

JANUARY 11, 2005

Regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order by Mayor Meyers at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall Plaza.

PRESENT: Michael Feirer, Alanna Feddick, Gerald Nelson, Tim Kraus, Jerry Bennington, Sr., Russell Stauber, Donald Krueger, Tom Buttke and Edward Beaudry, Jr.

ABSENT: Ray Gougeon

The flag was saluted and the pledge given.

Rev. Charles Stoetzel, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church gave the invocation.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MAYOR

1. Word to the Wise: Displaying courage and bravery through your actions is the best form of motivation to those that are lucky enough to witness it. Author: Anonymous

CC05-001 Motion by Nelson, second by Bennington to approve the minutes of the Common Council meeting of December 28, 2004. All Ayes

Motion carried

No items were added to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Roy Cook of 3107 Popp Avenue spoke about hooking up to City water. They should be able to say what they want and don't want. There are some wells that have just been drilled the last two years and these people have money invested in this water and they don't want to give it up.

Lorraine LaGrander of 801 W. McMillan said that in 1995 when they annexed to the City they were told that they could keep their well and didn't have to hookup to city water. Now they received a letter stating that now they may have to hookup. She thought they were grandfathered in. Their well is very good and they have it tested and it is fine. They should have a choice.

CITIZEN SURVEY PRESENTATION

City Administrator Brehm said that the Common Council has just recently adopted the 2005 budget. Financial difficulties in putting that budget together including expenditures, declining or limited state aids and unavailable fund balances, basically challenged all of us, both staff as well as the elected body to bring forth questions as to what types and levels of services that we would really want to provide to our municipality and to the citizens. Public officials, both managerial and elected, need regular feedback on the quality of services, satisfaction of services as well as budget priorities and comments regarding future growth and facilities.

A survey in advance of the budget process could assist city officials in establishing budget parameters. The survey could be designed to guide project planning, evaluate programs or personnel and also to prioritize budget allocations.

A presentation was made by Professor Geoffrey Peterson, University of Wisconsin/Eau Claire Political Research Institute on Citizen Surveys.

CC05-002 Motion by Buttke, second by Krueger to have the City Administrator gather the information that is needed for the next Council meeting to make a decision on proceeding with this.

Administrator Brehm said that he would envision that motion to mean that he should list the pros and cons of doing a survey in-house versus externally and also an estimation on what that cost might be. As well as the availability and the expertise of the staff to be able to do it in-house if that is the direction the Council wants to go.

Aldersperson Buttke said that was correct.

Aldersperson Stauber commented that he is always in favor of getting public input and he generally favors surveys. But he won't support this motion because we are just coming off the PSPC Survey, which did include some major CIP projects, and we got about a 33% response rate. We haven't worked through that data yet. If we were to do another survey so soon we would probably include some of the big questions that that survey already covered. The survey prior to that was the City Hall Survey and we didn't do much with that at all. As far as staffing, we have a full-time Administrator, a fully staffed Planning and Economic Development department, 10-member Council and a very active Mayor. If we are not in touch where Marshfield should be going maybe we are doing something wrong. Spending another \$15,000 for an additional survey is not money well spent at this time.

Vote on motion **CC05-002**; Stauber voted Naye, rest Aye.

Motion carried

MINUTES OF GOVERNING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CC05-003 Motion by Buttke, second by Kraus to receive and place on file the minutes of the Board of Review of October 18, 2004, October 19, 2004 and October 20, 2004 and the Library Board of December 14, 2004. Feddick abstained, rest Aye.

Motion carried

MINUTES OF ADVISORY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

CC05-004 Motion by Bennington, second by Feirer to approve the minutes of the Convention and Visitors Bureau of December 21, 2004. All Ayes

Motion carried

MINUTES OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

CC05-005 Motion by Feirer, second by Buttke to approve the amended minutes of the Board of Public Works of December 20, 2004 - amended regarding motion PW04-150. All Ayes

Motion carried

CC05-006 Motion by Feirer, second by Kraus to approve the minutes of the Board of Public Works at January 4, 2005. All Ayes

Motion carried

CC05-007 Motion by Bennington, second by Feddick to approve the minutes of the Finance, Budget and Personnel Committee of January 4, 2005. All Ayes

Motion carried

CC05-008 Motion by Buttke, second by Beaudry to approve the minutes of the Judiciary, License and Cemetery Committee of January 4, 2005. All Ayes
Motion carried

MUNUTES OF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

CC05-009 Motion by Kraus, second by Bennington to receive and place on file the minutes of Main Street Marshfield of December 8, 2004. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC05-010 Motion by Feirer, second by Buttke to receive and place on file the minutes of the Mayor's Select Committee on Fire Department Facility Needs of December 21, 2004. All Ayes
Motion carried

Presentation of Mayor's Select Committee on Fire Department Facility Needs.

Mayor Meyers commented that there have been three studies conducted over the last 33 years concerning the facility needs for the Marshfield Fire & Rescue Department. He gave a brief overview of those three studies.

Don Nystrom, Chairman of the Mayor's Select Committee on Fire Department Facilities Needs stated that the mission statement of this committee is, "To determine appropriate facility needs for Fire/Rescue services to most effectively and appropriately meet the needs of Marshfield".

Recommendations:

- The City should conduct a feasibility study to see if the present station could be remodeled and expanded or if a new station could be more economically built in a centrally located area.
- The feasibility study should be conducted by an architect competent and experienced in the design of Fire and EMS buildings for full time departments.
- The City should adopt a sprinkler ordinance for new and existing commercial and residential buildings of 5,000 square feet or larger.
- The City should extend the water main to the Nelson Street and Marathon Street neighborhood in conjunction with the Highway 13 reconstruction.
- The City should remain cognizant of future growth and development and to include the possibility of a 2nd Station in the Comprehensive Plan update.
- The City should implement the sprinkler ordinance in 2005, and include the feasibility study in the CIP for 2005-2009. The Nelson/Marathon Street water extension should be undertaken in conjunction with the Hwy 13 project.

The time to act is now. Three committees have studied this already. It is time to move forward and undertake the recommendations that this committee has made.

Mayor Meyers urged the Council to take some finite actions in regards to addressing the concerns that have been presented. With full realization and appreciation for the time spent by Chief Cleveland and his staff, and as much, the dedicated members of each of the more recent studies, the time has come to meet this issue head on. His own conclusion in this regard is to solicit professionals to guide us down this road. We need to employ those who study these issues on a regular basis, and who can offer answers to best meet out needs in the future.

Tom Lenard, President of the Fire & Police Commission thanked the Mayor's Select Committee for the time that they put together in doing the study. This is the 4th Study in the last 20 some plus years addressing the need for a 2nd Fire Station. In principle, the Fire & Police Commission agrees with the study. The issue they have is that the study does not go far enough. There is no time line that has been presented to say that this is when they need to do this. They were expecting some finite information necessary to enable them to plan. Because when they have gone through the past studies and said that they needed a new fire station and here is the basis for it and here are the response times and budget. The first roadblock that continually comes up is how much is it going to cost? The issue with that is are we addressing the proper channels, response times, the communities expectations of quality Fire and EMS service? We are getting to the point that we are there. The frustration in the Commission is that they wanted something a little more tangible. Unless we know where we are going to go in the next 5, 10, 15 years, we can't sit here and say that we are going to throw a million dollars at the existing facility. Or we are just going to get by, we are going to do a five year deal because in 2012 we are going to have that new Fire/EMS Station available on the northside. Nobody says that the northside is where it's got to be. He has heard things thrown out that maybe they should look at the city garage area because it is a more centralized location. Let's do the minimum and get by with the existing facility and build a brand new station on the city garage site because that's better access than where the existing facility is. That is certainly an option. That doesn't come out of any of these studies. That hopefully will come from a consultant who will tell us what we should do. The Commission sits here saying that they are doing these studies. They have looked at it and there is a need for it. We have response times bumping up against the limits. It is time to bite the bullet and put a fork in the stand that says here is when the study is going to be done, here is what it is going to address and here's what year we are going to have a new station. Here is what that station is going to look like and then ultimately come back and say here is how much we are going to spend upgrading the existing one because this is how it fits into the bigger plan, the 10,15, or 20 year plan.

Recessed at 8:53 p.m.

Reconvened at 9:04 p.m.

Second reading of Ordinance No. 1037, amending Chapter 17, Electrical Code of the City of Marshfield, Wisconsin Municipal Code regarding electrical permit fees.

CC05-011 Motion by Bennington, second by Buttke to approve Ordinance No. 1037. Nelson voted Naye, rest Aye.

Motion carried

Second reading of Ordinance No. 1038, providing for the amendment of Section 16-03 of the Municipal Code of the City of Marshfield relative to issuance of plumbing permits and inspection.

CC05-012 Motion by Feirer, second by Krueger to approve Ordinance No. 1038. Nelson voted Naye, rest Aye.

Motion carried

Second reading of Ordinance No. 1039, providing for the amendment of Section 15-03 of the Municipal Code of the City of Marshfield relative to the issuance of building permits and inspection.

CC05-013 Motion by Buttke, second by Feirer to approve Ordinance No. 1039. All Ayes

Motion carried

Second reading of Ordinance No. 1040, amending the City of Marshfield, Wisconsin Municipal Code to allow Professional Services as a conditional use in 'M-1' Industrial Park District and 'M-2' Light Industrial District.

CC05-014 Motion by Kraus, second by Bennington to approve Ordinance No. 1040. All Ayes
Motion carried

Second reading of Ordinance No. 1041, amending the official zoning map of the City of Marshfield, Wisconsin Municipal Code pertaining to a zoning revision on a proposed 1.68 acre tract of land on the north side of Spencer Street, east of STH 13 and west of Lincoln Avenue from 'A' Agriculture Holding District to 'R-4' Residential (Low Density Single and Two-Family) District.

CC05-015 Motion by Stauber, second by Krueger to approve Ordinance No. 1041. All Ayes
Motion carried

Second reading of Ordinance No. 1042, amending the official zoning map of the City of Marshfield, Wisconsin Municipal Code pertaining to a zoning revision for approximately 30 acres of land on the north side of Wilderness View Drive, northwest of STH 97 from 'B-4' General Commercial to 'C' Conservancy.

CC05-016 Motion by Feirer, second by Bennington to approve Ordinance No. 1042. All Ayes
Motion carried

First reading of Ordinance No. 1043, relative to compulsory connection to sewer and water.

Aldersperson Kraus asked if we could give these 13 or 14 residents until October 1, 2006 which would be the same as the residents in the Mannville area, to connect to city water so that they can get more length out of their wells. It basically gives all entities in those two areas the same time to do that.

City Attorney Hutchinson responded that where some of these property owners didn't hookup based upon assurances or suggestions from city personnel, personnel really didn't have the authority to give the individual property owner that assurance in the first place. In the past when the City has installed water/sewer service and required others to hookup there had probably been other property owners with wells who were forced to abandon their wells at that time. To now make special accommodations to a few that somehow were overlooked in the past might suggest some inequitable treatment for everybody. He doesn't find many statutory authorities for that. The fact that people have made investments in these wells, water treatment facilities within their house to make their well water more palatable typically is not going to provide a basis for not applying the city code.

Pat Schreiner, Schreiner's Plumbing. He is representing his father who owns a well. The reason his father went to a well is because of the taste of the water. He did fight the City and the results were that he won the battle with the City. At that point it was a request for metering of his water. But in that same instance the judge basically in reference didn't state that he could not use his well water. In essence he is allowing him to use his well water and it is his water. His parents want their well water and to keep what they rightfully deserve. If the well is up to state standards, he sees no problem with keeping that. Give the people a choice.

CC05-017 Motion by Stauber, second by Bennington to approve the appointment of Mr. Alan Nystrom, 1231 W. Fairview Dr. to the Business Improvement District Board. Mr. Nystrom will complete the unexpired term of Mr. Marty Reinhart, who has resigned due to other business commitments. The term for Mr. Nystrom will expire in December 2006. All Ayes

Motion carried

Motion by Bennington, second by Kraus to adjourn at 9:38 p.m.

Motion carried

Deb M. Hall
City Clerk