

**MINUTES OF THE
WATERTOWN CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Tuesday, July 26, 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, July 26, 2011** by Mayor K. J. McDonald in the Watertown City Hall Council Chambers.

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

The following staff members were present: City Administrator Luke Fischer, Senior Planner Crystal Paumen, City Engineer David Martini.

Also present: Davidson Hoof

2. ADOPT AGENDA

HOESE MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

3. REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Motion to approve minutes from July 12, 2011 Council meeting
- B. Motion to approve minutes from Park Commission on May 12, 2011
- C. Motion to approve minutes from Park Commission on June 9, 2011
- D. Motion to approve replacement of bushes at City Center Park
- E. Motion to approve July delinquent utilities shut-off list
- F. Motion to approve Adopt-A-Park signs
- G. Motion to approve pay request from City Building Official – MNSPECT, Inc.

Mann asked to have Item 3D pulled for discussion. McDonald appointed a sub-committee of Mann and Hoese to supervise the project.

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

4. OPEN FORUM

- A. State Rep. Ernie Leidiger addressed the Council on the past legislative session, government shutdown and special session.

5. CELEBRATE WATERTOWN

- A. A review of the Rails to Trails Festival was given by staff and council members.

6. NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- A. Joint Powers Agreement with Carver County for Second River Crossing Study

Council discussed the agreement at its July 12 meeting but tabled the item to allow time to study a 2003 Comprehensive Transportation Study which addressed alternative crossing locations. The joint powers would allow work to be completed immediately. The City would fund the study in 2012. McDonald stated that the Transportation Study shows why the proposed sites were chosen for discussion. He questioned the wording on Article 9 Default and

Withdrawal as it pertained to the county. Fischer stated that the wording reserves the City's rights as well and the county has more at stake. Mann stated that he had done some research on a \$5 million bridge downtown. He stated that this would cost 10 to 30% of their existing property taxes.

WALTERS MOVED, HOESE SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT WITH CARVER COUNTY FOR A SECOND RIVER CROSSING. MOTION CARRIED 3-1 (MANN VOTED NAY).

B. Kings Highland Park Shelter – Eagle Scout Project

The City was approached by Davidson Hoof to construct a 10x10 shelter in Kings Highland Park as an Eagle Scout project. He collected three quotes for the shelter with two material options – cedar lumber and cedar shakes or treated lumber and Timberline shingles. The Park Commission recommended the area underneath the shelter be concrete rather than wood chips or other material. Labor would be completed by the Boy Scouts under the supervision of Steven Duske. Hoof has secured \$2,100 in donations from the Lions, Legion and Dandylions. The cost above and beyond the donations amount is approximately \$1,000. Hoof's Scout Master, Dan Stigsell, would be the general contractor for the project. The Park Commission recommended the City use the low bidder, Mayer Lumber, for the project with the shelter to be built with cedar and Timberline shingles with a concrete pad in the amount of \$1,000 after donations have been accepted.

Mann stated that the city would inherit a lot of maintenance expense with the way the shelter is designed. He suggested the shelter be more like the one at Highland Park and the hockey rink warming house with asphalt shingles and block columns for less maintenance. He suggested that Hoof bring a conceptual drawing for the Council to review. Hoese asked if the Scouts could do the maintenance on the shelter. Paumen stated that some of the Scouts would be graduating and the maintenance may be compromised by their absence.

MCDONALD MOVED, WALTERS SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE CONSTRUCTION OF THE KINGS HIGHLAND SHELTER AS AN EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT PROVIDED FINAL PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS ARE PRESENTED TO THE COUNCIL AT ITS NEXT MEETING. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

C. Review Ordinance 312 Regarding Trapping Regulations

Earlier this year, the City received a complaint about a resident live trapping muskrats in the Whitetail Run neighborhood. Draft language was proposed to prohibit property owners from live trapping in residentially zoned districts and explicitly prohibit tapping in easement areas. There have been complaints about a single property owner impacting the local ecology of an area as a result of trapping efforts. Additional concern was expressed about domesticated animals falling victim to live trapping. Staff recommended the Council consider creating some mechanism to permit or allow trapping in some capacity.

Mann stated that he liked the ordinance as is. Walters stated that he didn't see any reason to trap unless there was an animal involved that was creating a nuisance.

MANN MOVED, HOESE SECONDED A MOTION TO ALLOW ORDINANCE 312 REMAIN AS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORT**

8. **CONSULTANTS' REPORT**

A. City Engineer

1. Pay Request from Wm. Mueller & Sons for Downtown Redevelopment Project

MANN MOVED, WALTERS SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PAY REQUEST FROM WM. MUELLER & SONS, INC. FOR \$358,184.03 FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

2. Pay Request from Chard Tiling & Excavating for Co. Rd. 20

MANN MOVED, HOESE SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PAY REQUEST FROM CHARD TILING & EXCAVATING FOR \$82,772.10 FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE CO. RD. 20 PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

3. Old Retaining Wall in Lewis Ave. S. Extension

MCDONALD MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO REMOVE THE OLD RETAINING WALL THAT WAS UNCOVERED IN THE LEWIS AVENUE SOUTH EXTENSION PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

9. **MAYOR'S REPORT**

10. **COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORT**

11. **STAFF REPORTS**

D. Finance Director

1. Approve Claims Roster/Voucher List

MANN MOVED, WALTERS 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 8:07 PM.

ATTEST:

Steven Wallner
Clerk-Treasurer

KJ McDonald
Mayor