

COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS OF THE CITY OF LADYSMITH
September 11, 2017 6:30 p.m. Council Chamber

Roll Call. Members present: A. Hraban, M. Hraban, R. Moore, B. Morgan, J. Pearson, M. Platteter, M. Reynolds, B. Stoneberg. Absent: none. Mayor Reynolds noted there was a quorum present.

Others present: D. and G. Anderson, R. Carlson, A. Christianson, T. Eby, K. Gorsegner, A. Lobermeier, A. Kenyon, L. Klink, H. Martcn, J. Pohlman, M. Sanko.

Call to Order:

Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order and presided.

Pledge of Allegiance:

After asking that those present each personally consider the significance of 9-11, Mayor Reynolds led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Ray Carlson commented on the first item under "Hearings and Appearances" in the previous Council meeting minutes. Motion was made by Moore, seconded by A. Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve the minutes of the August 28, 2017, Council meeting.

Agenda:

Motion was made, seconded and carried by voice vote to approve the evening's agenda.

Hearings and Appearances:

Georgi and Donnie Anderson appeared along with Tammy Eby to support a Mayoral Proclamation of Assisted Living Week, which the latter read aloud.

Melissa Sanko appeared in regard to what she feels are high (5.5%) interest rates on special assessments proposed to be levied in connection with project to rebuild a portion of E. 8th St. S. Mayor Reynolds advised that these rates have not yet been set and need further discussion.

Harvey Martin appeared in regard recent efforts to cause clean up of private properties where a large number of items are stored outdoors, creating what many deem an unsightly appearance. He recalled meeting with Chief Lobermeier on a previous occasion, adding that car repairs are his hobby. Mr. M. Hraban stated that he and the Chief had previously gone around and identified 18 vehicles that were unlicensed or otherwise stored in violation of the municipal code, adding that the City is not going to allow these accumulations to continue in view of their negative impacts.

Mayor Reynolds set Monday, September 25th as the date for a Public hearing to consider public input on a request from the Ladysmith School District to convert streets adjacent to the north and west sides of the Middle School to one way traffic.

Resolutions and Ordinances:

Motion was made by A. Hraban, seconded by M. Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve the DPW's report on special assessments associated with pending Center Ave., Pederson Ave. and E. 8th St. reconstruction projects.

Action on Resolution #2017-15 will be held over to a future meeting when more information is available on whose special assessments will be paid in whole or in part by CDBG monies being used in conjunction with project to rebuild portions of Center Ave., Pederson Ave. and E. 8th St.

District and Committee Reports:

District One, Mr. Platteter:

Mr. Platteter advised that the Library Board will meet September 12th at 5 p.m.

District Two, Mr. B. Morgan:

Mr. Morgan made a motion, which was seconded by M. Hraban, to provide an additional \$1,000 to the rail display for 2017, for purposes of replacing siding on the boxcar, which was found to be deteriorating rapidly. The source is TIFD #9. Roll call vote: Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes; Moore-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes. Motion carried.

Mr. Morgan asked that a Personnel meeting be slated for 10 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 20th.

He also asked that the rail display donations box at the Visitor Center be checked, and stated that he is working on a design for a cover for the caboose and boxcar displayed at the visitor center.

Mr. Morgan also mentioned, for Mrs. Pearson's benefit, he has some folks lined up to do some volunteer work on ball fields next spring.

Lastly, Mr. Morgan mentioned receiving a complaint about a resident in the E. 11th St. S. area feeding feral cats such that these cats stay in the area and create issues for other nearby residents who do not want them around.

District Three, Mr. M. Hraban:

Mr. Hraban made a motion, which was seconded A. Hraban by to accept Ken Phillips' Proposal to repaint features (pipe railings, bollards, dock levelers, exposed concrete) on the City's building at 1506 Barnett Road to improve its curb appeal as a cost to the Mining Fund. Roll call vote: Morgan-yes; Moore-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes. Motion carried.

District Four, Mr. R. Moore:

After calling attention to the history of 9-11, Mr. Moore referenced minutes of both the Sept. 5 All Committees meeting and the Sept. 6, Finance meeting.

Mr. Moore also mentioned that he is aware of an individual who plans to circulate petitions seeking support for an overpass at the Lake Ave. rail crossing, and a rail underpass at Phillips Ave.

Mr. Moore inquired as to the nature of an excavation on Lindoo Ave. E. It was a private utility excavation.

District Five, Mrs. B. Stoneberg:

Mrs. Stoneberg asked for dates that might work for other members of the Legal Affairs Committee to meet. It will be slated before or after the next All Committees meeting.

District Six, Mr. A. Hraban:

Mr. Hraban distributed copies of minutes from a Public Works Committee meeting held earlier in the day. A request was made to hold another Public Works meeting, maybe jointly with Finance, to review that department's 2018 budget proposal.

Mr. A. Hraban made a motion, which was seconded by M. Hraban and carried by voice vote, to deed excess right of way long E. 12th St. S. to Ramona Taylor to enable a deck addition, while retaining unto the City an easement under the same description to allow maintenance of underlying utilities. DPW Gorsegner explained that this wider r.o.w. had been for a railroad that once followed that route.

District Seven, Mrs. J. Pearson:

Mrs. Pearson made a motion to approve a Park Board recommendation that several parks and recreation facilities be placed under Park Board jurisdiction. Adm. Christianson suggested that this matter be held until there has been further discussion. It is unclear to him what the Youth and Recreation Committee's role is, if any. Mr. Pohlman stated that committee was formed to oversee operations at a youth and community center the City once operated in what is now part of the public works offices [at 300 Miner Ave. W.]. A lengthy discussion followed, during which the following were among comments made:

- A number of facilities have been developed in recent years without much consideration being given to who will oversee them. The military murals were cited as an example.
- The City Council needs to decide which entities are responsible for oversight of which facilities. There is a list of over 30 facilities to consider.
- Lack of adequate funding for proper upkeep of many facilities is an underlying problem.
- The Public Works Dept. is understaffed to maintain all these facilities.
- Maybe a new standing Committee of the Council is needed.
- While a parks and recreation department could be created it may not need additional administration so much as more maintenance staff time.

It was decided to discuss this further at an upcoming All Committees meeting.

Police and Fire Dept. Reports, A. Lobermeier:

Chief Lobermeier had nothing to report.

Public Works Dept. Report, Mr. K. Gorseger:

The DPW reported that excavation began earlier in the day on E. 8th St. S. If all goes well utility replacements on that street may be completed by week's end. Shaping of Phillips Ave. and 1st St. is also underway. A couple soft spots on these streets have been dug out and refilled. After these firm up it will be possible to pave.

M. Hraban made a motion which was seconded by A. Hraban to approve a change order with Haas Construction, in the amount of \$3,580.57, owing largely to quantities that differed from plans as a result of some inaccurate City records. Roll call vote: M. Hraban-yes; Moore-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes. Motion carried.

M. Hraban made a motion, which was seconded by A. Hraban to approve a Pay Request from Has Sons, in the amount of \$169,811.95, for work completed on the Phillips Ave. and 1st St. project. Roll call vote: Moore-yes; Stoneberg-yes; A. Hraban-yes; Pearson-yes; Platteter-yes; Morgan-yes; M. Hraban-yes. Motion carried.

It was reported that the City received three Proposals from engineering firms to investigate the availability of grant funds to assist with reconstruction of portions of Fritz and Worden Avenues, in particular. Ayres Associates proposed to do so for \$3,900, whereas both MSA and Morgan and Parmley proposed to do so by mid-October at no charge. It was the Public Works Committee's recommendation that Morgan and Parmley be engaged to do this work. Motion was made by A. Hraban, seconded by Moore and carried by voice vote to approve this recommendation.

Administrative Report, Mr. A. Christianson:

Adm. Christianson had nothing to report.

Attorney's Report, Mr. A. Kenyon:

Atty. Kenyon had nothing to report.

Mayor's Forum, Mr. M. Reynolds:

Mayor Reynolds reported he received an official notification of the status of Gordy's Market stores. A hearing on the matter is slated for September 15th.

Mayor Reynolds also reported that, absent any objections, he will be signing a Joint Powers Agreement with Rusk County to replace the previous one. They run annually.

Licenses and Permits:

Motion was made by A. Hraban, seconded by Moore and carried by voice vote to approve a Street Use Permit for Ladysmith Main Street, to involve closure of Miner Ave. W. from 1st St. to W. 4th St. from 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. on September 23rd provided that the

Post Office and Pioneer Bank drive through lanes will be kept open until normal closing times.

Motion was made by Moore seconded by M. Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve a Beer Garden Permit for 211 Club, Rose Grotzinger agent, on Miner Ave. in front of that tavern for Leaf it to Rusk Festival on September 23rd from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Fencing will be provided by Ladysmith Main Street.

Motion was made by A. Hraban, seconded by M. Hraban and carried by voice vote to approve a temporary operator's license for Alan Christianson II for Music at Worden Avenue Exchange on October 13, 2017.

Adjourn:

The meeting was adjourned 7:50 p.m.

Recorded by: _____
Alan Christianson
Adm.-Deputy Clerk

Publication:

Date submitted: _____

Date published: _____