

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

July 22, 2019

5:15 p.m.

Council Chamber

**Roll Call.**

Members present: A. Christianson 2, J. Fields, B. Groothousen, A. Hraban, B. Morgan, B. Stoneberg. Absent: M. Platteter, M. Reynolds.

Others present: R. Carlson, A. Christianson 1, K. Gorseger, C. Johnson, K. Julien, A. Kenyon, L. Klink, D. Parker, B. and M. Swanson, J. West.

**Call to Order:**

Mayor Christianson called the meeting to order at 5:21 p.m. and served as chair.

**Pledge of Allegiance:**

Mrs. Stoneberg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Minutes:**

Motion was made by Hraban, seconded by Groothousen and carried by voice vote to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2019, Council meeting.

**Agenda:**

Motion was made by Hraban seconded by Stoneberg and carried by voice vote to approve the evening's agenda to include advancing item 17) e. to follow 7) on the agenda so that Rusk Co. Recycling Coordinator Charmaine Johnson can answer any questions and be on her way

**Hearings and Appearances:**

Mr. Carlson commended those who had mowed around Corbett Lake adding that it should now be possible to get going on the planned trail.

Bob and Mary Swanson appeared to express concern about seemingly dangerous behavior exhibited by some ATV operators. They reported seeing ATVs travel at high rates of speed on Lindoo Ave. and "pop wheelies" along E. 6<sup>th</sup> St. near the RR tracks. They reported witnessing two people riding on one vehicle and asked if this is permissible. Mr. Swanson stressed that he is not adverse to use of ATVs, adding that he was once an ATV instructor. He simply believes inappropriate use of the vehicles needs to be better policed. Mrs. Stoneberg was also an instructor for 17 years.

Mr. West appeared to ask permission to site a full-sized (14'x70') trailer in the Westcove Campground, which unit he stated will serve as a residence for this son, Armand. West went on to say that he has had similar units in the past, that they were skirted and in place for over one year, serving pipeline workers, and there were not any objections to those. He noted the campground has been in operation at least 36 years (actually May, 1979). Atty. Kenyon explained the process involved, the first step in which is for the applicant to seek a permit to site the trailer. If that request, complete with a plan, should be denied then a permit may be requested from the City's Planning Commission. If that body denies

that permit, then the request may be appealed to the Zoning Appeals Board. Mr. West was advised that the City will assist him in preparing a plan by providing an aerial photo base map.

Atty. Kenyon advised that 45' seems to be the key number. He stated that Article L, Title 13, Chapter 101 of the Wis. Stats. defines a mobile home as greater than 45' in length. On the other hand, Chapter 340, Wis. Stats. indicates that "campers" are less than 45' in length. Atty. Kenyon also read aloud an applicable portion of the Municipal Code of Ordinances.

Mr. Carlson advised that he will have "something" for the next All Committees meeting.

**Resolutions and Ordinances:**

A copy of Resolution #2019-14, approving City sale of 220 W. 3<sup>rd</sup> St. N. was distributed for review. Absent any objection, this will be slated for action on July 29, All Committees agenda. Atty. Kenyon explained why he drafted this resolution to read as it does, as a "Quit Claim", adding that the transaction is subject to special assessments levied in conjunction with the recent Pederson Ave. reconstruction project.

**Recycling Trailer:**

Motion was made by Hraban and seconded by Groothousen to approve purchase of a new recycling trailer from Kann Mfg. Corp. for \$28,537 (of \$35,000 budgeted). Ms. Johnson noted that "if you want to stay with curbside collection, this is the way to go". This trailer will be similar to the one currently in use. A quote was also received for a trailer with compacting capability, but it was in excess of \$45,000. There was discussion of whether compacting makes sense in order to reduce the half dozen daily trips made to empty the current trailer. Mr. Morgan restated previous objections to buying equipment that enables workers to stand between truck and trailer while the units are moving. Roll call vote: Morgan-no; Groothousen-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; Hraban-yes; Reynolds-absent; Platteter-absent. Motion carried.

**Licenses and Permits:**

Motion was made by Hraban, seconded by Fields and carried by voice vote to approve operator's licenses for Kerry Stage for Ladysmith Fresh Market, and for Vanessa Hoefs for Holiday, contingent upon LPD approval.

**District and Committee Reports:**

**District One, Mr. Platteter:**

Mr. Platteter was absent.

**District Two, Mr. B. Morgan:**

Mr. Morgan advised that Ken Buchholz did bend a blade on his mower in the course of mowing the City's dog park across the street from where he lives, but added that he is not seeking even a new blade and plans to continue to provide this service. If anything, he would like obstacles (protruding rocks or stumps?) to be marked. The City will plan to do

that and will try to remove those obstacles at such time as it has the right equipment nearby. It was also suggested that summer workers be assigned to do some weed trimming around this facility.

Reporting on the July 16, Property meeting, Mr. Morgan noted the following:

- That a decision needs to be on the future of the former ranger house.
- That the Committee provided their thoughts to painter Glen Hetchler on proceeding with painting buildings at the former ranger station.
- That cleanup is continuing at the former animal shelter and WWTF site.

**District Three, Mr. B. Groothousen:**

Mr. Groothousen distributed minutes of and reported on the July 10, Park Board meeting.

**District Four, Mr. J. Fields:**

Mrs. Stoneberg made a motion, which was seconded by Hraban to approve entering into a safety training agreement with WRWA at an initial annual cost of \$18,519.76. Mr. Morgan questioned how safety training has been done until now and the benefit of doing it if practices like trash collection crew riding between the truck and trailer are going to continue. DPW Gorsgener advised that he and Mr. Parker having been coordinating safety training, bringing in speakers or showing videos when they can. He went on to say that, in view of currently elevated worker's comp costs the City is presently enduring, that our insurer has advised the City needs to increase its efforts and the subject contract is intended to do just that. Mr. Hraban advocated approval stating that, when he was a supervisor at Weather Shield, that firm used a very similar approach to its safety program. Roll call vote: Groothousen-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; Hraban-yes; Reynolds-absent; Platteter-absent; Morgan-no. Motion carried.

**District Five, Mrs. B. Stoneberg:**

Mrs. Stoneberg stated that she will be scheduling a Legal Affairs Committee meeting to address a handful of issues.

**District Six, Mr. A. Hraban:**

Mr. Hraban called attention to minutes of the July 15, All Committees meeting; mentioned items considered at the Public Works meeting held earlier in the day; and, also noted that the Emergency Government Committee met July 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Hraban advised we were waiting on a second Proposal to resurface E. 10<sup>th</sup> St. from Park to Menasha Ave. DPW Gorsegner then noted we may to put this paving on hold and investigate some underlying utility issues first.

It was also decided to hold on a Proposal to install power to serve three aerators planned to be donated for use at Corbett Lake by a group headed by Tom Hutnik. The cost of the power extension will be pursuant to a Proposal from Electric and will be paid from the 2019 parks budget.

Mr. Hraban made a motion which was seconded by Groothousen to approve a Proposal from Aeration Works to furnish and install 128 new diffuser membranes at the WWTF at a cost of \$29,705 to the sanitary sewer utility. These have a life expectancy of 5-7 years and made that. It is hoped the somewhat higher quality replacements may last somewhat longer. Roll call vote: Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; Hraban-yes; Reynolds-absent; Platteter-absent; Morgan-yes; Groothousen-yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Hraban and seconded by Morgan to approve Haas Sons' quote of \$55,380 to pave alleys in Blocks 6,7 and 8 of the Plat of Flambeau Falls, as a cost to TIFD #8, with the provision that the PWD may alter the scope of work in the field if it deems warranted. The underlying quote is from Monarch Paving. Roll call vote: Stoneberg-yes; Hraban-yes; Reynolds-absent; Platteter-absent; Morgan-yes; Groothousen-yes; Fields-yes. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Hraban and seconded by Groothousen to approve Rusk County's quote to replace culverts along the west side of w. 11<sup>th</sup> St. N. for \$5,686.08. Mr. Morgan advocated taking the project all the way to Lake Ave. and involving the Town of Flambeau as necessary. He is concerned that problems may be encountered on or near the Prevea property. Roll call vote: Hraban-yes; Reynolds-absent; Platteter-absent; Morgan-no; Groothousen-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes. Motion carried.

**District Seven, Mr. M. Reynolds:**

Mr. Reynolds was absent.

**Police and Fire Dept. Reports, K. Julien:**

Chief Julien noted, in response to a question, that he was only aware of one concern expressed about a dog in Memorial Park during Mardi Gras and the owner politely complied by keeping it out.

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

The DPW provided an update on ongoing construction activities.

Motion was made by Stoneberg, seconded by Hraban and carried by voice vote to waive the permit fee for dog run fencing at the new animal shelter.

**Administrative Report, Mr. A. Christianson:**

At Adm. Christianson's request, motion was made by Groothousen and seconded by Morgan to approve expenditure of \$1,200 to side the plow museum workshop as a cost to Fund 290. Roll call vote: Morgan-yes; Groothousen-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; Hraban-yes; Reynolds-absent; Platteter-absent; Motion carried.

**Attorney's Report, Mr. A. Kenyon:**

Atty. Kenyon had nothing to report at this time in the meeting.

**Mayor's Forum, Mr. Christianson:**

Mayor Christianson commended anyone and everyone who somehow assisted in making the recent Mardi Gras a success despite the weather, noting the Jaycees and City departments in particular; police, fire and public works, including seasonal workers, who provide an invaluable effort behind the scenes in the weeks before.

**Closed Session:**

Motion was made by Hraban and seconded by Fields to go into Closed Session under authority cited in the Meeting Notice. Roll call vote: Platteter-absent; Morgan-yes; Groothousen-yes; Fields-yes; Stoneberg-yes; Hraban-yes; Reynolds-absent. Motion carried.

**Adjourn:**

At about 6:30 p.m., motion was made by Hraban seconded by Stoneberg and carried by voice vote to adjourn from Closed Session with no action having been taken therein.

**Recorded by:** \_\_\_\_\_  
Alan Christianson  
Adm.-Deputy Clerk

**Publication:**

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