

**MINUTES OF THE
WATERTOWN CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2008**

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, on **Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2008** by Mayor K. J. McDonald at 6:30 PM in the Watertown City Hall Council Chambers.

Upon roll call the following Council Members were present: McDonald, Rick Mann, Earline King, Dan Geiger and Steve Duske.

The following staff members were present: City Administrator David Mandt, Finance Director Steven Wallner, City Engineer David Martini, Senior Planner Crystal Foust.

Others present were: None

2. ADOPT AGENDA

Staff asked to have items 3G (Dandylions Gambling Permit) and 3H (Waiver of Community Center rental fee for benefit added to the agenda.

MANN MOVED, KING SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

3. REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Council minutes for January 8, 2007
- B. Pay request from City Attorney
- C. Pay request from M K Land
- D. Request for Lawful Gambling Permit from Watertown Rod & Gun Club
- E. Request from Carver County Historical Society for lower residential rate for renting of the Community Center the week of July 7-11
- F. Claims roster
- G. Dandylions Lawful Gambling Permit request
- H. Waiver of Community Center rental fee for benefit

4. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Duske asked to have item 3F pulled for clarification.

GEIGER MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

5. OPEN FORUM

6. CELEBRATE WATERTOWN

- A. Mandt informed the Council that the Chamber will be hosting its second annual River Rumble this fall. It will be coordinated with the W-M High School Homecoming.
- B. McDonald read a poem entitled "A River Runs through it." It was written by a friend of his from Toastmasters. The poem, written Jan. 17, 2008, reflects life in Watertown.

7. NEW/OLD BUSINESS

- A. Fee Schedule for 2008. Mandt went over the proposed fee schedule with the Council. He stated that Wallner would be working on a water and sewer rate analysis that will be brought before the Council. Duske questioned the charges for rental housing inspections. He stated that the cost of rental inspections should be paid by property owners and not subsidized by the city. He is concerned about a budget shortfall with the city's share of the building permit costs. Wallner stated that this is unlikely but possible. Mandt stated that one-half of the rental housing inspections have been completed. The City presently charges \$25 for the first unit and \$10 for each additional unit. The building inspector bills the city on a per hour rate for its services. Duske suggested that the rest of the rental inspections be suspended until the Council can find out the costs from the building inspector and compare them to the budget. This was agreed upon consensually by the Council. Duske stated that the city will be adding fire inspections for commercial buildings. Duske questioned the change from pawn to consignment business owned by Dick Lee. He also questioned the cost of off-sale license. Wallner stated that this year the state had increased the license fee from \$100 to \$240 with an option of having the fee reduced \$100 if a business owner complies with conditions presented by the state. He recommended that the Council change the wording for the on-sale license fee to state that the city will charge the maximum allowed by the state.

DUSKE MOVED, GEIGER SECONDED A MOTION TO HAVE THE CITY CHARGE THE MAXIMUM ALLOWED BY THE STATE FOR OFF-SALE LICENSE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

King questioned the mobile home fee and city attorney's fees. Duske questioned the \$50 per hour staff time charge. He stated that he would like to see a breakdown of the fee much like Public Works does. Wallner was instructed to provide hourly costs for staff time.

MANN MOVED, KING SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2008 FEE SCHEDULE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

- B. Neisen Building Update. Mandt stated that the City is working with owners of Neisen Liquors and Crow River Sales on building permit and rehabilitation of the building. They were asked to complete items provided to them by the city building inspector. Neisen has asked for a 30-day extension.

MCDONALD MOVED, DUSKE SECONDED A MOTION TO GIVE MIKE NEISEN 30 DAYS TO COMPLETE THE ITEMS OUTLINED IN THE E-MAIL FROM SCOTT QUALLE, CITY BUILDING INSPECTOR, DATED JANUARY 22, 2008; TO COMPLY WITH THE BUILDING CODE; AND ONE WEEK TO HAVE THE FIRE INSPECTION COMPLETED AND PAID BY THE BUILDING OWNER. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

- C. State of the City Annual Report. Mandt stated that the Watertown Chamber of Commerce asked to have a larger production of the State of the City Report. Mandt stated that the Chamber would sponsor a meeting in February in the Community Center for residents and businesses from Waconia, Delano and Watertown, including non-Chamber members. Mandt will let Council members know when the meeting will take place.

8. CITY STAFF REPORTS

9. COMMITTEE REPORT

- A. Mandt reported on a collaborative meeting involving the cities of Watertown, Mayer and New Germany, Watertown Township and Watertown-Mayer School District. The discussion involved the Carver County Sheriff's Office and patrolling. The School District is interested in a liaison officer and is looking into a grant to help cover the cost. The school district also suggested working with the city on a cooperative effort to purchase batteries.

10. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

11. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- A. Forest Hills/Mill Avenue Paving Project update. Martini gave the Council recommendations for accepting the Mill Avenue and Forest Hills projects. Martini recommended accepting Mill Avenue improvements with the exception of the paving and begin the warranty period for all elements of the project except the paving. The letter of credit can be released and the developer needs to put \$12,500 in escrow to cover the cost of seal coating that may be needed. Martini recommended accepting the Forest Hills improvements with the exception of the paving and begin the warranty period. The letter of credit should remain at \$150,000 to cover the cost of landscaping and miscellaneous punch list items. The developer needs to escrow \$52,500 to cover the cost of seal coating. The developer will need to arrange for additional analysis in the spring to determine the limits of pavement that do not meet the planned thickness or have low density. Duske stated that this is the first time he can remember the Council accepting a portion of a development. He is concerned about damage to paving.

GEIGER MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CITY ENGINEER'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MILL AVENUE AND FOREST HILLS PAVING. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

- B. Pay request from city engineer.

GEIGER MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PAY REQUEST FROM BOLTEN & MENK, INC. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

- C. Project updates.

12. MAYOR'S REPORT

- A. McDonald read a note on the Roe vs. Wade demonstration rally that took place Jan. 22. He stated that he will be asking the state legislature to forego tax payer funding of abortions.

13. COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT

- A. Duske asked for a clarification on days requested for use of Highland Park by the Lions Club for Rails to Trails. Mandt will provide Duske with the answer.
- B. Geiger stated that the Planning Commission had a good collaborative meeting on downtown development.

14. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

15. FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT

16. PLANNER REPORT

- A. Foust stated that the city staff will be meeting with the attorney for Watertown Township to discuss the draft of the orderly annexation.
- B. Foust stated that the Comprehensive Plan Task Force will meet at 5:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 4. The Council will have a workshop Feb. 12 on the Comprehensive Plan and there will be a public open house at the end of February.

17. ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:46 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

ATTEST:

Steven Wallner
Clerk-Treasurer

K.J. McDonald
Mayor