015-07, a final resolution authorizing sidewalk, curb and gutter replacement and levying special assessments against the benefitted property.

Adm. Christianson introduced Resolution #2015-08 adding flexibility to the City's façade incentive program. Although the program has been in place for a while, and has already been revised to add flexibility, no loans or grants have yet been made. The further changes proposed are ones prospective borrowers have mentioned would make it more attractive to them.

District and Committee Reports:

District One, Mr. Platteter:

No report.

District Two, Mr. B. Morgan:

No report.

District Three, Mr. M. Hraban:

No report.

District Four, Mr. K. Brown:

Mr. Brown made a motion and M. Hraban seconded to approve the monthly invoices. Roll call vote: Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Brown-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes. Motion carried.

District Five, Mrs. B. Stoneberg:

No report.

District Six, Mr. A. Hraban:

No report.

District Seven, Mrs. J. Pearson:

Police and Fire Dept. Reports, A. Lobermeier:

No report.

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

Building Inspector Gorsegner commented on how he has interpreted City zoning rules, as his predecessor did, to prohibit garages, yard barns, and similar accessory buildings in front yards, and so has denied permit applications for them over the years. He feels, however, that some folks whose homes are up against riverbanks or other natural features have no other options and that as these buildings become more common it may be time to consider allowing them in front yards under selected circumstances; perhaps as "conditional uses". Mayor Reynolds asked that the incoming Legal Affairs Committee consider revisions to current rules and make a recommendation back to the Council.

Appointments:

Mayor Reynolds presented his annual appointments to Council committees, to City offices, and to various boards and commissions, asking Council members to review their pending appointments for fit and to review their contact information for accuracy. After a couple minor adjustments, motion was made by Brown, seconded by M. Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve these appointments, which remain in effect until the third Tuesday in April, 2016.

Other:

Mr. Brown congratulated the Herricks, owners of the Miner Theatre, for winning first prize in a Wisconsin Main Street Program building makeover contest.

Administrative Report, Mr. A. Christianson:

Adm. Christianson reported that it is Xcel Energy's present plan to convert Ladysmith's street lights to LED in 2017 which should result in considerable energy savings [on a current cost of over \$70,000 annually.]

There was a lengthy discussion of bids received for the plow museum project. It was noted, among other things, that the entire 14 structure museum complex is considered to be served by fairground restrooms as they are located less than 200 feet from the museum's main entrance.

Mr. Tomasovich, who has made a commitment to donate his entire vintage plow collection to the community once the museum building is completed, described his collection as follows for the benefit of newer members in attendance:

*There are 5 tractors and 39 plows in the collection, which date from 1915 to 1952.

*The plows are models made by John Deere, La Crosse, Oliver and International Harvester.

*These are specialty plows for the most part and include rare breaking plows and two-way plows.

Mayor Reynolds described his donation of this collection as a "phenomenal gesture" on Mr. Tomasovich's part. The latter answered the Mayor's question by stating his preference that the bids for overhangs on both north and south sides of the new building be accepted for both the additional exterior display space they afford and an element of attractiveness they add.

Attorney's Report, Mr. A. Kenyon:

Nothing to report.

Mayor's Forum, Mr. M. Reynolds:

Mayor Reynolds noted disappointment with comments made on Twitter in regard to removal of the fire damaged tavern along Worden Ave. He went on to say that there is due process required to be followed in such cases that no doubt takes longer than folks prefer. Everyone wants it out of there, but the process needs to be respected.

Licenses and Permits:

None.

Closed Session:

Motion was made by Brown and seconded by M. Hraban to go into closed session under authority cited in the meeting notice. Roll call vote: Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Brown-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes. Motion carried.

Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned from closed session at 8:10 p.m. with no further action having been taken.

Recorded by: _____

Alan Christianson
Adm.-Deputy Clerk

Publication:

Date submitted: _____

Date published: _____