

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

Monday, July 13, 2020

5:15 pm

Rusk County Government Center

Members present: M. Platteter, B. Groothousen, G. Schueller, A. Hraban, B. Stoneberg, B. Morgan, M. Reynolds
Others Present: T. Devine, Adm A. Christianson (via phone), A. Kenyon, K. Gorsegner, D. Parker, K. Julien, Luke Klink, Don Rubow, John Pohlman II, Katherine Moreau, Monte Klund, Bob Grunseth, Kathy Splett, Cora Shultz

Call to Order: Acting Mayor A. Hraban called the meeting to order at 5:15 pm.

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

Pledge of Allegiance: B. Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes and Agenda: Motion by A. Hraban to approve the June 22, 2020 Council Minutes and the July 13, 2020 Council Agenda, seconded by G. Schueller. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Appearances: Mr. Hraban convened a public hearing on possible action on Ordinance 2020-05- Amending Sec 11-3-5, Storage of Junk, Etc. Regulated. Don Rubow expressed concern over his neighboring property owner's accumulation of junk, and how it could negatively affect his ability to sell his home. Mr. Julien explained that the Police have issued 2 citations to Mr. Rubow's neighbor, and he is moving out of Ladysmith. Mr. Reynolds and Mr. Groothousen clarified that the new ordinance now allows the property owner to be fined for violating the ordinance, and the City may remove the "junk" at the expense to the property owner.

Motion to adopt Ordinance #2020-05 Amending Sec. 11-3-5 Storage of Junk, Etc. Regulated, by B. Stoneberg, seconded by B. Morgan. Motion carried by voice vote.

Discussion was opened to possible action on Ordinance #2020-06 – Addition of Sec. 6-2-7 (b)(2), Snow and Ice Removal, Second and Subsequent Violations. Mr. Pohlman asked what was being added. Mr. Gorsegner explained that the City will send only one letter per season to property owners who neglect to clear snow and ice. After the first letter, the City will clear snow and ice as necessary, without written notice. Katherine Moreau clarified that the property owner has 7 days from sending the letter to clear snow and ice. Then on second and subsequent violations, the City would clear the property within 2 or 3 days as there would be no wait on letters being sent.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-06 Additions of Sec. 6-2-7(b)(2), Snow and Ice Removal, Second and Subsequent Violations, by B. Stoneberg, seconded by G. Schueller. Motion carried by voice vote.

Discussion was opened to possible action on Ordinance #2020-07 – Amending Sec. 10-4-3(a), ATV/UTV Speed. Monte Klund spoke on what other townships have done with their ATV/UTV speed limits, and how having speed limits too slow creates hazardous situations. Bob Grunseth stated that a 10 mph speed limit obstructs traffic. B. Stoneberg expressed concern over letting unlicensed minors drive public streets when they have limited understanding of traffic laws, and how this could be problematic with respect to insurance and liabilities. M. Reynolds pointed out that *this* ordinance only deals with speed limits.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-07 Amending Sec. 10-4-3(a) ATV/UTV Speed, by B. Morgan, seconded by G. Schueller. Motion carried by voice vote. 6-yes, 1-no.

Discussion was opened to possible action on Ordinance #2020-08 – Addition of Sec. 8-1-7(e)(3), Regulation of Length of Lawn and Grasses, Second and Subsequent Violations. Discussion was brief as it was explained that this is, essentially, the same change that what was adopted with Ordinance 2020-06.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-08 - Addition of Sec. 8-1-7(e)(3), Regulation of Length of Lawn and Grasses, Second and Subsequent Violations by B. Stoneberg, seconded by M. Reynolds. Motion carried by voice vote.

Discussion was opened to possible action on Ordinance 2020-09 – Amending Sec. 13-1-33, MW Municipal Well Recharge Area Overlay District and Repealing Sec. 13, Chapter 6, Wellhead Protection. Mr. Gorsegner explained that it was a model DNR Ordinance that most communities have, or will soon have as it is part of the DNR's 5 year inspections.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2020-09 – Amending Sec. 13-1-33, MW Municipal Well Recharge Area Overlay District and Repealing Sec. 13, Chapter 6, Wellhead Protection by M. Platteter, seconded by B. Morgan. Motion carried by voice vote. 6-yes, 1-no.

Kathy Splett representing UW Extension for a program called “Food Wise”. They have started a community garden next to Connections. Connections is not willing to supply the water for the garden. She is wondering if the City can help meter the water used for the garden. The City declined that, but suggested contacting ICAA to make sure they understand what the additional water charges might be, and the benefit of the garden to the food pantry in Connections (run by ICAA). The City will provide Ms. Splett with water rates.

Ordinances & Resolutions: Discussion on the CMAR Resolution (Compliance Maintenance Annual Report). We need to raise our Sewer and Water rates to cover fiscal losses. M. Reynolds questioned what is taking CLA so long. No further discussion.

District 1, Platteter: Personnel Committee meeting at 9:00 am on Wednesday, July 15th at the Fire Hall to discuss the City's health insurance. Farmer's Market is going well.

District 2, Morgan: Joint Property/Police & Fire Commission meeting at 5:15 pm Tuesday, July 14th to discuss possible relocation of the Police Department.

District 3, Groothusen: Park Board meeting has been moved from Tuesday, July 21st to Tuesday, July 28th. Community Development needs to be set up to discuss BERF grants, and to discuss input from SEH on converting the old Elementary School. (Tentatively set for 5:15 pm Tuesday the 21st). Storywalk Trail is now open.

District 4, Schueller: Just finished Youth & Rec meeting. Approved putting a batting cage at the Industrial Park. Approved putting net for \$1,095.97 around batting cage. Approved City paying for Jiffy Biffy next year. Library meeting Tuesday, July 14th.

District 5, Stoneberg: Nothing to report.

District 6, Hraban: Wednesday, July 8th had Emergency Government meeting. Starting budget for 2021.

District 7, Reynolds: Attended NWRPC annual meeting in Hayward. Almost every county has cancelled their fairs and celebrations. Would like to take the Quiet Zone to Legal Affairs. Can't see any reason not to push that forward. We have everything in place. The IDC should not be billed for telephone.

Police & Fire Report: Meeting Wednesday, July 15th at 5:00 pm.

Public Works Report: Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by B. Stoneberg to approve change order #3 in the amount of \$2,159 for the 5th St & Gates Ave rebuild project. M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-No, B. Groothusen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, B. Stoneberg-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-no. Motion carried.

Additional discussion on landscape blocks by Old Smokey. D. Parker is asking Justin Anderson to look at it and advise on what needs to be done.

Right of way agent is coming to town on Tuesday, July 14th to look at pedestrian crossing signs.

Administrator's Report: TIF 9 expires in August 2021, and has surplus funds. We should move money from TIF 9 to TIF 8 or consider construction projects. TIF 8 expires in May 2025, so consider projects there that may be covered with these funds.

Attorney's Report: There are properties on Worden and Miner (among others) that are in a state of disrepair. The question was raised of what the City can do to effect action on hazardous housing conditions. There is some gray area between the City's authority to condemn a house and what constitutes hazardous conditions.

Licenses and Permits: Motion was made by A. Hraban, seconded by B. Groothousen, and carried by voice vote to grant operator's licenses to Rachael Roslowski (pending LPD approval), Ashley Lovely, Terese Love, Andrew Strom and Kyle Peterson.

Mayor's Forum: Clarified that if the computer 'goes down' during a broadcast meeting, we do not have to adjourn.

Closed Session: Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by B. Groothousen to go into closed session under authority granted in S. 19.85(1)(e) Wis Stats. To deliberate or negotiate the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session; to wit: to negotiate lease of City owned property. B. Morgan-no, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, B. Stoneberg-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by B. Morgan, seconded by B. Stoneberg to adjourn at 6:55pm. Motion carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Tony Devine, Deputy Clerk