

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

Monday, April 20, 2021

5:15 pm

Ladysmith City Council Chamber

Members Present: M. Platteter, B. Morgan, J. Pohlman III, G. Schueller, J. West, A. Hraban, M. Reynolds

Others Present: K. Vacho, T. Devine, Adm A. Christianson, A. Kenyon, K. Gorsegner, D. Parker, J. Pohlman II, R. Nash, T. Carter, C. Schultz, L. Klink

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

**Administration of Oaths:** The Oath of Office was administered to Mr. Platteter, Mr. Pohlman, Mr. West, and Mr. Reynolds.

**Roll Call:** Dep. Clerk took roll call and a quorum was present.

**Pledge of Allegiance:** M. Platteter led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes and Agenda:** Motion by A. Hraban to approve the April 20, 2021 Council Agenda, seconded by J. West. Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote.

**Election of Council President:** Mr. Morgan nominated Mr. Reynolds as Council President, seconded by Mr. Platteter. No other nominations. Mr. Reynolds was elected Council President by a 7-0 voice vote.

**Introductions, Hearings & Public Comments:** Cora Schultz explained that she had received two phone calls pointing out that cardboard left out for recycling was being thrown into the garbage truck rather than the recycling trailer. Mr. Gorsegner said it shouldn't be, and it would be looked into.

Mr. Morgan had a series of questions regarding Council seating arrangements, the involvement of City employees in Closed Sessions, the necessity of some Closed Sessions, and who establishes said necessity. Mr. Kenyon shared some information about who historically had been seated at the Council table, but was unsure as to who would make the decision about who has a seat. Mr. Kenyon went on to explain some reasons municipalities participate in Closed Sessions, and that the Council determines when a Closed Session is necessary because they vote to go into Closed Session.

Mr. Nash offered that Mr. Morgan's questions had not been answered. Mr. Kenyon vehemently disagreed.

**District 1, Platteter:** Nothing to report.

**District 2, Morgan:** The siding on the caboose at the Rail Display is deteriorating and will need to be replaced. The display will be moved about 44' to the South.

**District 3, Pohlman:** Nothing to report.

**District 4, Schueller:** There was a Youth & Rec meeting on Monday (the 19<sup>th</sup>). Mr. Parker described that plans include improvements to the bathrooms, 8' fencing in front of the dugouts, repairs to the rest of the fencing, bringing in some gravel for the driveway, and some new infield mix.

**District 5, West:** Nothing to report.

**District 6, Hraban:** Mr. Hraban attended the Transit Commission meeting on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup>.

**District 7, Reynolds:** Mr. Reynolds received an inquiry about a building in town to rent or purchase. He handed it off to Mr. Platteter.

**Police & Fire Commission:** Nothing to report.

**Public Works:** Street pulverizing for the new street construction will begin on Wednesday, and is expected to be wrapped up by Thursday. Mr. Gorsegner offered to the new Council members, or anyone who wants to, a tour of the Public Works facilities.

**Administrator's Report:** Discussion on Ordinance 2021-02. Mr. Christianson explained that the proposed ordinance is stenciled from The City of Bloomer's current ordinance. He further explained that the proposed ordinance would remove the requirement of standing committees, and much more would be handled at the Council level, but doesn't remove the option of using standing committees. No motion was made with regard to Ordinance 2021-02.

Discussion on having a section of OJ Falge Park's roadway pulverized. Mr. Christianson introduced that, since the pulverizing equipment is in town for the 5 Downtown Streets project, we should have the dilapidated section of roadway pulverized, and the cost (estimated at \$2,000) covered by TID 9. Then the blacktop can be re-surfaced when Haas is in town to finish the Downtown streets. Motion to have the section of OJ Falge Park's roadway pulverized by Mr. Reynolds seconded by Mr. Hraban. M. Platteter – Yes, B. Morgan – No, J. Pohlman – Yes, G. Schueller – Yes, J. West – No, A. Hraban – Yes, M. Reynolds – Yes. Motion carried 5-2.

**Attorney's Report:** Nothing to report.

**Licenses and Permits:** No Licenses and Permits.

**Mayor's Forum:** Mr. Vacho presented his final draft of choices for Committees, Commissions and Boards. Motion to accept the Mayor's choices for Committees, Commissions and Boards by A. Hraban, seconded by G. Schueller. Motion carries by 7-0 voice vote.

**Closed Session:** Motion to go into closed session A. Hraban, seconded by J. Pohlman. Roll Call Vote: M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-no, J. Pohlman-yes, G. Schueller-yes, J. West-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes. Motion passes 6-1.

Motion to back to open session by G. Schueller, seconded by J. Pohlman. Motion carries by unanimous voice vote (6-0).

Mr. Vacho summarized the conclusions of the Closed Session:

Administrator Christianson explained that T-n-T Auto is currently rent roughly 2400 sq ft of the building at 1207 Doughty Rd, and are interested in renting the rest of that building's space (1600 additional square feet), or purchasing it. Rockwell may want to use that space for an expansion, so it was determined that the City should retain ownership of the property and expand the lease with T-n-T to include the entire building.

With regard to the Rockwell expansion, Mr. Christianson has been in contact with SEH to assess necessary action relating to some contaminated soil that would be part of the expansion. SEH would work with a contamination expert to compile the public reporting that currently exists on said contamination. SEH would engage in formal discussions with DNR representatives on what contamination exists and what actions would be necessary. SEH would then put together a technical memorandum to aid in the discussion on what the City's next steps should be. The estimated cost for the SEH to perform this work would be approximately \$4,000. Motion to accept the supplemental letter agreement with SEH by M. Reynolds, seconded by J. Pohlman. Roll call vote: M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes, J. Pohlman-yes, G. Schueller-yes, J. West-yes, A. Hraban-Absent, M. Reynolds-yes. Motion passes 6 yes, 1 absent.

Mr. Christianson presented the possibility of offering the Ladysmith Jaycees the use of the former Public Works shop. The lease would be for \$1 per year plus utilities. Discussion was deemed not needed in Closed Session, and moved to the following Monday.

Motion to Adjourn by M. Reynolds, seconded by G. Schueller. Motion carries by unanimous voice vote (6-0).

Adjourn at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Devine, Deputy Clerk