

Common Council Meeting (September 3rd 2013)

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Prairie du Chien was held on Tuesday September 3rd 2013 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Dave Hemmer called the meeting to order. **Call to order/Roll Call** – Jamie Wagar and Kyle Kozelka absent **Certification of the open meeting law agenda requirements and approval of the agenda** – MOTION: Solomon SECOND: Thein VOTE: 10-0 **Pledge of Allegiance** – Led by Nate Gilberts

I. PUBLIC HEARINGS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. PRESENTATION – Building and Equipment Proposal by Wisconsin Southern at the transloading site along the Highway 18 Bypass

Wisconsin Southern (WSOR) is proposing to construct a roughly 5,000 square foot building with loading equipment, valued at roughly \$1 million, to enclose the Pattison Sand transloading operations, in response to concerns voiced by local residents. Supporting documents, a building layout, a site plan and a landscaping plan were provided to the Council. Construction would begin later this fall or early spring 2014. Ken Lucht (WSOR) and Beth Regan (Pattison Sand) gave a Power Point presentation to the Council on the proposed building. Mike Murphy (General Manager, Pattison) also addressed the Council. Both Lucht and Regan said their parties continue to search for alternative locations, but also believe this proposed building would minimize the impact of dust, lights and noise on the local area. Considerable discussion was held on the proposal. Several members of the audience addressed the Council, with concerns and questions – Ethel Drenberg (Wauzeka), John Lochner (Prairie du Chien), Norma Lochner (Prairie du Chien), Edie Ehlert (Crawford County Stewardship). Questions were asked about the zoning of the property, and staff stated that the proposal would be in violation of the City's Zoning Ordinances. Staff also said that the City's position is that the railroad's pre-emption rights would override any zoning violations that would result. The City Administrator stated that there was no official action on the agenda to be taken by the Council, and that this presentation had been done at his request following a meeting with WSOR and Pattison in mid-August, at which time they presented their proposal to him and City Staff. No formal action was taken.

II. CONSENT AGENDA

A. COUNCIL MINUTES – August 16th 2013; B. FINANCE COMMITTEE – August 16th 2013; C. POLICE AND FIRE COMMISSION – July 24th 2013; D. REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY – June 4th 2013; E. OPERATORS LICENSES ACTION: To approve the Consent Agenda MOTION: Ames SECOND: Pintz VOTE: 10-0

III. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA - None

IV. CITY ADMININSTRATOR'S REPORT – No formal action taken

V. CITIZENS' COMMENTS, OBSERVATIONS, PETITIONS, AND PUBLIC INPUT - None

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIONS

A. FINANCE – Claims

ACTION: To approve the claims MOTION: Thein SECOND: Ames VOTE: 10-0

B. FINANCE – Proposed Resort Area Sales Tax

Staff provided an update on the proposed resort area sales tax and is also recommending a Public Information Meeting on the tax be held in September. The consensus of the Council was to direct the City Administrator to schedule a Public Information Meeting for either September 19th or 26th. No formal action was taken.

C. FINANCE - TIF assistance for the new radio station site in the Downtown

The assistance would be in the form of a \$10,000 zero interest loan repayable over 7 years to the Downtown Revolving Loan Fund. Staff explained that the funds for the loan would come from TID #6 or TID #4. Staff said that the item, if approved, would come back on September 17th to approve resolutions for the transfer of the funds. ACTION: To move forward with the loan MOTION: Thein SECOND: Jones VOTE: 10-0

D. PUBLIC WORKS - Removal of streets from St. Feriole Island

Staff had presented a series of proposed street removals from the Island to the Committee in August, which was requested by the Committee in March. ACTION: To approve that the following streets be removed, but not vacated - 1) Roulette, from Second Street to Villa Louis Road; 2) Fisher from 4th Street to 5th Street, with a bicycle/walking path replacing the street, and; 3) Brisbois from 2nd Street to Villa Louis Road - and that 4th Street from Fisher to Bolvin be closed to through traffic with barriers placed across the entrances to that section of street that could be removed by City staff for special events and other necessary traffic situations, and that the Committee review the issue again in the spring of 2014 MOTION: Pintz SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 10-0

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. PLAN COMMISSION - Review and recommendation on Certified Survey Map located in Farm Lot 37 of the Private Land Claims at Prairie du Chien, City of Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin, also being Block 161, replat of Lower Prairie du Chien Addition to the City of Prairie du Chien, part of Block 79, Lower Prairie du Chien Addition to the City of Prairie du Chien, and the vacated 21st Street and alley recorded in Volume 333, Pages 27-29 – brought by Stephen Welter

This item was tabled by the Council at its August 20th meeting. The City Attorney was asked for his opinion on whether the CSM could be rejected, due to concerns over the possible future use of the land as an animal shelter. He stated that he saw no valid reason the CSM could be denied. ACTION: To approve the Certified Survey Map located in Farm Lot 37 of the Private Land Claims at Prairie du Chien, City of Prairie du Chien, Crawford County, Wisconsin, also being Block 161, replat of Lower Prairie du Chien Addition to the City of Prairie du Chien, part of Block 79, Lower Prairie du Chien Addition to the City of Prairie du Chien, and the vacated 21st Street and alley recorded in Volume 333, Pages 27-29 – brought by Stephen Welter MOTION: Titlbach SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 10-0

VIII. NEW BUSINESS (Including items for future agenda consideration or Committee assignment)

A. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Clean Sweep 2014

Staff is seeking permission for the City to participate in a Clean Sweep Household Hazardous Waste event again in 2014. This event will be for all residents of Crawford County. Tentative date for the collection event is April 14th, 2014. Funding for the event will be included in the 2014 general fund (this supports advertising, other promotion and fees associated with the program). ACTION: To approve the Clean Sweep event in 2014 MOTION: Pintz SECOND: Ames VOTE: 10-0

B. DISCUSSION – Items for future agenda consideration or Committee assignment

Leys said he wanted staff to explore the feasibility of installing ladders along the Riverwall on St. Feriole Island.

C. ADJOURN into closed session (8:50 PM)

ACTION: To go into closed session 1) under Wisconsin Statute 19.85 (1) (g) (g) Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning

strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved RE: Pending and possible litigation; and 2) Under Wisconsin State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility. RE: Employment of City Employee/Organization of Street and Water Departments MOTION: Solomon SECOND: Gilberts VOTE: 10-0

NOTE: Jones left the meeting at 9:00 PM

D. CONVENE into open session (9:41 PM)

MOTION: Pintz SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 9-0

E. ACTION from closed session

ACTION: To direct the City Administrator to draft a job description for the position of lead operator/superintendent for the Street Department, establish a process for filling the position, and determine the financial impact of the position, and report his findings to the Public Works Committee MOTION: Pintz SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 9-0

IX. ADJOURN (9:45 PM)

MOTION: Thein SECOND: Ames VOTE: 9-0

Submitted by City Administrator Aaron Kramer