

**City of Stevens Point
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING**

Council Chambers
County-City Building

September 15, 2014
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Andrew J. Halverson, presiding.

Roll Call: Ald. Doxtator, O'Meara, Wiza, M. Stroik, Patton, R. Stroik, Phillips, Moore,

Excused: Ald. Slowinski, Trzebiatowski.

Also Present: Clerk Moe, Human Resource Manager Jakusz, City Attorney Beveridge, Directors Ostrowski, Schrader, Schatschneider, Lemke, Chief Ruder, Chief Finn, C/T Ladick, Nate Ewald, Portage County Gazette; Brandi Makuski, City Times, Sari Lesk, Stevens Point Journal.

2. Salute to the Flag and Mayor's opening remarks.

Mayor Halverson provided an update on the Portage County Library and said a special meeting would be held either later this month or during the October Committee meetings.

3. Consideration and possible action of the minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of August 18, 2014 and the Special Common Council meeting of September 8, 2014.

Ald. Moore moved, Ald. Phillips seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of August 18, 2014 and the Special Common Council meeting of September 8, 2014.

Call for the vote: Ayes: All.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

4. *Person's who wish to address the Mayor and Council on specific agenda items other Than a "Public Hearing" must register their request at this time. Those who wish to address the Common Council during a "Public Hearing" are not required to identify themselves until the "Public Hearing" is declared open by the Mayor.

Mayor Halverson directed guests to register to speak by providing their name and address on the forms provided.

5. Persons who wish to address the Mayor and Council for up to three (3) minutes on a non-agenda item.

Clerk Moe said that the City of Stevens Point is always looking for good poll workers and will offer more shift work between 7 and 7.5 hours. He said this was a good way to participate in the democratic process and give back to our community. If people are interested, they should contact the City Clerk's Office.

Consideration and Possible Action on the following:

6. Authorize the donation of the unexpended salary for the District 2 Alderperson position for the month of September to the Joanne A. Suomi Memorial Fund.

Mayor Halverson asked for a moment of silence to reflect upon Alderperson Suomi's life and remember our colleague.

Ald. O'Meara **moved**, Ald. M. Stroik seconded, to approve the authorization to donate the unexpended salary for the month of September to the Joanne A. Suomi Memorial Fund.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Phillips, R. Stroik, Patton, M. Stroik, Wiza, O'Meara, Doxtator.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

7. Minutes and actions of the Plan Commission meeting of September 2, and the minutes and actions of the Special Plan Commission-Comprehensive Plan Update meeting of August 13, 2014.

Ald. Moore **moved**, Ald. Doxtator seconded, to approve the September 2, 2014 minutes and the minutes and actions of the Special Plan Commission-Comprehensive Plan Update meeting of August 13, 2014.

Call for the vote: Ayes: All.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

8. Public Hearing – Ordinance Amendment – Uniform Sign Ordinance definition “Vision Obstruction” to match the clearview requirement language within the Zoning Ordinance (Section 25.03 of the RMC).

Mayor Halverson declared the public hearing open.

As no one wished to speak, Mayor Halverson declared the public hearing closed.

9. Ordinance Amendment on the above.

Ald. O'Meara **moved**, Ald. Moore seconded, to adopt the ordinance amendment on Uniform Sign Ordinance.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Ald. Doxtator, O'Meara, Wiza, M. Stroik, Patton,

R. Stroik, Phillips, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

10. Resolution – City of Stevens Point Comprehensive Plan Update Public Participation Plan.

Ald. Moore **moved**, Ald. Wiza seconded, to adopt the Comprehensive Plan Update Public Participation plan.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Phillips, R. Stroik, Patton, M. Stroik, Wiza, O'Meara, Doxtator.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

11. Extending and/or amending the options to purchase land in East Park Commerce Center.

Mayor Halverson stated that there was a change to take down 40 acres prior to the acquisition of the 125 feet for the rail access. He said this is the most significant change.

Dir. Ostrowski stated that the Macadlo option may require the City to provide an easement to access the adjacent property.

Ald. R. Stroik **moved**, Ald. Wiza seconded, to approve the land purchase in the East Park Commerce Center.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Ald. Doxtator, O'Meara, Wiza, M. Stroik, Patton, R. Stroik, Phillips, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

12. Minutes and actions of the Board of Public Works meeting of September 8, 2014 and the minutes of the Special Board of Public Works meeting of August 18, 2014.

Ald. O'Meara **moved**, Ald. Phillips seconded, to approve the Board of Public Works meeting of September 8, 2014 and the Special Board of Public Works meeting of August 18, 2014.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Phillips, R. Stroik, Patton, M. Stroik, Wiza, O'Meara, Doxtator.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

***13. The actions taken at the Special Board of Public Works meeting of September 15, 2014.**

Clerk Moe provided a summary of the September 15, 2014 meeting. The Committee recommended to approve the contract for the asphalt bid.

Ald. R. Stroik **moved**, Ald. O'Meara seconded, to approve the actions of the Special Board of Public Works meeting for September 15, 2014.

Ald. R. Stroik said he appreciated keeping the parks up to date with paving projects.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Phillips. R. Stroik, Patton, M. Stroik, Wiza, O'Meara, Doxtator.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

14. Minutes and actions of the Public Protection Committee meeting of September 8, 2014.

Jennifer Kleiner, 4216 Nebel Street, representing Good News Fellowship Church, expressed her group's interest in participating with the City of Stevens Point in providing activities, an outreach and extension of the City's trick or treat times.

Mayor Halverson asked Clerk Moe if there were any specific permit requirements needed for this event.

Clerk Moe responded no, that this was an open festival.

Ald. R. Stroik **moved**, Ald. Moore seconded, to accept the minutes and actions of the Public Protection Committee meeting of September 8, 2014 with item #3 pulled for further discussion.

Mayor Halverson stated that agenda item #3 under the Public Protection minutes will be taken up under agenda item #15.

Clerk Moe stated the motion was to postpone action on this agenda item and the vote was a tie, which meant the motion failed with no recommendation to the Council. Therefore, it is required this item go before the full Council, which will be taken up as an Ordinance amendment under agenda item #15.

Ald. R. Stroik **amended** his motion to approve the entire minutes and actions of the Public Protection Committee. Ald. Moore concurred.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: All.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

15. Ordinance Amendment – Licenses and Permits – Change to the prohibited hours of fermented malt beverage sales (Section 12.14(11)(c) of the RMC).

Ald. R. Stroik asked if this City proposal would match the state law regarding hours of sale for alcohol.

Mayor Halverson stated yes, that was correct.

Ald. Wiza commended the Clerk and his staff with the timeliness in getting the requested information to the alderpersons. He felt it was important to get in line with the state law.

Ald. Wiza **moved**, Ald. Moore seconded, to approve the change the hours of fermented malt beverage sales.

Dan Tikalsky, 2641 Hickory Drive, Plover, representing Copps Market said that the store hours are 6 a.m. until 10 p.m. and those hours will not change. The liquor department has restricted access and does not open until 8 a.m. and closes at 9 p.m. He stated that this was a matter of convenience to patrons who do shop early in the morning and would rather not return at 8 a.m. to purchase beer.

Ald. O'Meara said he was opposed to this ordinance change. He stated the current sale hours are liberal enough.

Call for the vote: Ayes: Ald. Doxtator, Wiza, M. Stroik, Patton, R. Stroik, Moore.

Nays: Ald. O'Meara, Phillips. Motion adopted.

16. Ordinance Amendment – City Boundaries, District Boundaries, Polling Places – Polling Place changes for Aldermanic Districts #6 and #8 (Section 15.03(6) and (8) of the RMC).

Mayor Halverson stated that the city will be able to establish an on-demand transit route for District #6 voters.

Ald. Patton **moved**, Ald. O'Meara seconded, to approve the changes for Aldermanic Districts #6 and #8.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Phillips, R. Stroik, Patton, M. Stroik, Wiza, O'Meara, Doxtator.

Nays: None. Motion adopted.

17. Resolution – Temporary Polling Place change for Aldermanic District #7.

Ald. Phillips **moved**, Ald. M. Stroik seconded, to approve the temporary polling place change for Aldermanic District #7.

Mayor Halverson stated that this would be the old Mid-State building.

Ald. Moore said that Ald. Trzebiatowski had called to share with members that this polling place will work for a temporary location, but he thinks a better fit in the future would be the municipal building at Iverson Park. He believes this should be considered at a future time.

Mayor Halverson stated that would work well with a future paving project to the park as well.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Doxtator, O'Meara, Wiza, M. Stroik, Patton, R. Stroik, Phillips, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

18. Minutes and actions of the Personnel Committee meeting of September 8, 2014.

Barb Jacob, 1616 Depot Street, stated she wished to address the salary increases being proposed. Without the current proposed increases of \$12,000, \$81,000 has already been approved just for these 12 employees. This is approximately \$100,000 for 12 employees. She questioned where this money was going to come from and does not want to see cuts to the Parks Department budget.

Ald. Wiza said he had several concerns all related to money, hiring and the anticipated deficits for 2015. He stated it does not make sense to commit to spending these funds when there is little known where the City will be at budget time. The potential to outsource garbage collection, the adjustments in pay and the additional hire of two new street department workers should be postponed for a few weeks to get a clearer picture of the City's financial situation.

Ald. Wiza also stated there was an error in the minutes on packet page 57, the second paragraph from the bottom, should read that "people are **not** doing it for the money."

Ald. Wiza **moved**, Ald. O'Meara seconded, to approve the Personnel Committee meeting of September 8, 2014 with the exception of pulling agenda items #3 and #5.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: All.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

Item #3: Adjustments for pay steps for certain positions.

Ald. Patton asked if these are approved, will they need to be approved again when the budget is assembled, or are they automatic.

Mayor Halverson said if the motion is to accept what was written in the memorandum that he submitted everyone in Grade R (Director of Public Works/City Engineer, Dir. Of Public Utilities/Transportation, Police Chief, Fire Chief from step 1, which is \$85,592 to step 2 as of the next pay period immediately after this council's concurrence, which would be \$88,046. Those individuals would still go through an evaluation process for 2015. Mayor Halverson stated that the action taken at this juncture would move those 4 department heads to \$88,046, those salaries would impact this budget year. It would move the Dir. of

Community Development to \$83,450, it would move the superintendents of Water, Streets and Waste Water to step 2, which is \$74,235 (those would happen now). The assistant Chiefs would move to \$78,374 on January 1, 2015 and would necessitate these individuals go through the evaluation/performance process.

Ald. Patton asked if the \$21,000 cost was only for October through December.

C/T Ladick stated that the \$21,000 figure was annualized and excluded utilities. If utilities are included, the total impact for 2015 budget would be \$29,713. For the 4th quarter of 2014, the impact would be \$4,190 for the general fund and \$2,300 for the utilities.

Ald. Wiza stated that salaries are not going to be going down in 2015 and will carry over. He asked that C/T Ladick provide a ballpark figure of the potential budget deficit for 2015.

C/T Ladick stated the 2015 budget deficit is currently projected at \$371,000.

Ald. Wiza asked if that projection includes these anticipated increases.

C/T Ladick replied yes, it does. He stated if the anticipated increases are removed from the budget, the deficit would be \$350,000.

Ald. R. Stroik stated that these leaders are tasked with leading the City into the future and it is important this be set prior to the budget rather than waiting for the budget. He stated that he would rather pay our leaders to solve issues and figure out improvements and efficiencies.

Ald. R. Stroik moved, Ald. Patton seconded, to approve the adjustment to the pay steps for the positions indicated.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. R. Stroik, Patton, M. Stroik, Doxtator.
 Nays: Ald. Moore, Phillips, Wiza, O'Meara. Tie vote.
 Mayor Halverson voted aye. Motion carried.

Item #5: Request to add two additional laborer positions to the Streets division.

Ald. Wiza stated if the City is soliciting bids to potentially reduce the amount of staff needed, it would be prudent to wait to see the results of the bids.

Ald. Wiza moved, Ald. Moore seconded, to postpone this item until the October meeting.

Ald. R. Stroik requested to hear from Dir. Schatschneider on how these employees would be utilized and if these positions would ultimately be eliminated if the waste management was outsourced.

Dir. Schatschneider stated these positions would be very beneficial for snowplowing, on crews in the summer and helping out during employee vacations/absences. Due to the number of employees and impact of absences, the department is at a real disadvantage.

Ald. R. Stroik stated if the current motion fails, another motion could be introduced to approve the request. He encouraged the Council to not postpone and take action this evening.

Ald. Wiza asked what would happen to long-term employees whose jobs would be impacted by cost-savings in the waste disposal area as compared to the new hires for the Streets division. He stated this should be postponed to see what transpires with the bids for outsourcing.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Doxtator, O'Meara, Wiza, M. Stroik, Phillips, Moore.

Nays: Ald. Patton, R. Stroik. Motion carried.

19. Ordinance Amendment – Officials / Boards / Employees – Set Mayoral Salary for the next term of office (Section 3.39 of the RMC).

Mayor Halverson stated that Council is unable to act on this ordinance as there are eight alderpersons present and nine are needed for a vote.

20. Minutes and actions of the Finance Committee meeting of September 8, 2014 and the minutes of the Special Finance Committee meeting of August 18, 2014.

Ald. Patton moved, Ald. O'Meara seconded, to approve the Finance committee meeting of September 8, 2014 and the minutes of the Special Finance Committee meeting of August 18, 2014.

C/T Ladick stated he wanted to follow up on agenda item #2 concerning the uncollectable monies. He stated that these are not individuals or businesses who owe the City money, these are specific funds where expenditures exceeded revenues. Two of these funds were for segregating grant monies. To collect these funds would mean misappropriating grant dollars, which is not feasible, practical or legal. Prevention of this in the future has entailed a much more thorough review of the financial statements and due diligence.

Ald. R. Stroik extended his thanks for the leadership of the C/T and providing the Council with the information. He stated there are provisions in place to avoid this in the future.

Ald. Patton **amended** his motion to pull agenda item #2 and Ald. O'Meara agreed.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Phillips, R. Stroik, Patton, M. Stroik,

O'Meara, Doxtator.
Nays: Ald. Wiza. Motion carried.

Mayor Halverson stated the agenda item before Council now related to the write off of funds.

Ald. R. Stroik **moved**, Ald. O'Meara seconded, to write off the funds as indicated by C/T Ladick.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Doxtator, O'Meara, Wiza, M. Stroik, Patton, R. Stroik, Phillips, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

21. Settlement agreement with Walgreen Co., Portage County case no. 11 CV 321.

Mayor Halverson said he wanted to commend Attorney Beveridge as well as Assessor Shepro for their efforts on this issue.

Ald. Moore **moved**, Ald. M. Stroik seconded, to approve the settlement agreement with Walgreen Co.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Phillips, R. Stroik, Patton, M. Stroik, Wiza, O'Meara, Doxtator.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

22. Minutes and actions of the Board of Water and Sewerage Commissioners meeting of September 8, 2014.

Ald. Wiza **moved**, Ald. Phillips seconded, to approve the Board of Water and Sewerage Commission meeting of September 8, 2014.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Doxtator, O'Meara, Wiza, M. Stroik, Patton, R. Stroik, Phillips, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

23. Preliminary Resolution – Special Assessment for the construction of facilities related to the collection, pumping and storage of high strength waste from SPB LLC (2617 Water Street) to the Stevens Point Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Ald. O'Meara asked if this was a wet well.

Dir. Lemke replied yes.

Ald. O'Meara asked if the city owned the stainless steel tanks.

Dir. Lemke said upon completion, the City will own everything downstream of the inlet to the high strength waste tank located at the Brewery site.

Ald. Patton questioned if brewers can pump residuals directly on fields.

Dir. Lemke said that is referred to as some of the other byproducts, the heavier malt in these products do provide some beneficial use. If it is applied, this will be handled through the DNR residuals program.

24. Minutes and actions of the Special Police and Fire Commission meetings of August 14, 19, 20, and 26, 2014.

Ald. Patton moved, Ald. Doxtator seconded, to approve the Special PFC meetings of August 14, 19, 20 and 26, 2014.

Ald. Wiza stated he would like to commend the Police and Fire Commission, the Police Chief, the Interim Fire Chief and everyone involved in the Guns and Hoses event as they raised a record \$45,000 for the Never Forgotten Honor Flight.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: All.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

25. Statutory Monthly Financial Report of the Comptroller-Treasurer.

Ald. Moore moved, Ald. M. Stroik seconded, to approve the monthly C/T report.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: All.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

26. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.