

**MINUTES OF THE
WATERTOWN CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Tuesday, August 23, 2011**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the Watertown City Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, August 23, 2011** by Mayor K. J. McDonald in the Watertown City Hall Council Chambers.

Upon roll call the following Council Members were present: McDonald, Stephen Crowder, Nicholas Hoese and Michael Walters. Council Member Rick Mann was absent.

The following staff members were present: City Administrator Luke Fischer, City Public Works Supt. Doug Kammerer, and City Engineer David Martini.

Also present: Matt Bunke

2. ADOPT AGENDA

Fischer asked to have Item 6C pulled from the agenda until the next council meeting when all the members can be there. He also asked to add Item 6F (Temporary pole for Mediacom).

**CROWDER MOVED, WALTERS SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED.
MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

3. REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Motion to review Park Commission minutes from July 14, 2011
- B. Motion to approve appointment of Marie Luptak and Sheryll Soderdahl to Commission on Aging
- C. Motion to approve 2012 Prosecution Contract with Carver County
- D. Motion to approve Park Structure reroofing
- E. Motion to approve Forest Hills 7th Addition letter of credit reduction
- F. Motion to approve Ordinance 361 – Repealing Ordinance 261
- G. Motion to approve pay request from MK Land

**HOESE MOVED, WALTERS SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA.
MOTION CARRIED 4-0.**

4. OPEN FORUM

5. CELEBRATE WATERTOWN

- A. Fischer stated that the ribbon-cutting ceremony for the extension of Lewis Avenue would be at noon Friday, August 26.

6. NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- A. Review Elementary School Outlet Agreement

Fischer stated that the City was approached by the Watertown-Mayer School District with a request to create an additional parking lot outlet onto Paul Avenue at the Elementary School site. The outlet would address circulation concerns associated with student pick-up and drop-off. The collaborative Safe Routes to School Committee, school officials and city staff have worked to identify a solution. Three primary alternatives were considered with an additional outlet onto Paul Avenue being recommended. The Paul Avenue outlet is not ideal from the City's perspective because it impacts a collector street. This outlet will be revisited when street

and utilities are extended through the Community Park site. At that time there may be a more preferable option.

McDonald stated that the recommended option is best in view of the situation. He stated that it would be no cost to the city. He recommended that the city deputy monitor the area on the first day of school to get an idea of how well this will work and to make sure it is used only as an outlet.

WALTERS MOVED, CROWDER SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OUTLET AGREEMENT TO ALLOW THE WATERTOWN-MAYER SCHOOL DISTRICT TO HAVE AN OUTLET ONTO PAUL AVENUE TO ELEVATE TRAFFIC FLOW ISSUES DURING PEAK PICK-UP AND DROP-OFF TIMES. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

B. Community Park Trail Plan

Fischer stated that the Watertown Lions Club has adopted the Community Park through the city's Adopt A Park program and is seeking permission to cut a trail through the park. The City would field stake the alignment when requested by the Lions Club. The Park Commission has recommended installing one sign at the westerly edge of the trail.

WALTERS MOVED, HOESE SECONDED A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE WATERTOWN LIONS CLUB TO PUT IN A BRUSH CUT TRAIL IN THE COMMUNITY PARK WITH THE CITY STAFF FIELD STAKING THE ALIGNMENT AND PLACING A SIGN AT THE TRAIL ENTRANCE. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

D. Air Line Replacement at Wastewater Treatment Facility

Kammerer stated that the pipe that supplies air to the aeration basin to treat the wastewater has holes in it. This spring it was noticed that bubbles were coming up from the ground in the area of the air line. Staff received three requests for quotes with Gridor Construction being the lowest at \$12,900. Staff recommended hiring Gridor Construction.

HOESE MOVED, CROWDER SECONDED A MOTION TO HIRE GRIDOR CONSTRUCTION FOR THE REPAIR OF THE AIR LINE LOCATED AT THE WASTEWATER TREATMENT FACILITY AT A COST OF \$12,900 WHICH INCLUDES PARTS AND LABOR BUT NOT SALES TAX. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

E. Discuss 30th Street Improvements

Kammerer explained to the Council that since approval was given June 14, 2011 to purchase granite chips from Combined Aggregate for 30th Street, there have been concerns about the material. Kammerer stated that they had visited a road in Franklin Township on which Combined Aggregate had placed granite chips. He stated that there were no fines in the rock so it would not compact together. He stated that staff visited Combined Aggregate and saw that the granite chips had a lot of dirt in the fines. Staff talked to a representative from Franklin Township who said they were not going to get any material from Combined Aggregate. City Staff managed to get the name of a supplier (Martin Marietta Aggregates in Waite Park) of granite chips and will be checking with local truckers to see how much it will cost to haul it from there to 30th Street. Kammerer stated that he would like to use granite chips because in the long run they will not break down.

HOESE MOVED, WALTERS SECONDED A MOTION TO PURCHASE GRANITE CHIPS FROM A SOURCE OTHER THAN COMBINED AGGREGATE AND HAVE IT HAULED TO 30TH STREET FOR IMPROVEMENTS FOR A TOTAL COST NOT TO EXCEED \$7,000. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

F. Temporary Telecommunications Pole

Fischer stated that Mediacom Communication has a right-of-way permit for fiber optic cable and is having LaPointe Utilities of Forest Lake do the work. Mediacom is negotiating the location of the cable outside of the right-of-way, but in order to continue uninterrupted service Mediacom is requesting a temporary pole (not to exceed 30 feet in height) within the right-of-way. The City of Watertown is requesting an escrow of \$5,000 and other mutual covenants, duties and obligations.

CROWDER MOVED, HOESE SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGREEMENT REGARDING THE TEMPORARY LOCATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS POLE WITHIN THE RIGHT-OF-WAY BY MEDIACOM COMMUNICATION. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORT**

8. **CONSULTANTS' REPORT**

A. City Engineer

1. Consider Gabion Wall Vines

Martini stated that with the opening of the extension of Lewis Avenue, Carver County has requested that vines be planted to grow on the new retaining wall. Martini stated that he didn't see any real issues, but recommended that the vines not have a substantial base or root system that may damage the wall. Crowder stated that he favored vines, while McDonald stated that he would prefer the wall without vines to keep the aesthetic view of the wall. The consensus of the Council is to leave the wall as it is and see how it looks after a few months. Vines could be planted later if needed.

9. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

McDonald gave each member of the Council a copy of statements made by former President George Washington. He pointed out how some of them apply to situations today.

10. **COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORT**

11. **STAFF REPORTS**

D. Finance Director

1. Approve Claims Roster/Voucher List

WALTERS MOVED, CROWDER SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CLAIMS ROSTER/VOUCHER LIST. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:14 PM.

ATTEST:

Steven Wallner
Clerk-Treasurer

KJ McDonald
Mayor