JULY 8, 2008

PUBLIC HEARING: Called to order by Mayor Meyer at 6:45 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall Plaza regarding Ordinance No. 1130, regulating the use and sale of fertilizers in the City of Marshfield.

COMMENTS:
Gary Gray of 507 W. Park Street. He had some questions regarding the ordinance. He felt that the definition of lawn fertilizer needed to be cleared up.

The public hearing closed at 6:50 p.m.

Regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order by Mayor Meyer at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, City Hall Plaza.
PRESENT: Michael Feirer, Alanna Feddick, Scott Noble, Ed Wagner, Josh Hansen, Donald Krueger, John Spiros, Tom Buttke and Pete Hendler.
ABSENT: Dave LaFontaine

The flag was saluted and the pledge given.

Invocation was given by Pastor Mike Carlson, Zion United Methodist Church.

Employee Milestone Recognition

Steven Bakos, Fire and Rescue	July 13, 1998	10 years of service

CC08-237 Motion by Buttke, second by Spiros to approve the minutes of the Common Council regular meeting of June 24, 2008. All Ayes
Motion carried

The following items were added to the agenda:
1. H-1; Comments from Administrator
2. O-1; Appointment of Mr. Michael Meyers to the Airport Committee
3. O-2; Appointment of Mr. Dale Yakaites to the Cable TV Committee

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD
Lori Belongia, Library Director presented some Library Facts based on 2007 library use and the details on the Return on Investment for the dollars designated for library service. She also handed out a graph showing the 2008 rapid circulation percent increases. The Library Board wishes to convey their apprehension regarding budget reductions during a period of rapidly increasing use. The Town of McMillan representative to the Library Board asked her to share their distress with any proposed reduction in library hours and/or resources.

Alden Carter of 1113 W. Onstad. He spoke in support of the Library and against any budget reductions. We are facing some tough economic times and challenging political times but this is not the time to start closing down the portal to all of that knowledge. People are going to need that knowledge more than ever in these times.

Gary Gray of 507 W. Park Street. He suggested that the proposed budget have more detailed numbers in regards to the expenses. This would help the citizens understand what is happening as well as the Council.

Comments from the City Administrator

Administrator Brehm highlighted some of the positive things that are going on in the city.

- IT Department – Ben Kubs has obtained for the City of Marshfield web site the number one result ranking on Google.
- Marshfield is stressing the Wellness Program within our community. Part of that effort is the Biggest Loser competition. There were two groups from the City of Marshfield that participated. Two of the individuals that had the biggest weight loss were Lori Belongia from the Library and Kathy Lindgren from the Assessor's office.
- The Fire Department has been participating in the Project Lifesaver of Wood County program.
- In their 2008 Fire and EMS Safety, Health, and Survival Week, the Fire Department focused on safety related issues and they got all the members on the same page regarding these safety issues.
- The Parks and Recreation Department is co-sponsoring the Wild Wednesday Programs along with the Zoological Society.
- Marsh 21 sent a note of "Thanks" to the Parks and Recreation Department. Marsh 21 sponsored a Youth Baseball Tournament recently. They received many fine compliments from the other teams. Mr. Scheuer from Marsh 21 sent his congratulations to the Parks and Recreation Department as well as the City's fathers for all of their efforts to bring the outdoor entertainment and physical activity into Marshfield.

CC08-238 Motion by Feddick, second by Feirer to grant the request from the Wildwood Park Zoological Society for a variance of noise levels as permitted by Chapter 10-33 (7) for the Blues in the Zoo fundraiser on August 21, 2008 located within the zoo. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC08-239 Motion by Feddick, second by Wagner to grant the request from Daryn Christenson for a variance of noise levels as permitted by Chapter 10-33 (7) for a music festival on July 19th at the Columbia Park Band Shell. All Ayes
Motion carried

MINUTES OF GOVERNING BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

CC08-240 Motion by Feddick, second by Hendler to receive and place on file the minutes of the Community Development Authority of June 5, 2008; Fire and Police Commission of June 9, 2008 and Library Board of June 10, 2008. All Ayes
Motion carried

MINUTES OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

CC08-241 Motion by Spiros, second by Hansen to approve the minutes of the Cable TV Committee of May 12, 2008. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC08-242 Motion by Noble, second by Wagner to approve the minutes of the Cable TV Committee PEG Guidelines Subcommittee of May 22, 2008. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC08-243 Motion by Wagner, second by Noble to approve the minutes of the Cable TV Committee PEG Guidelines Subcommittee of June 5, 2008. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC08-244 Motion by Wagner, second by Feddick to approve the minutes of the Cable TV Committee PEG Guidelines Subcommittee of June 12, 2008. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC08-245 Motion by Hansen, second by Feddick to approve the minutes of the Airport Committee of June 26, 2008. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC08-246 Motion by Feirer, second by Hansen to approve the minutes of the Board of Public Works of June 30, 2008. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC08-247 Motion by Buttke, second by Spiros to approve the minutes of the Finance, Budget and Personnel Committee of July 1, 2008.

CC08-248 Motion by Feddick, second by Wagner to vote on motion FBP08-072 separately. Feirer, Hansen, Krueger and Buttke voted Naye, Feddick, Noble, Wagner, Spiros and Hendler voted Aye.
Motion carried

> *FBP08-072 Motion by Buttke, second by Hendler to approve filling the vacant Account Clerk II position in the Finance Department. All Ayes*
> *Motion carried*

Finance Director Strey explained that there are three Account Clerk II positions; two full-time and one part-time. The major volume of the two full-time positions is focused on payroll and accounts payable as well as related tasks. The part-time position is the general ledger clerk.

It was never implicated that they would be able to reduce staff with the new financial software but the plan was to be able to maintain service levels and the increasing demands on staff for information in a faster, more efficient manner. There are a number of processes where there are duplicate data bases because of the multiple software's that aren't integrated. The Finance Department has reduced its staffing by over 19% since 2000, equating to 1 ½ positions. They are at minimum staff now. He can't say that the software project is going to reduce staffing anymore but it is allowing them to leverage technology to maintain at this minimal level as well as Common Council's direction to look at performance measurements or other types of budgeting changes as well as complying with ever increasing regulatory requirements.

CC08-249 Motion by Buttke, second by Feirer to approve filling the vacant Account Clerk II position in the Finance Department. Noble, Wagner and Hendler voted Naye, rest Aye.
Motion carried

Vote on motion **CC08-247**; All Ayes
Motion carried

CC08-250 Motion by Feddick, second by Wagner to approve the minutes of the Judiciary, License and Cemetery Committee of July 1, 2008. All Ayes
Motion carried

MINUTES OF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

CC08-251 Motion by Spiros, second by Feddick to receive and place on file the minutes of Main Street Marshfield of June 4, 2008. All Ayes
Motion carried

Second reading of Ordinance No. 1131, permitting and regulating operation of Neighborhood Electric Vehicles on city streets.

CC08-252 Motion by Feddick, second by Wagner to approve Ordinance No. 1131. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC08-253 Motion by Feddick, second by Hendler to hold over to the July 22, 2008 meeting, the appointment of Mr. Michael Meyers, 2316 Madison, to the Airport Committee to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Jim Merwin who has resigned. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC08-254 Motion by Wagner, second by Feddick to hold over the July 22, 2008 meeting, the appointment of Mr. Dale Yakaites, 1612 N. Jean, to the Cable TV Committee to fill the unexpired term of Mr. Scott Kenneth Noble who has been appointed Alderperson for the 4th District. All Ayes
Motion carried

CC08-255 Motion by Hendler, second by Hansen to approve Resolution No. 2008-27, a resolution to combine municipal wards for voting purposes for the September 9, 2008 partisan primary election. All Ayes
Motion carried

A presentation was given by Administrator Brehm regarding Cost Savings Measures by City Departments and Tax Rate/Tax Levy Comparisons for the 2009 budget.

Revised projections show that increases in major cost centers, less changes in major funding sources, would require an additional tax levy of $291,339. This is estimated to be $153,002 below the State's imposed levy limit for Marshfield.

He presented information on the impact on the rate and levy if the rate were to remain the same or be reduced by 1%, 2% or 2.5%.

CITY OF MARSHFIELD
Tax Rate/Tax Levy Comparison
2009 Budget Year

				Dollar Change	
		Tax Rate	Tax Levy	Tax Rate	Tax Levy
2008 Budget		$9.87030	$ 11,178,850		
2009 Budget					
	7/3/08 Projections	9.91413	11,470,189	$0.04383	$291,339
	Maximum state imposed levy limits	10.04638	11,623,191	0.17608	444,341
	Same tax rate as last year	9.87030	11,419,475	-0-	240,625
	1% reduction in the tax rate	9.77031	11,303,800	(0.10000)	124,950
	2% reduction in the tax rate	9.67031	11,188,100	(0.20000)	9,250
	2.5% reduction in the tax rate	9.62026	11,130,200	(0.25004)	(48,650)

CITY OF MARSHFIELD
Tax Rate/Tax Levy Comparison
2009 Budget Year

	Percentage Change		Tax Impact	
	Tax Rate	Tax Levy	$ 100,000	$ 110,696 [1]
2008 Budget				
2009 Budget				
7/3/08 Projections	0.44%	2.61%	$ 4.38	$ 4.85
Maximum state imposed levy limits	1.78	3.97	17.61	19.49
Same tax rate as last year	-0-	2.15	-0-	-0-
1% reduction in the tax rate	(1.00)	1.12	(10.00)	(11.07)
2% reduction in the tax rate	(2.00)	0.08	(20.00)	(22.14)
2.5% reduction in the tax rate	(2.50)	(0.44)	(25.00)	(27.68)

[1] Average value of home in Marshfield

CC08-256 Motion by Buttke, second by Feirer to scrap the previously approved parameters:

1. Reduction in Personnel Service cost by 5% in 2009 excluding Protective Services (Police and Fire).
2. No increase in the levy for 2009.
3. Require performance parameters from all of the non-governmental organizations that receive funding from the City. Basically for use in future years to determine whether or not they are meeting the guidelines of providing the service that are expected for the money that is being provided.

CC08-257 Motion by Feddick, second by Wagner to amend motion CC08-256 to keep parameter #3. Feirer voted Naye, rest Aye.
Motion carried

Vote on motion **CC08-256 as amended**; All Ayes
Motion carried

CC08-258 Motion by Spiros, second by Wagner to approve a second parameter that would approve a range for the city's tax rate from no change to a 2.5% decrease. All Ayes
Motion carried

Motion by Spiros, second by Hendler to adjourn at 8:30 p.m.
Motion carried

Deb M. Hall
City Clerk