

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

Monday, September 28, 2020

5:15 pm

Ladysmith Public Works Garage

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

Others present: Cora Schultz, Dan Penzkover (SEH), Ray Carlson, Calvin Vacho, Chief K. Gibbs, Chief K. Julien, Clerk S. Kavanagh, DPW K. Gorsegner, Adm A. Christianson, A. Kenyon, Asst PWD D. Parker, Luke Klink, Gayle Luckman, Online Brea Grace, John Pohlman, II.

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. Morgan led the Pledge of Allegiance.

DPW K. Gorsegner took all present on a tour of the new Public Works garage.

Minutes and Agenda. Motion by B. Morgan, to approve the September 14, 2020 Council Minutes and the September 28, 2020 Council Agenda, seconded by M. Platteter. Motion carried by voice vote.

Introductions, public comments.

Ray Carlson asked that the rail display budget be placed on the next Community Development agenda for review and discussion. B. Groothousen asked Mr. Carlson to continue to provide documentation on the rail cover project and projects at Corbett Lake, to provide continuity.

B. Morgan has been in contact with persons who may be interested in lowering the track so that the last train car will not be at a higher elevation than the rest of the train when the cover is installed. Adm Christianson asked him to bring a proposal to the council for review and approval; the labor cost to lower the track would be covered by TIF #9.

Ordinances and Resolutions.

Resolution 2020-11. Motion by M. Reynolds, seconded by B. Groothousen, to adopt Resolution 2020-11 approving the Territorial Amendment of TID #9 and approval of the Project Plan and Boundary Modification. This amendment will drop off parcels totaling about \$2.8 million in valuation to get the city-wide valuation in TID districts down to about 10.9%. M. Platteter-yes,

B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes.
Motion carries.

The Planning Commission met on September 10 to approve Resolutions and the Joint Review Board meets this Thursday, October 1, 2020, to make the final approval of these TID projects.

Resolution 2020-12. Motion by M. Reynolds, seconded by B. Groothousen, to adopt Resolution 2020-12 approving the Project Plan and Establishing the Boundary of Tax Increment District #12. This TIF encompasses the former elementary school property for further redevelopment – possibly a community center and housing. TIF #12 will provide funding for improving infrastructure in this district; utility lines and roads. B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes. Motion carries.

District 1, Platteter.

2021 Security Health Plan. Motion by B. Groothousen, seconded by M. Reynolds, to approve the 2021 Security Health Plan medical insurance contract with the new deductible amounts of \$1,500 for single plans and \$3,000 for family plans. B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter -yes, B. Morgan-yes. Motion carries.

District 2, Morgan. Mr. Morgan asked to postpone his discussion on pea gravel around manholes to a later date.

If the City ever is interested in selling the old motorcar currently being stored, Mr. Morgan is interested in purchasing it.

District 3, Groothousen. Nothing to report.

District 4, Schueller. Mr. Schueller updated the council that Northern Wisconsin Fencing is installing fencing at the lower ballfield in the industrial park.

District 5, Stoneberg. Absent due to immediate resignation.

District 6, Hraban. As Acting Mayor, Mr. Hraban and Adm Christianson will be attending the October 13, 2020 Town of Flambeau board meeting to discuss the former Tinker Tot property. He will also be attending the October 2, 2020 Rusk County Transit Board meeting.

District 7, Reynolds.

The Finance Committee has been meeting with department heads to formalize the 2021 operating budget and a draft budget should be ready for public hearing within the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Reynolds asked for guidance on Halloween trick or treating hours and any additional safety precautions due to COVID-19; Chief Julien will be setting hours for trick or treating in the near future.

The Joint Management Committee will be meeting with the primary focus on what to do with the former Methodist Church. If demolition could be completed this year, it would allow the lot to settle during the winter months.

Motion by M. Reynolds, seconded by B. Groothousen, to reconsider approving the Morgan & Parmley quote in the amount of \$6,500 to design rebuild plans for E. 10th Street between Menasha Avenue to Park Avenue at a cost to TID #11. G. Schueller-no, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter -yes, B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes. Motion carries.

Police and Fire Report.

Repair to Block Walls at Fire Hall. Motion by M. Reynolds, seconded by B. Morgan, to approve the bid from PJG Masonry in the amount of \$1,850 to drill weep holes on the base of the building at the Fire Hall before winter and finish up the tuck pointing and patching damaged joints during the spring of 2021. A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes. Motion carries.

Door Replacement Bid at the Fire Hall. Motion by M. Reynolds, seconded by B. Groothousen, to approve the bid from Indianhead Glass for \$9,850 to replace 3 doors at the Ladysmith Fire Hall, specifically the Cascade Room door (\$3,650) and 2 doors on the west end EMS garage (\$6,200) to be completed in 2020. A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes. Motion carries.

Fire Chief Gibbs will plan on seeking new bids on replacing the remaining 6 doors in the spring of 2021 to be paid out of the 2021 budget. A suggestion was offered to look into alternatives to using salt on the sidewalks in order to prevent the deterioration of the new metal doors, possibly using cheese brine or cracked corn.

Public Works Report. DPW Gorsegner explained DOT's request to sign off on Revocable Occupancy Permits for five parcels along the Lake Ave paving project that have improvements

encroaching into the road right-of-way. The Revocable Occupancy Permit allows these improvements to remain in place until they are damaged or destroyed and if that were to happen, they can't be put back in place.

- Kauffman - two unused sign bases can be kept in place.
- Ladysmith Federal Savings & Loan –parking lot light can be left in place.
- Marty Reynolds – retaining wall can be left in place.
- Sue Moore – retaining wall can be left in place.
- Tami Kraft – retaining wall can be left in place.

Revocable Occupancy Permits. Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by B. Groothousen, to approve the five Revocable Occupancy Permits along the Lake Avenue paving project. 4-yes, 1-no (G. Schueller), 1-Abstain (M. Reynolds). Motion carried by voice vote.

Administrator's Report.

Acceptance of CDBG Award. Motion by M. Reynolds, seconded by A. Hraban, to accept CDBG award in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the 2021 Reconstruction of Five Downtown Streets with water/sewer rehabilitation. B. Morgan-yes, B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes. Motion carried. The City has submitted multiple DNR applications for low interest or principal forgiveness loans for sewer/water improvements. The outcome of those applications may not be known until the end of November but if a DNR loan is approved, those funds can be used toward the \$500,000 City match funds needed.

Mural Installation. Motion by M. Reynolds, seconded by B. Groothousen, to accept bid from John Hoover Builders in the amount of \$1,200 to install the fish, duck and railroad murals at a cost to TID #9. B. Groothousen-yes, G. Schueller-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-yes. Motion carries.

The designated locations for the murals are as follows: the bullhead fish and duck decoy murals will be installed on the south wall of the Ace Hardware building. The record musky and white musky will be installed on the west wall of the Flambeau Outfitters building. Mr. Terrill's depiction will be installed in the baggage car at the Rusk County Visitor's Center and depictions of Mr. Carlson and Mr. Morgan will be displayed next to the skeeter car at the top of the bridge.

Attorney's Report. Nothing to report.

Licenses and Permits. Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by M. Reynolds, to approve the Operator License for Paris Schultz and the Temporary Class "B"/"Class B" Retailer's License to the Rusk County Chamber of Commerce for the Amanda Grace Concert. Motion carries.

Mayor's Forum. The immediate resignation of District 5 Alderperson, Bonnie Stoneberg, was accepted and a notice will be placed in the Ladysmith News seeking "letters of intent" from interested persons to fill the District 5 alderperson seat until the April, 2021 Spring Election.

Closed Session. Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by G. Schueller, to go into closed session under authority granted in Sec. 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: discussion with possible action of lease of community center and discussion with possible action on sale of city owned lots. G. Schueller-yes, A. Hraban-yes, M. Reynolds-yes, M. Platteter-yes, B. Morgan-no, B. Groothousen-yes. Motion carries.

Motion by A. Hraban, seconded by B. Morgan to adjourn the meeting at 7:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Shari Kavanagh, City Clerk