

## **Common Council Meeting (January 7th 2014)**

A regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Prairie du Chien was held on Tuesday January 7<sup>th</sup> 2014 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Mayor Dave Hemmer called the meeting to order.

### **ITEMS TO BE ACTED UPON:**

1. Call to order/Roll Call – Kyle Kozelka absent
2. Certification of the open meeting law agenda requirements and approval of the agenda – MOTION: Solomon SECOND: Thein VOTE: 11-0
3. Pledge of Allegiance – Led by Mike Jones

### **4. PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None

### **5. CONSENT AGENDA**

A. COUNCIL MINUTES – December 17th 2013; B. FINANCE COMMITTEE – December 17th 2013; C. OPERATORS LICENSES (if any). ACTION: To approve MOTION: Pintz SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 11-0

### **6. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA** - None

### **7. CITIZENS' COMMENTS, RESOLUTIONS AND PRESENTATIONS** - None

### **8. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT** – No action taken

### **9. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIONS**

#### **A. FINANCE – Claims**

ACTION: To approve MOTION: Thein SECOND: Fleshner VOTE: 11-0

Without objection, the agenda was moved:

### **10. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **A. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Vineyard Coulee Road Project**

Staff was requesting, for the benefit of the Town of Bridgeport, that a final decision on the City's participation in the Vineyard Coulee Project be made. The recommendation was to decline participation due to the fact the source of the funds, which is a TID District, is being proposed to be used for flood mitigation projects. Denny Pellock (Crawford County Highway Commissioner) addressed the Council on the Town's desire to move forward with the project. Several Councilmembers asked about whether the City could participate financially in 2016 or 2017, but were advised any motion now could not commit a future Council to the project. ACTION: To respectfully decline participating in the Vineyard Coulee project MOTION: Solomon SECOND: Titlbach VOTE: 10-0-1 (Myers abstained)

### **9. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTIONS**

#### **B. FINANCE – 2014-2016 Capital Budget**

The proposed three-year Capital Budget totals \$2,357,535 – General Fund (\$1,546,172), Water Department (\$340,000), Wastewater Department (\$471,363). Bonding for the Water Department portion has already commenced. Discussion was held on a proposal to include the request from the Mayor to include \$30,000 for updating the City's Christmas decorations, and a staff request to include \$10,000 for improvements to Old Rock School. The City Administrator said the funds would be diverted from previously-proposed street projects and not an increase to the overall budget. The Mayor said he felt the City needed to upgrade and improve the decorations not only in the downtown, but along the Bypass and onto St. Feriole

Island. ACTION: To approve the original proposed 2014-2016 Capital Budget MOTION: Solomon SECOND: Pintz VOTE: 11-0 ACTION: To direct staff to develop a short-term and long-term replacement proposal for the City's Christmas decorations, with an emphasis on Blackhawk Avenue MOTION: Solomon SECOND: Gilberts VOTE: 7-4 (Fleshner, Boylen, Pintz and Wagar opposed) ACTION: To amend the 2014-2016 Capital Budget to expend \$10,000 on Old Rock School MOTION: Solomon SECOND: Pintz VOTE: 11-0

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

**A. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Sale of City Property to Redevelopment Authority (RDA)**

Staff was requesting the Council approve the sale of the parcel located west of 22nd Street (Lot 1 of CSM 1371) in the Woodridge Acres subdivision to the Redevelopment Authority for development purposes. ACTION: To approve the sale of the parcel located west of 22nd Street (Lot 1 of CSM 1371) in the Woodridge Acres subdivision to the Redevelopment Authority MOTION: Titlbach SECOND: Wagar VOTE: 11-0

**B. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Extend the hours of the taxi service until 3 am on Fridays and Saturday nights to accommodate a safe ride program**

Jen Sturmer (President, Crawford County Tavern League) discussed the proposal with the Council. ACTION: To approve the proposal to extend the hours of the taxi service until 3 am on Fridays and Saturday nights to accommodate a safe ride program MOTION: Fleshner SECOND: Jones VOTE: 11-0

**C. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Ordinance 2014-01 (RECREATING CHAPTER 1.36 (ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DOWNTOWN REVOLVING LOAN FUND) AND REPEALING CHAPTER 1.37 (ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DOWNTOWN REVOLVING LOAN FUND COMMITTEE)**

This Ordinance would create a Citywide Revolving Loan Fund Committee, and merge the current Downtown Revolving Loan Fund into the new entity. Staff was recommending this Ordinance have a first and second reading due to its size and complexity. Discussion was held on the proposal. ACTION: To forward the proposed Ordinance to a second reading on January 21<sup>st</sup> MOTION: Titlbach SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 11-0

**D. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Policy and Rules for the Citywide Revolving Loan Fund**

Staff was recommending the policies and rules have a first and second reading due to its size and complexity. Discussion was held on the proposal. ACTION: To forward the proposed policies and rules to a second reading on January 21<sup>st</sup> MOTION: Wagar SECOND: Titlbach VOTE: 11-0

Without objection, the agenda was moved:

**G. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Local Roads Improvement Program (LRIP) grant application**

Staff was seeking permission to apply for a state grant for the North Main project, scheduled for 2015. Terry Meyer (Co-Public Works Manager) reviewed the process with the Council. ACTION: To approve applying a Local Roads Improvement Program (LRIP) grant for the North Main Street project MOTION: Wagar SECOND: Leys VOTE: 11-0

**E. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Hoffman Hall Phase One Update and Phase Two Proposal**

An update on the financials for Phase One of the project and a proposal for establishing a Phase Two Account was presented to the Council. The City Administrator asked that a fund to accept donations for Phase Two be established, but stressed that the Council is not being asked to approve moving forward with Phase Two. ACTION: To approve the creation of a fund

to collect contributions to Phase Two of the Hoffman Hall Improvement Project MOTION: Titlbach SECOND: Wagar VOTE: 11-0

F. UPDATE – Woodridge Acres/22nd Street Project

An update on the work done so far, the work still to be done, and the financials of the project were presented to the Council. No formal action taken.

H. DISCUSSION AND ACTION – Ordinance 2014-02 (RECREATING SECTIONS 1.46 (POLLING PLACES))

Due to the renovation being done at the National Guard Armory, the Fourth and Fifth Wards voting will be moved to City Hall for all elections prior to July 31st under this Ordinance. The City will revert back to its previous polling locations following July 31st. ACTION: To approve Ordinance 2014-02 MOTION: Leys SECOND: Wagar VOTE: 11-0

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

Pintz said he would like to staff to explore moving forward with Phase Two of the Hoffman Hall project. Wagar said she would like a meeting scheduled with the Council and Prairie du Chien School Board to discuss student safety. Leys said he would like a report from staff on what plans are in place to deal with a major train derailment in light of the recent derailments in Canada, Georgia and North Dakota.

J. ADJOURN into closed session (8:36 PM)

ACTION: To go into closed session under Wisconsin Statute 19.85 (1) (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: Block 43 litigation and RE: Utility Ownership Issue before the Public Service Commission involving the City of Prairie du Chien and the Town of Bridgeport MOTION: Solomon SECOND: Gilberts VOTE: 11-0

K. CONVENE into open session (9:06 PM)

MOTION: Solomon SECOND: Pintz VOTE: 11-0

L. ACTION from closed session

ACTION: To retain the services of Ben Wood (Lancaster) as additional legal counsel in the Block 43 litigation MOTION: Wagar SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 11-0

**12. ADJOURN (9:08 PM)**

MOTION: Gilberts SECOND: Solomon VOTE: 11-0

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Dave Hemmer, Mayor

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Submitted by City Administrator Aaron Kramer

**ORDINANCES APPROVED**

\* Ordinance 2014-02 (RECREATING SECTIONS 1.46 (POLLING PLACES))