

MARCH 14, 2006

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, Marty Anderson, Jerry Bennington, Sr., Chris Meyer, Donald Krueger, John Spiros, Tom Buttke and Edward Beaudry, Jr.

ABSENT: None

The flag was saluted and the pledge given.

No invocation was given.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MAYOR

Word to the Wise: Both optimists and pessimists contribute to our society. The optimist invents the airplane, and the pessimist the parachute. Author: Gil Steen

CC06-079 Motion by Nelson, second by Feirer to approve the minutes of the Common Council meeting of February 28, 2006. All Ayes

Motion carried

No items were added to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

William Penker of 600 S. Sycamore Avenue spoke about the term for the position of Mayor. The discussion of a four year term for the Mayor is premature and this is a discussion that should take place within the context of a broader debate. Do we need an elected Mayor? Do we want a City Administrator or do we want a Mayor who would actually be the chief public administrator? Or would we be better off with a City Manager?

CC06-080 Motion by Buttke, second by Krueger to grant a variance of noise levels as permitted by Chapter 10-33 (7) of the Municipal Code for Hub City Days on Saturday, July 22, 2006 and waive the \$100 fee. All Ayes

Motion carried

MINUTES OF GOVERNING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CC06-081 Motion by Anderson, second by Feirer to receive and place on file the minutes of the Community Development Authority of February 2, 2006; Library Board of February 14, 2006 and Fairgrounds Commission of February 23, 2006. All Ayes

Motion carried

MINUTES OF ADVISORY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

CC06-082 Motion by Bennington, second by Feirer to approve the minutes of the Historic Preservation Committee of January 9, 2006 and February 13, 2006; Convention and Visitors Bureau of February 28, 2006 and Capital Improvement Program Administrative Committee of February 28, 2006, March 7, 2006 and March 9, 2006. All Ayes

Motion carried

MINUTES OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

CC06-083 Motion by Meyer, second by Bennington to approve the minutes of the Cable TV Committee of February 27, 2006. All Ayes

Motion carried

CC06-084 Motion by Feirer, second by Buttke to approve the minutes of the Committee on Aging of March 2, 2006. All Ayes

Motion carried

CC06-085 Motion by Feirer, second by Meyer to approve the minutes of the Board of Public Works of March 6, 2006. All Ayes

Motion carried

CC06-086 Motion by Bennington, second by Anderson to approve the minutes of the Finance, Budget and Personnel Committee of March 7, 2006.

CC06-087 Motion by Feddick, second by Spiros to vote on motion FBP06-030 separately. This motion reads, "Motion by Beaudry, second by Anderson to maintain Personnel Policy No. 3.130, Types of Appointments." Anderson, Bennington and Beaudry voted Naye, rest Aye.

Motion carried

Human Resources Manager Baehr explained that Personnel Policy No. 3.130, Types of Appointments, does set the benefit level as to when employees can start earning pro-rated benefits. A survey was conducted asking the top 10 employers in the area when it is that they start offering benefit levels. A variety of information was received. Currently employees can earn pro-rated benefits at half time (.5 or greater). There are currently two positions that are non-represented that this may impact in the future should we ever go to replace or fill those positions. Her recommendation is to maintain the policy at half time level to earn pro-rated benefits. Her concern is that when they have to go fill a position and being able to recruit a person potentially up to 29 hours per week and not paying them any types of benefits. She doesn't think the health insurance is the real issue because a lot of the time when you get part-timers they are not interested in the health insurance because the pro-rated amount is so high for them to pay. Typically the big one would be vacation. It is difficult to recruit people to work just under 30 hours a week and not expect them to have any vacation or sick leave benefits.

Aldersperson Spiros stated that the two individuals that would be affected by this change would be grandfathered and allow them to continue with their benefits. So at this point no one would be affected. This would be something going forward allowing for flexibility and a cost savings to the city. Typically those individuals looking for 20-30 hours are flexible as it is and they like the flexibility otherwise they would be looking for full-time positions.

CC06-088 Motion by Bennington, second by Spiros to vote on motion FBP06-030 as written in the Finance minutes. Feddick, Nelson, Krueger, Spiros and Buttke voted Naye, Feirer, Anderson, Bennington, Meyer and Beaudry voted Aye. Mayor Meyers broke the tie and voted Naye.

Motion failed

CC06-089 Motion by Feddick, second by Spiros to amend Personnel Policy No. 3.130 to allow pro-rated benefits at 30 hours instead of 20 hours and grandfather in the current employees. Feirer, Anderson, Bennington, Meyer and Beaudry voted Naye, Feddick, Nelson, Krueger, Spiros and Buttke voted Aye. Mayor Meyers broke the tie and voted Naye.

Motion failed

Vote on motion **CC06-086 as amended**; All Ayes

Motion carried

CC06-090 Motion by Krueger, second by Beaudry to approve the minutes of the Judiciary, License and Cemetery Committee of March 7, 2006. All Ayes

Motion carried

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

CC06-091 Motion by Bennington, second by Nelson to receive and place on file the minutes of the Central Wisconsin State Fair Board of February 20, 2006. All Ayes

Motion carried

Second reading of Charter Ordinance No. 20, relating to the extension of the term of office of the City Clerk from 2 to 4 years.

City Administrator Brehm remarked that the Council needs to look at this from a broad perspective as to what kind of organization they want for the city and that they don't look at it from a narrow perspective and sort of piece meal it here and there. He is recommending not approving Charter Ordinances 20 and 21.

Aldersperson Feddick has reviewed the information regarding the City Clerk and Assessor positions. She doesn't feel that they need more information but perhaps it would be important to give a presentation on the topic of elected versus appointed as well as the Manager/Council, Mayor/Council, weak Mayor system, etc.

CC06-092 Motion by Buttke, second by Beaudry to approve Charter Ordinance No. 20. Feddick, Nelson, Anderson, Bennington, Meyer, Krueger and Spiros voted Naye, rest Aye.

Motion failed

Aldersperson Buttke requested that the City Administrator bring back at a future meeting information on the pros and cons of making the City Clerk's position an appointed position.

Second reading of Charter Ordinance No. 21, relating to the extension of the term of office of the Mayor from 2 to 4 years.

CC06-093 Motion by Nelson, second by Feddick to not approve Charter Ordinance No. 21. Feirer, Bennington, Krueger, Spiros and Beaudry voted Naye, Feddick, Nelson, Anderson, Meyer and Buttke voted Aye.

Motion failed

Aldersperson Beaudry recommended that a three year term be considered for the Mayor's position.

First reading of Ordinance No. 1066, repealing subsections (b) and (c) of subsection (14) of Section 9-32 of the Municipal Code of the City of Marshfield, Wisconsin pertaining to Class “A” fermented malt beverage license quotas and “Class A” liquor license quotas.

First reading of Ordinance No. 1067, amending Chapter 17, Electrical Code, of the City of Marshfield.

CC06-094 Motion by Bennington, second by Anderson to recommend that the Common Council establish a Committee to evaluate the Eco-Municipality concept and report back to the Common Council their findings and recommendations. Spiros and Buttke voted Naye, rest Aye.

Motion carried

CC06-095 Motion by Bennington, second by Nelson to approve Budget Resolution No. 07-2006, transferring \$1,500 of Municipal Court Forfeitures Revenue to the Municipal Court budget for the Wood County Crime Stoppers program. All Ayes

Motion carried

CC06-096 Motion by Feirer, second by Nelson to refer to Plan Commission for recommendation on permanent zoning the Petition for Direct Annexation by Unanimous Approval by Trierweiler Construction and Supply Co., Inc., Ted Trierweiler, President and Larry Haldeman, Secretary. All Ayes

Motion carried

Motion by Nelson, second by Bennington to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

Motion carried

Deb M. Hall
City Clerk