

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

Monday, July 27, 2020

5:15 pm

Rusk County Government Center

Members present: M. Platteter, B. Morgan, B. Groothousen, G. Schueller (@ 5:50 pm), B. Stoneberg, A. Hraban, M. Reynolds Others present: D. Parker, S. Kavanagh, K. Gorseger, Adm A. Christianson, Chief K. Julien, Chief K. Gibbs, A. Kenyon, L. Klink, Jim West, Ken Buchholz, Jim Kurz. Callers on the phone lines: Cindy Pohlman, Dawn Arquette, Deanna Williams, John Pohlman.

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

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

Pledge of Allegiance. B. Groothousen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes and Agenda. Motion by M. Reynolds, to approve the July 13, 2020 Council Minutes and the July 27, 2020 Council Agenda, seconded by B. Morgan. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Appearances. Jim West thanked the council for the much appreciated BERF Grant program that provided assistance to West Cove Lanes. He also asked the council to consider relocating the Veteran's Mural to the backside of the Verizon building—providing a nice visual to traffic heading west on Highway 8. The mural is currently on the Clark building in downtown Ladysmith and does need to be moved. He has been in contact with a representative of Verizon who expressed interest in having the mural installed on the back wall of their building. Verizon would like the City to contact them about upkeep responsibility and Jim West will provide the contact information for City Hall staff.

Resolution 2020-09. Motion by M. Reynolds, seconded by B. Stoneberg to adopt Resolution 2020-09, Compliance Maintenance Annual Report. Motion carries by unanimous voice vote.

District 1, Platteter. The Personnel Committee met on July 15 to discuss health insurance and the Farmer's Market is going well. Jim Kurz inquired of the progress on the Gateway Pavilion. A. Christianson reported that the IDC reviewed a quote for a pavilion building designed with a center section for interior booths and then stalls on both ends with pull down doors that could be opened during the sale. The bid came in quite high (\$400-\$500,000). Mr. Kurz would like to participate in the design discussions and would like to see solar power utilized. Mr. Morgan also asked to be invited to the next IDC meeting.

District 2, Morgan. The Property Committee met along with the Police & Fire Commission on July 14 to look at possible locations for the Police Department. The Joint Property Committee will be meeting again on Tuesday, July 28 along with the Police & Fire Committee in the Lower Level of the Rusk County Community Library.

District 3, Groothusen. The Community Development Committee met on July 23 to review the final BERF applications and also reviewed drawings of how to separate the former elementary school and came up with retaining the cafeteria, gym and office suite, 1 classroom and 1 set of bathrooms which would give potential developers the maximum amount of space for other uses. The gym “only” will be available for private rental once the building is cleaned up - \$25 for two hours or \$100 for the entire day. The Park Board meets tomorrow, Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 5:15 pm. Mr. Morgan asked if the Park Board would review maintenance needs at O. J. Falge Park – mowing along the water edge, etc.

District 4, Schueller. Mr. Schueller attended a Library Board meeting on July 14 and discussion was held on what needs to be done to repair the exterior of the Library.

District 5, Stoneberg. Police & Fire Commission meeting was held on July 15 and meeting minutes will be presented at the next council meeting. Motion by M. Reynolds, seconded by B. Groothusen, to approve the paid invoices as presented. M. Reynolds asked that Focus on Energy be contacted with possible recommendations to reduce electrical usage at City Hall. M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothusen-yes, B. Stoneberg-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes. Motion carries.

District 6, Hraban. Mr. Hraban attended a Public Works meeting on July 21st and a couple of items are being followed up on; K. Gorseigner met with the representative for the property owner on Phillips/8th St and they will be doing landscaping to deal with the water issues for now.

District 7, Reynolds. M. Reynolds will be meeting with Chief Julien this week to discuss the process when sex offenders locate in the city; this topic will also be placed on a future Legal Affairs agenda. He also has been in contact with a quiet zone company located in Madison, WI to discuss modifications necessary to the RR crossings from Doughty Ave to Flambeau Ave in order to qualify as a “quiet zone”. The Joint Management Board will also be meeting on Tuesday, July 28, 2020 at 2:30 pm to discuss repair of water damage to the exterior of the Rusk County Community Library.

Police and Fire Report. Chief Julien reported that progress has been made on a couple of residences that have had “junk” complaints issued; one citation has been issued for “Junk/Appliances on Private Property”. Chief Gibbs had nothing to report.

Public Works Report. Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by B. Stoneberg, to approve Change Order #10 credit from Lechleitner Construction in the amount of \$58.50. B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, B. Stoneberg-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes. Motion carries.

On an upcoming council agenda, there will be an item to approve the acquisition of shelving for the water/sewer utility department and the public works area. Quotes have not been acquired yet.

Administrator's Report. Adm Christianson reported possible façade projects in the "pipeline" on Worden Avenue and requested that the Council consider allocating up to \$100,000 from TIF #8 to the Main Street Façade Rehab Program. M. Reynolds asked that this item be brought up for discussion at a Finance Committee meeting. Motion by B. Groothousen to table this item. Motion carried.


Attorney's Report. As an owner of multiple rental properties within the City of Ladysmith, he believes there is a shortage of "executive housing" rental units. He reported that moderate or low income housing may be at adequate levels.

Licenses and Permits. Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by M. Reynolds to approve the Operator License for Bobbi J Hill. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mayor's Forum. Nothing to report.

Closed Session. Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by B. Groothousen, under authority granted in WI Stat. 19.85(1)(e) 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: potential purchase of property. B. Stoneberg-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-no, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by M. Reynolds, to adjourn the meeting at 6:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Kavanagh, City Clerk