

Minutes of the Finance Committee (February 26th 2013)

A meeting of the Finance Committee of the City of Prairie du Chien was held on Tuesday February 26th 2013 at 6:00 PM in Conference Room #2 of City Hall. Chairperson Kathleen Hein called the meeting to order.

1. Call to order/Roll Call

PRESENT – Kathleen Hein (Chairperson), Linda Munson, Mark Thein, Frank Pintz, Judeen Ames

ALSO PRESENT – Mayor Dave Hemmer, City Administrator Aaron Kramer, Police Lieutenant Terry Sprosty, City Planner Garth Frable

2. Certification of the open meeting law agenda requirements and approval of the agenda

MOTION: Ames SECOND: Munson VOTE: 5-0

3. APPROVAL – Minutes of the February 5th 2013 meeting

ACTION: To approve MOTION: Pintz SECOND: Thein VOTE: 5-0

4. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Claims

ACTION: To approve the claims MOTION: Munson SECOND: Hein VOTE: 5-0

In addition to the claims, the Committee was being asked to approve the purchase of a new computer for the Mayor's office, partially funded from Contingency Funds. A memo from the City Administrator was included in the packet. Discussion was held on whether staff should be considering laptops instead of desktops. ACTION: To direct staff to spend up to \$1,200 toward computer equipment, with laptops being the top consideration MOTION: Pintz SECOND: Ames VOTE: 5-0

5. INFORMATIONAL – 2012 Budget

The City Administrator provided a brief overview of the tentative final 2012 budget report, which shows a surplus of roughly \$260,000. He reminded the Committee that these are unaudited numbers. No formal action taken.

6. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Proposed purchase and sale of the Block 43 parcel

Under this proposal, the City would purchase the Block 43 parcel from Marty Rifken, and then sell the land to the Redevelopment Authority (RDA). The RDA would then sell the land to Marquette Hayden Properties LLC. The City generates capital from the sale to the RDA that in turn would be used to fund the Downtown Revolving Loan Fund and the General Fund. Frable provided an overview of the proposal. Discussion was held. ACTION: To recommend the Council authorize the RDA proceed with blight determination MOTION: Munson SECOND: Ames VOTE: 5-0 ACTION: To recommend the Council refer the sale of the property to RDA to the Plan Commission MOTION: Ames SECOND: Munson VOTE: 5-0

7. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Proposed Sales Tax

A memo from the City Administrator was included which outlined the timetable for implementing a sale tax and several pros and cons of the tax. Discussion was held on the sales tax. ACTION: To recommend the Council direct staff to contact Senator Shilling's and Representative Nerison's offices to begin the legislative process for implementing a proposed sales tax MOTION: Pintz SECOND: Ames VOTE: 5-0

The City Administrator said the item will be on the March 5th Council agenda.

8. ADJOURNMENT (6:40 PM)

MOTION: Pintz SECOND: Hein VOTE: 5-0

Submitted by City Administrator Aaron Kramer