

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

Monday, April 8th, 2024

5:15pm

Ladysmith Fire Hall

Members Present: Mayor Robert Grotzinger, Richard Ostenso, Nathan Johnson, Mike Hraban, Al Christianson, Steve Weiss, Al Hraban, John Hoover.

Others Present: Admn. A. Christianson, K. Gorsegner, D. Parker, P. Rowe, S. Nelson, Terry Carter, Luke Klink, Chief K. Julien, Leroy Opsal, Cheyene Makinia, Randy Lovely, John Pohlman III, Sue Moore, Lois Goode, Kim Cummings.

Call to Order: Mayor Grotzinger called the meeting to order at 5:15pm.

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

Pledge of Allegiance: Led by Mr. Hoover.

Minutes and Agenda: Motion by A. Hraban; seconded by N. Johnson to approve March 25th, 2024 Common Council Minutes and this evening's agenda. Motion passed by voice vote. 7-yes. 0-no.

Introduction of Guest, Public Hearings, Comments:

Public hearing on Special Assessments for sidewalk, curb and gutter installation. Mayor Grotzinger noted that this would be for E 2nd St N. Mayor Grotzinger asked if anyone would wish to address the Council. No one appeared before the Council.

Leroy Opsal to address council regarding accumulation of trash throughout City. Leroy Opsal presented pictures of a property located on E 2nd St S that he felt had an accumulation of junk. Chief Julien reported that Leroy Opsal has never filed a complaint directly with him regarding ordinance violations. Mayor Grotzinger reported that Mr. Opsal needs to address concerns with the appropriate channels.

Sue Moore, the chair of the Rusk County Tourism Committee and Lois Goode the vice-chair of the Rusk County Tourism Committee addressed the Council and provided information on a possible tour for 4th grade students of the rail train display. The Committee is seeking sponsors to fund the cost of train cookies that would be given out to students following the completion of the tour. The amount of the requested donation would be roughly \$388.00, if all the anticipated schools participated.

Kim Cummings from Marshfield Dental Office addressed the Council regarding 4th Street Parking design and if plans had been finalized. DPW Gorsegner reported that the contracts have been approved and signed. Kim Cummings asked if adding a loading/unloading zone would be possible. DPW Gorsegner noted this would result in less parking space. DPW Gorsegner reported that he would relay her concerns.

District One – R. Ostenso: Nothing to report.

District Two – N. Johnson:

Discussion and possible action to approve goose round-up in OJ Falge and Memorial Park in 2024. N.

Johnson reported this is a recommendation from the Park Board. The animals would be donated to the food pantry. Round-up would be completed by Wildlife Services as done in previous years. S. Weiss inquired about the complete process. DPW Gorsegner noted that other methods have been tried in previous years to

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discourage the geese from the parks. Motion by N. Johnson; seconded by R. Ostenso to approve goose round-up in OJ Falge and Memorial Park in 2024. Motion passed by voice vote. 7-yes. 0-no.

N. Johnson reported the Library Board is meeting April 9th, 2024 at 5pm.

District Three – M. Hraban: Nothing to report. M. Hraban noted that he does not have any information on the Rusk County Animal shelter addition.

District Four – A. Christianson: A. Christianson made note that tonight is Mr. Al Hraban's last Council meeting, he has been serving for many years and has done an excellent job on the Public Works Committee. A. Christianson thanked him for his efforts and noted that he will be missed.

A. Christianson provided the Council with an article that was printed on 4.18.22 when he came on the Council it was his goal to increase the amount of street reconstruction. He noted not much has been accomplished, but he will continue to try.

District Five – S. Weiss: S. Weiss reported the Youth & Rec Committee met last week and they discussed possible disc golf at Sister's Farm Road and he spoke in favor of this idea. S. Weiss noted this would be a good opportunity for people to enjoy the beauty of that area.

District Six – A. Hraban: Al Hraban reported that he has enjoyed serving on the Council for the City for the last 20 years. He has learned a lot about City government since he first was elected and thanked everyone. He wished Randy Lovely luck on his new position.

District Seven – J. Hoover: J. Hoover noted that he spoke to a property owner that appeared before council last month regarding a property with an accumulation of trash and they stated the property has been cleaned up. Mayor Grotzinger noted in the Ladysmith News dispatch reports; citations are being issued for these ordinance violations.

Police and Fire Report: Chief Kevin Julien passed out his annual report and noted that if anyone has any questions, they can contact him.

Public Works Report: DPW Gorsegner thanked Al Hraban for all his work and stated that he will miss working with him on the Public Works Committee. DPW Gorsegner noted that he can stop in at City Hall at any time.

Review and possible approval of Change Order #2 in the amount of \$14,400 from Haas Sons, Inc for pulverization and hauling to removal of existing pavement related to Miner Ave project. Motion by A. Hraban; seconded by N. Johnson to approve Change Order #2 in the estimate of \$14,400 from Haas Sons, Inc for pulverization and hauling to removal of existing pavement related to Miner Ave project. Motion passed by roll call vote. N. Johnson-yes. M. Hraban-yes. A. Christianson-yes. S. Weiss-yes. A. Hraban-yes. J. Hoover-yes. R. Ostenso-yes. 7-yes. 0-no.

Review and possible approval of Change Order #3 in the amount of \$2,544 from Haas Sons, Inc to pulverize and stockpile 4th Street asphalt. Motion by A. Hraban; seconded by N. Johnson to approve Change Order #3 in the amount of \$2,544 from Haas Sons, Inc to pulverize and stockpile 4th Street asphalt. Motion passed by roll call vote. M. Hraban-yes. A. Christianson-yes. S. Weiss-yes. A. Hraban-yes. J. Hoover-yes. R. Ostenso-yes. N. Johnson-yes. 7-yes. 0-no.

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DPW Gorsegner reported that the engineer did provide him with a weekly update email and noted that if any Council people that wanted to receive this as well, their email could be added to the list. The pulverizing did stop with equipment issues, but they are anticipated to be back tomorrow morning to resume. DPW Gorsegner noted the trees from Miner Ave were also removed today. Sewer work will begin on E 3rd Street this week as well. DPW Gorsegner reported that he will make the updates available each week.

M. Hraban inquired about pulverizing the road from the Fire Hall to the highway and repaving. DPW Gorsegner reported that the project was extended as many blocks as funding was available. Water and sewer lines would also have to be replaced, not just the blacktop.

Administrator's Report: Admn Christianson thanked Al Hraban for all his work on the Council, acknowledged how helpful Mr. Hraban was and appreciated his efforts.

Admn Christianson reported the many projects throughout the City including the Farmer's Market Pavilion, new Connections Store location and Community Center are all progressing and offered tours to any Council people that were interested.

Attorney's Report: Nothing to report.

License and Permits:

Motion by A. Hraban; seconded by N. Johnson to approve operator's license to J. Mussehl-Krist Food Mart pending pd approval. Motion passed by voice vote. 7-yes. 0-no.

Motion by N. Johnson; seconded by A. Hraban to approve direct seller's permit to Jean Baroka – Baroka's Wreaths pending pd approval. Motion passed by voice vote. 7-yes. 0-no.

Motion by A. Hraban; seconded by N. Johnson to approve Flambeau Valley Arts Application for Temporary Class "B" Liquor License at the Worden Exchange on April 12th, 2024. Motion passed by voice vote. 7-yes. 0-no.

Mayor's Forum: Mayor Grotzinger took a moment to recognize Al Hraban's years of service and thanked him for his time serving on the Council. Mayor Grotzinger noted that he appreciated all his efforts.

Adjourn: Motion by A. Hraban; seconded by N. Johnson to adjourn at 5:59pm. Motion passed by voice vote. 7-yes. 0-no.

Respectfully submitted,

Sara Nelson, City Clerk