



Office of City Administrator

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
TUESDAY, AUGUST 11, 2009

Mayor Alan Picha called the Committee of the Whole meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. on Tuesday, August 11, 2009. Committee members present at the time the meeting was called to order were: Donald Ehler, Mary Jo Onsager, Rick Hanke, Mark Laney, Greg Kubarski, Darrow Novy, and Richard Sweeney. R. Dale Jones was absent.

Others present included Administrator Brett Klein, Water / Sewer Superintendent Mike Lange, and Streets Lead Dutch Hagenah.

Mayor Picha asked if this meeting received proper public notice to which City Administrator Brett Klein confirmed that the meeting was properly noticed.

A motion was made by Ehler and seconded by Hanke to approve the July 14, 2009, Committee of the Whole minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Safety and Welfare

Chief Richardson provided the Police Chief's report. There were no questions from the committee on the Chief's report.

Klein then discussed the possibility of curbside bulk waste pick-up as opposed to residents bringing their bulk waste to the roll off dumpsters at the City shop. Klein stated that he would have pricing at next month's meeting for this one time service, and that if all goes smoothly the City could continue to provide the service in some capacity.

Klein brought up the airport terrorism insurance coverage and advised that it would be an agenda item at the month's common council meeting.

Klein advised the Committee that a resident had a proposal for a ride service and that the resident would like to come before the Committee at next month's meeting to discuss. There were no objections.

Klein updated that status of the Hillsboro to Union Center trail and advised that it will hopefully be completed by snowmobile season.

Improvement and Services

The Committee advised to place Short and Moon streets on the Council agenda Monday night to discuss official acknowledgement that these are private, non-municipal service roads. Klein then provided a brief overview of the vacant land adjacent to the cheese store. The owners have agreed to permit the City to move snow to that location from the downtown during the Winter months.

Klein discussed several requests from residents on acquiring a carport in lieu of a garage. Klein will work on code language covering these accessory structures.

Klein presented a capital improvement plan for the streets based on how much money is allocated for street repairs in this year's budget cycle and how many streets are in disrepair and in need of improvements. Proposals will be considered during the Council meeting on Monday.

There was quite a bit of discussion regarding the wastewater treatment plant upgrade and what appears to be an engineering error that may have caused the City a considerable amount of unnecessary money. This item will be discussed with the engineer at a later date as the Council attempts to gain a better understanding of the situation.

The City attorney provided an opinion on the enforcement mechanisms the City has with regard to the Tinker's Bluff restrictive covenants.

The Committee then discussed the three proposals for repairing / replacing the City spreaders. After much discussion, the most cost effective and best long term option appears to be the proposal from Michael's out of LaCrosse. This item will be placed on Monday's Council agenda.

Finance and Personnel

The Committee recommended the bill approval be placed on the Council Meeting agenda.

Klein then discussed a resolution for a deferred compensation plan for employee participation from the U.S. Conference of Mayors (Nationwide Retirement Solutions). No Committee member had any objections to

offering this individual, employee funded benefit and the Committee advised Klein to place it on Monday night's Council agenda.

Klein discussed the closing paperwork and bond resolution necessary for the Clean Water Fund loan from the State of Wisconsin for the wastewater treatment plant. Klein stated that the Mayor and Clerk would have a significant amount of documents to sign provided the Council approves the bond issue and loan at Monday night's Council meeting.

The Committee reviewed the proposed United States Census Complete Count Committee resolution and advised Klein to place the item on next Monday's Council agenda.

Klein discussed the importance of ongoing strategic planning and how fortunate the City was to have the facilitator from UW-Extension.

The Committee requested that discussions on a stormwater utility be brought up at next month's budget meeting.

Klein provided an update on the RFP for professional auditing services. One proposal has been received thus far, but they are not due until September.

Klein discussed the first phases of the budget process for 2010, including a wage proposal, capital project planning, fee schedule changes, and the general levy. It was decided that there will be a meeting prior to the end of the month to discuss the budget in greater detail.

With no other updates, a motion was made by Onsager and seconded by Kubarski to adjourn at 8:46 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.