

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

Monday, May 23, 2022

5:15 pm

Ladysmith City Council Chamber

Members Present: M. Platteter, N. Johnson, J. Pohlman III, A. Christianson Sr., A. Hraban, M. Reynolds

Absent: J. West

Others Present: R. Grotzinger, T. Devine, Adm A. Christianson, A. Kenyon, D. Parker, J. Pohlman II, T. Carter, L. Klink, Chief Gibbs, Jim Kurz, C. Swearingen, Jason Steen, Ray Carlson

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance: A. Christianson Sr. led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes and Agenda: Motion by A. Hraban to approve the May 9, 2022 Council Agenda, seconded by J. Pohlman. Motion carried 6-0 by voice vote.

Introductions, Hearings & Public Comments: a) Approval of Final Resolution 2022-05 Authorizing Special Assessments for Curb & Gutter (per engineering plans), Water Main and Sanitary Sewer installation on property fronting E 10th St N from Park Avenue to Menasha Avenue and Summit Avenue Cul-de-Sac:

No public comments. No discussion. Motion to approve Resolution 2022-05 by A. Hraban, seconded by J. Pohlman. Motion carries by 6-0 voice vote.

District 1, Platteter:

- a) Review and possible approval of purchase or lease of a Ricoh copier for City Hall. Motion to approve purchase of copier for City Hall by M. Reynolds, seconded by A. Hraban. No further discussion. Roll call vote: M. Platteter-yes, N. Johnson-yes, J. Pohlman-yes, A. Christianson-yes, J. West-absent, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes. Motion passes 6-0.
- b) Report on Finance Committee meeting held May 23, 2022: Reviewed and approved the invoices paid from 4.15.22 through 5.18.22.

District 2, Johnson:

- a) Discussion and possible action to locate a 20' x 60' solar panel array on top of the hill immediately East of the library: Jim Kurz, president of the Rusk County Community Library Foundation, explained that the Foundation had received donations totaling roughly \$56,000.

The Foundation concluded it could eliminate 2/3 of the \$600/month electric bill. The bid for the installation is good until June 8th. Motion to approve installation of the solar array by A. Christianson provided there is concurrence by the Park Board. Seconded by M. Reynolds. Motion carries by 6-0 voice vote.

- b) Review and possible action to approve quote of \$14,330 from Indianhead Glass to replace 3 exterior doors at the Fire Hall: Motion to approve quote by A. Christianson provided the doors that are removed be provided to the city for use on industrial buildings. Seconded by J. Pohlman. Roll call vote: N. Johnson-yes, J. Pohlman-yes, A. Christianson-yes, J. West-absent, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes. Motion carries 6-0.
- c) Review and possible action to approve quote from Rhoads Heating for \$11,344 to replace boiler at the Fire Hall: Motion to approve by M. Reynolds, seconded by A. Hraban. No further discussion. Roll call vote: J. Pohlman-yes, A. Christianson-yes, J. West-absent, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, N. Johnson-yes. Motion carries 6-0.
- d) Possible action to advance the discussion of creating a maintenance position to the Personnel Committee to finalize a job description and determine how to pay for the position: Motion to approve by A. Christianson, seconded by N. Johnson. Motion carries by 6-0 voice vote.
- e) Possible approval of recommendation from the Park Board to close Corbett Lake folder #6 (Aquatic Plants), and move it to Folder #29 (Maintenance): Motion to approve by M. Reynolds, seconded by J. Pohlman. Motion carries by 6-0 voice vote.
- f) Discussion and possible approval to grant permission to get bids for improvements at Centennial Park per Park Board recommendation; project could be funded by TIF #8: Mr. Parker advised that, with the new murals up, the park could use some upgrades. Motion to approve getting bids by M. Reynolds, seconded by A. Hraban. Motion carries by 6-0 voice vote.

District 3, Pohlman: The Farmer's operated the brat stand at Fresh market on May 20th and May 21st.

Personnel Committee will have meeting on June 6th at 5:00pm.

District 4, Christianson:

- a) Action to authorize emergency repair to sprinkler system at Fritz Avenue (III) which serves as additional space recently leased to Rockwell: Motion to approve by M. Reynolds, seconded by N. Johnson. Water is leaking badly enough to threaten damaging Rockwell's materials. Roll Call vote: A. Christianson-yes, J. West-absent, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, N. Johnson-yes, J. Pohlman-yes. Motion carries 6-0.
- b) Report on proposals being sought to perform repairs at various Industrial Park facilities: Mr. Christianson advised that the list keeps growing on projects at Industrial Park buildings, but it's proving difficult to find contractors to address the issues.
- c) Mr. Christianson handed out a draft response to a letter to the editor in the Ladysmith News that was critical of the city's roads. The intent is to provide accurate information to people who are victims of mis/disinformation, because sometimes people just don't understand the bigger picture of the subject.

District 5, West: Absent - Nothing to report.

District 6, Hraban: There will be a Public Works Committee meeting on Tuesday June 7th at 5:00pm.

District 7, Reynolds: Mr. Reynolds would like the Legal Affairs Committee to put an ordinance together to address railroad crossings and blockages.

Police & Fire Commission: Chief Gibbs advised that the Fire Department had planned on putting up a marquee sign next to Lake Avenue. The project was tabled because it became cost prohibitive. The Fire Department then received an anonymous donation for the project that will cover most of the cost. The Fire Department has already raised most of the balance of the cost, so the project is back on. It should be completed 'within the next couple of months'.

Public Works: Canadian National is going to be rebuilding railroad crossings at Fritz Avenue and Corbett Avenue. The crossings will be closed from May 31st through June 4th.

Administrator's Report: Administrator Christianson would like to start a capital improvements plan during this year to identify and prioritize needs.

Attorney's Report: Mr. Kenyon discussed the definition of a "walking quorum", and any discussion of issues regarding the public purse, or public interest, needs to be done publicly.

Licenses and Permits:

Motion to approve Operator Licenses as listed, pending PD approval by J. Pohlman, seconded by A. Hraban. Motion carries by unanimous voice vote.

Motion to approve Temporary Class 'B' Retailer's License for The Exhausted Roosters and temporary Operator's License for Tony Devine by J. Pohlman, seconded by A. Hraban. Motion carries by unanimous voice vote.

Motion to approve the Class 'B' Combo License for West Cove Lanes by J. Pohlman, seconded by N. Johnson. Motion carries by unanimous voice vote.

Motion to approve Class 'A' Combo License for Dollar General by J. Pohlman, seconded by A. Hraban. Motion carries by unanimous voice vote.

Motion to approve Direct Seller's Permit for Tree-Ripe Fruit Co. by J. Pohlman, seconded by N. Johnson. Motion carries by unanimous voice vote.

Motion to approve Cigarette and Tobacco Products License for Apeiron North Fields, Inc. by N. Johnson, seconded by M. Platteter. Motion carries by 4-2 voice vote.

Motion to approve Street Use Permit (pending PD approval) by M. Platteter, seconded by N. Johnson. Motion carries by unanimous voice vote.

Mayor's Forum: Mayor Grotzinger attended the Law Enforcement Memorial at the Amphitheater.

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

Adjourn at 6:12 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Tony Devine, Deputy Clerk