APRIL 25, 2006

PUBLIC HEARING: Called to order by Mayor Meyers at 6:40 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall Plaza regarding Street Improvement Projects and Proposed Special Assessments. Project No. 1825, 1883 & 6711 – Schmidt Avenue (14th Street to 11th Street) Street Opening. Project No. 1844 – 11th Street (Adams Avenue to Lincoln Avenue) Street Improvement.

FOR: No One
AGAINST: No One

The public hearing closed at 6:43 p.m.

PUBLIC HEARING: Called to order by Mayor Meyers at 6:50 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall Plaza regarding Street Improvement Projects and Proposed Special Assessments. Project No. 1860 – Adams Avenue (Prairie Drive) from McMillan Street to 500' North Street Opening.

FOR: No One
AGAINST: No One

The public hearing closed at 6:52 p.m.

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, Trish Siegler, Marty Anderson, Ed Wagner, Chris Meyer, Donald Krueger, Tom Buttke and Edward Beaudry, Jr.
ABSENT: John Spiros

The flag was saluted and the pledge given.

Invocation was given by Pastor Roger Gerstenberger, Believers Church.

RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MAYOR
Word to the Wise: Be kind to unkind people, they need it the most. Author: Unknown

CC06-129 Motion by Feirer, second by Siegler to approve the minutes of the Common Council meeting of April 11, 2006. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-130 Motion by Krueger, second by Wagner to approve the minutes of the Common Council organizational meeting of April 18, 2006.

Mayor Meyers made two changes to his appointments; 1) Marty Anderson will be on the Finance, Budget and Personnel Committee; and 2) Chris Meyer will be on the Board of Public Works.

CC06-131 Motion by Meyer, second by Krueger to amend motion CC06-123 to reflect these changes. All Ayes
Motion carried

Vote on motion **CC06-130 as amended**; All Ayes
Motion carried

No items were added to the agenda.

Police Chief Stroik presented a plaque and certificate to Randy Laessig honoring him for his years of service to the City. Mr. Laessig began his employment with the City of Marshfield Police Department on March 1, 1977 and will retire as Lieutenant on May 9, 2006 after over 29 years of service.

Mike Foth from the firm of Hawkins, Ash, Baptie and Co, presented the fiscal year 2005 Independent Audit Report. He also congratulated the City for once again achieving the GFO Certificate on the 2004 CAFR.

Mayor Meyers made one change to his appointments to various boards, commissions and committees; Alderperson Wagner replaces Alderperson Feddick on the Marshfield Utility Commission.

CC06-132 Motion by Buttke, second by Feddick to confirm the Mayor's appointments to various boards, commissions and committees. All Ayes
Motion carried

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT
City Administrator Brehm gave a report on the following:

1. Proposed State Legislation
    a. Taxpayer Protection Amendment (TPA)
    b. Room Tax Changes
2. Wisconsin Health Care Partnership Plan
3. MACCI's April Business Plan Benchmark Report

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

1. Tim Sterzinger of 1609 Waushara Drive spoke about the growing deer population. The City needs to have a special deer hunt to cut down on the growing number of deer.
2. Ted DiStefano from the Marshfield School District asked the Council to reconsider the action taken by the Plan Commission in motion PC06-17, specifically the condition that the existing tower at the current Washington School site be removed within six months of erection of the new tower. The School Board has not decided what they are going to do with the old facility at this time and if they are going to continue to use it they will need communications at this facility. He asked the Council to allow them to keep that tower at the old site.

MINUTES OF GOVERNING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS
CC06-133 Motion by Anderson, second by Wagner to receive and place on file the minutes of the Zoning Board of Appeals of December 13, 2005 and February 14, 2006; Fire and Police Commission of April 6, 2006; Marshfield Utility Commission of April 10, 2006 (approval of the minutes will constitute approval of Job Orders #5464 at a cost of $76,950.84 and #5477 at a cost of $25,030.47) and Fire and Police Commission of April 17, 2006 special meeting. All Ayes
Motion carried

MINUTES OF ADVISORY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS AND COMMITTEES

CC06-134 Motion by Feirer, second by Buttke to approve the minutes of the Historic Preservation Committee of March 13, 2006; Convention and Visitors Bureau of April 4, 2006; Electrical Board of April 5, 2006 and Plan Commission of April 18, 2006.

CC06-135 Motion by Meyer, second by Feirer to vote on motion PC06-17 separately. (This motion reads, "Motion by Meyer, second by Lotzer to recommend approval of the conditional use permit request from the School District of Marshfield for a "Wireless Telecommunications Tower" at 1112 West 11th Street, zoned 'I' Public & Semi Public Institutions District, subject to the following conditions; 1) Installation of required security fencing around the structure and, 2) Existing tower at the current Washington School site to be removed within six months of erection of new tower.") All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-136 Motion by Beaudry, second by Buttke to modify the condition regarding the existing tower at the current Washington School site to require a review by the Plan Commission within 6 months of erection of the new tower to determine the status and need for the present tower. All Ayes
Motion carried

Vote on motion **CC06-134 as amended**; All Ayes
Motion carried

MINUTES OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

CC06-137 Motion by Feirer, second by Feddick to approve the minutes of the Committee on Aging of April 6, 2006. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-138 Motion by Feddick, second by Siegler to approve the minutes of the Cable TV Committee of April 11, 2006 special meeting. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-139 Motion by Buttke, second by Krueger to approve the minutes of the Parks, Recreation and Forestry of April 13, 2006. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-140 Motion by Feirer, second by Buttke to approve the minutes of the Board of Public Works of April 17, 2006. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-141 Motion by Feddick, second by Anderson to approve the minutes of the Finance, Budget and Personnel Committee of April 18, 2006. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-142 Motion by Krueger, second by Feddick to approve the minutes of the Judiciary, License and Cemetery Committee of April 18, 2006. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-143 Motion by Meyer, second by Wagner to approve the minutes of the Airport Committee of April 20, 2006. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-144 Motion by Feirer, second by Buttke to approve the minutes of the Board of Public Works of April 25, 2006 special meeting as read by the Director of Public Works. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-145 Motion by Wagner, second by Feddick to approve the minutes of the Judiciary, License and Cemetery Committee of April 25, 2006 special meeting as read by the Clerk. All Ayes
Motion carried

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS
CC06-146 Motion by Feddick, second by Buttke to receive and place on file the minutes of the Central Wisconsin State Fair Board of March 20, 2006. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-147 Motion by Beaudry, second by Meyer to approve Final Resolution No. 2006-21, regarding Improvement Projects No. 1825, 1883, and 6711 – Schmidt Avenue (14th Street to 11th Street), street opening, and Project No. 1844 – 11th Street (Adams Avenue to Lincoln Avenue), street construction. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-148 Motion by Feirer, second by Meyer to approve Final Resolution No. 2006-22, regarding Improvement Project No. 1860 – Adams Avenue (Prairie Drive) – McMillan Street to 500' north, street opening. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-149 Motion by Feirer, second by Wagner to approve Resolution No. 2006-23, approving the Plat entitled Prairie Run, Prairie Run Group, Inc., owner. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC06-150 Motion by Anderson, second by Feddick to approve Budget Resolution No. 8-2006, appropriating $2,000 from a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant to the Library budget for "Early Learning Birth to Three" library materials (books, audio recordings, DVDs, etc.). All Ayes
Motion carried

Discussion was held on primaries.

Administrator Brehm presented some background information on the charter ordinance that was presented to the Common Council that would provide for a primary election whenever three or more candidates file nomination papers for the same elected city office. This charter ordinance failed at the Council meeting on February 14, 2006 for lack of a 2/3 vote.

There was a consensus amongst the Council that this item should be a referendum question.

CC06-151 Motion by Feirer, second by Wagner to direct staff to bring back information to the Common Council at their next meeting regarding a binding referendum for primaries.

Motion by Wagner to call for the question.
Motion died for lack of a second

Administrator Brehm said that unless he gets more direction on this matter, his intention would be to use the draft charter ordinance that was considered in February and present it to the Common Council in referendum format.

Vote on motion **CC06-151**; All Ayes
Motion carried

Discussion was held on the pros and cons of making the City Clerk's position an appointed position.

Administrator Brehm pointed out some of the advantages and disadvantages of being elected vs. appointed.

ELECTED
Advantages:
1. Answerable to the voters.
2. Public perception that government stays closer to the people.
3. Independence from the governing body.

Disadvantages:
1. Not a policy-making position, but does require training; it may be difficult for electors to make an informed choice.
2. May be a stumbling block to smooth and efficient municipal government if the clerk was at odds with the governing body or had his/her own political agenda.
3. A potential lack of continuity based on someone new being elected into office every two years.

APPOINTED
Advantages:
1. Filling the position is based upon known qualifications of an applicant, not the popularity of the individual running for office.
2. A long-term employee will provide continuity; no worry that individual will not get re-elected every two years.
3. A much wider pool of applicants available to fill position.

Disadvantages:
1. These can all be found under the 'advantages of being elected" above.

The Council also felt that this item should be a referendum question as well as the Assessor's position.

CC06-152 Motion by Feddick, second by Anderson to direct staff to draft a binding referendum question pertaining to the Clerk and Assessor positions and whether they should be elected or appointed and bring it back to the next Common Council meeting for their review. Wagner voted Naye, rest Aye.
Motion carried

Recessed at 8:35 p.m.
Reconvened at 8:44 p.m.

City Administrator Brehm presented the recommended 2006-2010 Capital Improvement Program. The recommended 2006-2010 Capital Improvement Program includes projects totaling $26,427,579, of which $7,289,279 is financed from local operating funds and/or special assessment; $3,105,300 from non-local revenue; $527,000 from Room Tax funds; $10,936,003 from borrowed funds; $2,250,000 from Wastewater Utility debt; $1,500,000 from Wastewater Utility fees, $0 from Perpetual Care; and $820,000 from donations.

Alderperson Anderson wondered if the committee might have pre-empted the process a bit by putting the fire station in this CIP rather than having it in a non-year and slotting it in next year. It is his understanding that a consultant will be coming in sometime this year to determine the need for a 2nd fire station or whether there would be a remodeling or reconstruction of the current fire station. Until that study is done, we are a bit premature in putting this project into the CIP budget.

Administrator Brehm responded that it is not premature. This at least puts it in an orderly fashion to be able to plan accordingly. When we get the specific plans and we begin to evaluate that in detail, the Common Council can say yes or no or modify it. The important thing right now is that it is in the plan. The committee supported this as an important project and it had to be slotted in there some where so that available funding would be there.

Alderperson Wagner said that we may some day in the future need a second fire station. His objection tonight is not the fire station itself but that this was being put into a budget document that would force them to make a commitment without them having all the facts and making a good sound decision on it as a stand alone project. As far as the Lincoln Avenue project, if you can not see fit to do something to put Lincoln Avenue up into a more current year for construction, he would ask that the Public Works Department, City Administration and City Engineering look at some way of at least getting some temporary sidewalks up there. Because he doesn't really want to be put into a position of saying that we are going to save "X" number of dollars and we are going to risk lives by doing it.

Alderperson Feddick is concerned about the CIP plan. She is concerned about the parameters and assuming an increase both in city assessed valuation and the council being asked to vote for a tax increase. As well as committing the city to additional debt in funding projects. She is going to vote no on the plan because of her concerns.

Finance Director Strey gave a brief summary of the City's Debt Policy. Debt is managed very effectively by the City of Marshfield. Debt is the largest CIP funding source but debt is reviewed throughout the year and it is not entered into very freely. Debt Management Policy #4.900 states that the purpose of this policy is to establish a framework for debt management to work in conjunction with the Capital Improvement Program Development. These guidelines will enhance the quality of

decisions, rationalize the decision-making process, identify objectives for staff and demonstrate a commitment to long-term financial planning. This policy will be a positive factor in the municipal market's assessment of the City's credit quality. The City's financial condition and credit ratings should always be the primary considerations when considering the issuance of debt.

This strategy is analyzed by the City's rating agencies. Potential investors in the City's bonds look at this policy. They look at our strategies, our current fund balances and reserves and that's how they evaluate their willingness to invest in the City when we issue debt. This has been an extremely strong point for the City. At the end of 2005, the City had an outstanding debt balance of $24.3 million dollars and that's down from a previous high. After the March 1st debt issue before any payments in 2006, the outstanding balance was increased to $26.4 million dollars. We will be making nearly $3.2 million in principal payments so there will be an offset there.

The City was assigned a Aa3 rating from Moody's Investors Service for its $5.3 million in General Obligation Notes for this year. Moody's did also look at the City's current outstanding balance of $26.5 million and maintained that rating. This rating is the highest rating that a city of this size can have. He asked Moody's Investors Service what could the community do to improve that and basically we would have to double in value and grow significantly. That show's the City's strength.

CC06-153 Motion by Feirer, second by Buttke to approve the 2006-2010 Capital Improvement Program as presented. Feddick, Anderson and Wagner voted Naye, rest Aye.
Motion carried

Motion by Feddick, second by Meyer to adjourn at 9:50 p.m.
Motion carried

Deb M. Hall
City Clerk