

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

Monday, August 10, 2020

5:15 pm

Rusk County Government Center

Members present: M. Platteter, B. Morgan, B. Groothousen, G. Schueller, A. Hraban, M. Reynolds
Absent: Bonnie Stoneberg

Others present: D. Parker, S. Kavanagh, K. Gorsegner, Adm A. Christianson, Chief Julien, A. Kenyon, Cora Schultz, Kyle Jeffress, John Pohlman, II, John Pohlman, III, Ray Carlson, Calvin Vacho, Ken Buchholz, Jim West, Luke Klink
Callers on the phone lines: Cindy 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. G. Schueller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes and Agenda. Motion by A. Hraban, to approve the July 27, 2020 Council Minutes and the August 10, 2020 Council Agenda, seconded by M. Platteter. Motion carried by voice vote.

Public Appearances.

D. Parker thanked WRA for the use of their wet saw and Brian Groothousen for assisting with the laying of block at the Memorial Park entrance sign.

Ray Carlson appeared to update the council on Corbett Lake projects and passed around a Rail Display Budget for all to review.

John Pohlman, II inquired if the fire extinguishers should be removed from the former elementary school to prevent them from being used by vandals. DPW Gorsegner replied that extinguishers need to remain in place because the building is occasionally occupied.

A. Christianson heard from a local business owner who wanted to thank the City Council for the BERF program which helped them keep their business open.

John Pohlman, III thanked the council for improving the condition of our parks by removing the geese.

District 1, Platteter. Nothing to report.

District 2, Morgan. Mr. Morgan reviewed the August 5, 2020 Property Committee minutes. If the council decides to raze the former PW garage, Mr. Morgan would like to see the glass blocks salvaged in that building along with doors and heaters. The former ranger station office building was also discussed; the building is quite deteriorated and the Property Committee discussed possibly setting up a “test burn” with WITC to remove the structure.

District 3, Groothousen. Mr. Groothousen reviewed the minutes of the July 28, 2020 Park Board minutes. The Park Board discussed future projects; adding a trail along the Flambeau River in Memorial Park and extending a trail to the top tier of the Legacy Amphitheater. The Jaycees have approved funding the replacement of the Veteran’s Pavilion. Funding for these future projects could possibly come from a DNR grant that is a dollar for dollar match, a Lion’s Club pledge, a pledge from the Jaycees and funds from TIF #8. Mr. Morgan expressed support for repairing the wetland boardwalk at O. J. Falge Park. There was clarification that the Park Board is responsible for the O. J. Falge Park land and Community Development oversees the actual Corbett Lake projects.

Yard Waste Site. After a lengthy discussion on the City’s current yard waste/brush disposal site, comments were offered regarding opening up a brush/yard waste site for daily drop off during daylight hours from April 15 to November 15 or reinstating the curbside pickup that was once offered on a monthly basis. Motion by M. Reynolds, seconded by B. Morgan, to reinstate the monthly curbside pickup of brush/yard waste for City residents, in accordance with Ord. 8-3-6. Motion carried by voice vote- 5 yes; 1 no-Groothousen.

Veteran’s Mural Relocation. Motion by B. Groothousen, seconded by M. Reynolds, to approve installation of the mural framework for a two-sided mural on the west side of the Fire Dept’s rear driveway (set back from Hwy 8) and to approve the bid from Verdegan Construction in the amount of \$8,020 to be funded out of TIF #9. M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes. Motion carried.

District 4, Schueller. The Library Board will be meeting on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 @ 5:00 pm to discuss the maintenance of the library exterior as well as discussion of needed air conditioning repairs. The other topic on the agenda is the current “10” maximum visitor capacity at the Rusk County Community Library.

District 5, Stoneberg. Absent.

District 6, Hraban. The Transit Board met last week and they are working on their annual audit reports.

Lake Ave/Worden Ave Sealcoating. Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by B. Groothousen, to approve the bid from Lake County Sealcoaters for \$4,800 to crack seal and seal coat Worden Ave and Miner Avenue Veteran's parking lot. B. Morgan-no, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes. Motion carries.

District 7, Reynolds.

Quiet Zone Proposal. At the recent Finance Committee meeting, the "quiet zone" proposal from SRF was reviewed; the assessment would include a City of Ladysmith/CN/WisDOT/FRA diagnostic meeting, an on-site field study meeting, preparation of a "quiet zone" calculation/analysis and a City Council presentation. The estimated cost for these professional services would be \$9,000. This does not include preparation of the actual application. The Legal Affairs Committee will also be discussing SRF's "quiet zone" proposal on Thursday, August 13 and possibly making a recommendation to forward it onto the City Council for approval.

The Joint Review Board meets on Thursday, August 13, to discuss the creation of TIF #12 (former elementary school) and reducing the geographic size of TIF #9.

The Legal Affairs Committee will be meeting on Thursday, August 13 at 5:00 pm to discuss a possible new ordinance regarding Residency Restrictions for Sex Offenders in the City of Ladysmith.

Police and Fire Report. Chief Julien reported mental health calls are dramatically up and in the last couple of months, they have had 6 domestic abuse arrests; 20 year to date.

Public Works Report.

Wellhead Protection Plan. Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by M. Reynolds, to approve the Wellhead Protection Plan for Wells #5 and #6. Motion carries by voice vote.

Shelving/Racking for DPW Shop. Bids were received from Fastenal who provided a bid of \$21,244 and Bernie's Equipment for \$20,922; the original construction budget will cover this expense. Motion by B. Groothousen, seconded by A. Hraban, to approve the bid from Bernie's Equipment for \$20,922 to purchase racking/shelving for the new Public Works facility. B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-no. Motion carries.

Driveway Approaches. Motion by M. Reynolds, seconded by A. Hraban, to approve splitting the cost/labor of replacing driveway approaches/sidewalks on E. 8th St S. McCabe Construction will do the saw cutting/removal of the cracked approaches/sidewalks; Chippewa Concrete will

provide the labor to repour the approaches/sidewalks and the City will purchase the concrete for \$1,235. G. Schueller-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes. Motion carries.

Administrator Report.

Main Street Façade Program. A TID revenue worksheet was reviewed by the council which outlined the current TID cash balances and future projected revenue; it also included possible future commitments. There are businesses along Worden Avenue interested in utilizing the Main Street Façade Rehab program to improve their curb appeal. M. Reynolds requested that, in the future, the Main Street Director appear before the council when requests come through for the Main Street program.

Motion by B. Groothousen, seconded by M. Platteter, to approve allocation of up to \$100,000 to the Main Street Façade Rehab program to be allocated out of TIF #8. A. Hraban-no, M. Reynolds-pass, M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-no, M. Reynolds-yes. Motion carries.


The Joint Review Board will be meeting on Thursday, August 13, 2020, to discuss the creation of TIF #12 (former elementary school) and discussion of which parcels will be cut from TIF #9. The creation of TIF #12 needs to be finalized by October 1st which means there will have to be an additional Joint Review Board meeting held, the Planning Commission will need to review the TID plan and then council will need to approve the plan, all by the end of September.

Attorney's Report. Nothing to report.

Licenses/Permits. Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by M. Reynolds, to approve the Operator Licenses for Melisa Martin and Chris Keach. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mayor's Report. Nothing to report.

Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by B. Morgan to adjourn the meeting at 7:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Kavanagh, City Clerk