

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Council Chambers  
County-City Building  
1516 Church St**

**July 17, 2017  
7:00 P.M.**

**Mayor Mike Wiza, Presiding**

PRESENT: Ald. Jennings, Shorr, Nebel, Oberstadt, Johnson, Slowinski, Kneebone, Dugan, McComb, Phillips, Morrow

OTHERS PRESENT: Attorney Beveridge, Clerk Moe, C/T Ladick, Fire Chief Finn, Dir. Beduhn, Dir. Lemke, Dir. Ostrowski

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

Mayor Wiza highlighted that connecting our community is working. Portage County is the only County that is experiencing a net gain in migration. Mayor Wiza also touched on the County wanting to move an ambulance to Plover, and the affects it would have on the City of Stevens Point. Mayor Wiza also encouraged everyone to contact their county board supervisors and tell them their thoughts on the matter, and to participate in their government.

**3. \*Persons 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 Wiza reminded citizens to register at this time.

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

Talin Senner, PO Box 675, spoke on behalf of Association of Downtown Business, in opposition to parking meters downtown. He suggested enforcing parking downtown. Mr. Senner provided examples of how other larger cities in Wisconsin are removing parking meters and creating a reimbursement program to the City to pay for the parking.

Mayor Wiza said that there is no plan as of yet, just the 2015 parking study. The recommendations from that study will go before the Common Council before being put into place.

Neil Prendergast, 1924 Plover Street advocated for better bicycling and pedestrian infrastructure within the City. He thanked the City Council for the work that has already been done to make the streets safer for bicyclists and pedestrians. Mr. Prendergast suggested to fund a measured build out of a bicycle and pedestrian plan in three low cost ways: 1) To use a portion of the new metered parking revenue (if it would be put into place) to fund safe routes to school improvements to one school every year, 2) Apply for more federal grants to improve bicycling and walking, and 3) Use 1% of the Department of Public Work's operating budget to help fund a bicycle and pedestrian plan.

Bill Schierl, 109 County Road E South, wanted to say thank you for the support in the past for Create Portage County.

Ald. Kneebone, mentioned there are free concerts this week for the American Suzuki Institute. The concerts will be held at either Sentry or Michelsen Hall. For information you can call the Aber Suzuki at 715-346-3033. Week of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**5. Mayoral Proclamation proclaiming July as Parks and Recreation Month.**

Mayor Wiza signed the proclamation during the week of the 9<sup>th</sup>. He thanked Director Schrader and his staff for all of their hard work throughout the year.

**6. Greg Wright: Presentation from CREATE Portage County - annual report.**

Greg Wright gave an update on their agreement with the City where they would receive \$10,000 a year for three years to design and launch an innovation space to grow entrepreneurship within the community. They are just entering their third year.

This year CREATE is looking into program development, and investing money in technology to support those programs. They are looking at partnership opportunities within areas of: IT, coding, animation, and design. This technology would be mobile so then teachers would be able to bring it into their classrooms or at libraries around the county.

CREATE was able to secure a \$27,000 WEC grant to help pay for the technology. In 2017, they have brought in more than \$57,000 of grant money from outside of the community. At this time CREATE Portage County is asking for the City to renew this investment for another three years. Arts and culture is a proven way to attract new professionals to the community, and to improve the quality of life of the people already living here.

**7. Chief Martin Skibba: Police Department space needs presentation.**

Chief Skibba briefly reviewed the property at 933 Michigan Avenue. The City already owns the location and it is located in the center of Stevens Point. This would allow effective service for people who need to speak to an officer, or file a complaint as well as allowing an office to respond in the community. Parking would also work better than their current location.

Chief Skibba also discussed how much the City has grown over the years, and notes that calls are pretty well spread throughout the community. He also spoke about how the department would use the facility and the new addition of the garage.

**Consideration and Possible Action on the Following:**

**8. Minutes of the Common Council meeting of June 19 and the Special Common Council meetings of July 5 and July 10, 2017.**

Ald. McComb wanted to make a change to page 16 of the minutes.

Mayor Wiza said they will go back and look at the video to confirm.

Ald. Jennings wanted to make a change to page 22 and 23 of the minutes.

Mayor Wiza said he would have the clerk's office look into this.





## 8. Approval of Payment of Claims.

Ald. Phillips **moved**, Ald. McComb seconded, to approve the Finance Committee minutes.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Jennings, Shorr, Nebel, Oberstadt, Johnson, Slowinski, Kneebone, Dugan, McComb, Phillips, Morrow  
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

## 16. Claim – Notice of Circumstances of Claim & Claim for Damages: Rachel Leach / Mark Atkinson – Damage to car from falling tree.

C/T Ladick said this topic was discussed at the Finance meeting. A tree fell on the car during a storm. The claim was submitted to the insurance company and their recommendation is to deny as there is no City liability.

Ald. Phillips **moved**, Ald. Jennings seconded, to deny the claim.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Morrow, Phillips, McComb, Dugan, Kneebone, Slowinski, Johnson, Oberstadt, Nebel, Shorr, Jennings.  
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

## 17. Consideration of contract with Bray Architects for design and architectural services relating to the Police Department relocating to 933 Michigan Avenue.

Mayor Wiza stated as they currently do not have completed quotes. He said we most likely have them before the Council next month.

## 18. Minutes and actions of the Board of Public Works meeting of July 10, 2017.

2. To approve the list for 2017-18 Sidewalk Repair/Replacement Orders.
3. To award the 2017 Swale Reconstruction and Shouldering Project #17-11 to Stuczynski Trucking & Excavating, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$144,162.85.
5. To approve the AECOM proposal for the design of improvements relating to the intersection of North Point Drive and Division Street.

Ald. Kneebone **moved**, Ald. Phillips seconded, to approve the minutes and actions of the Board of Public Works meeting of July 10, 2017.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Morrow, Phillips, McComb, Dugan, Kneebone, Slowinski, Johnson, Oberstadt, Nebel, Shorr, Jennings.  
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

## 19. Ordinance Amendment – Traffic – Amended Loading Zones on Strongs Avenue and Repeal Stop Signs on Joerns Drive and Hoover Road (Section 9.05 (k) and 9.06 (a) of the RMC).

Ald. Johnson **moved**, Ald. Morrow seconded, to approve the revised municipal code as it relates to those particular parcels.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Jennings, Shorr, Nebel, Oberstadt, Johnson, Slowinski, Kneebone, Dugan, McComb, Phillips, Morrow.  
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

## 20. Minutes and actions of the Public Protection Committee meeting of July 10, 2017.





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

- 26. Actions of the Transportation Commission meeting of July 10, 2017.**
- 2. Approval of the June 2017 financial report.**
  - 3. Approval of award to Ecolane for the purchase of Dispatch/Scheduling Software.**

Ald. Kneebone **moved**, Ald. Shorr seconded, to approve the actions of the Transportation Commission meeting of July 10, 2017.

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

- 27. Actions of the Board of Water and Sewerage Commissioners of July 10, 2017.**
- 2. Discussion and possible action on approval of department claims.**
  - 5. Consideration and possible action on refinancing CR 2010 Sewer BAB.**
  - 12. Consideration and possible action on awarding the 2017 Swale Reconstruction and Shouldering Project #17-11 to Stuczynski and Excavating, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$144,162.85.**
  - 13. Update on Utility Garage Project.**

Ald. Morrow **moved**, Ald. Oberstadt seconded, to approve the minutes and actions of the Water and Sewerage Commissioners meeting of July 10, 2017.

Ald. Slowinski abstained from the vote.

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

- 28. Claim – Notice of Circumstances of Claim & Claim for Damages: Norb & Del Hintz, 609 Grant Street – Flood damage to residence.**

Norb Hintz, 609 Grant Street, said during the June 12<sup>th</sup> rain storm a drain in a vacant lot north of Fifth Avenue backed up and caused the lot across the street from them as well as their own to fill up within 20 minutes. The water broke a hole in their foundation and started to come into their back door filling their home. Most of their things in their basement was destroyed. Mr. Hintz sent the claim to their homeowners insurance but it was denied. The backup occurred where a 42 inch storm sewer leads into a 30 inch storm sewer.

Dir. Lemke said there has been a lot of discussion about this claim, including similar presentations so they could get a better understanding of what had happened. The storm we had that caused the damage was quite unusual. Dir. Lemke said that the city cannot design for a storm like that, otherwise there would be 10 foot storm sewers throughout the city. The larger storm sewers would be cost prohibiting. They are aware of the issues in this area; however, they are looking at some engineering efforts to see what the most cost effective preventable measures would be. At the Board of Water and Sewerage Commissioners meeting, they denied the claim based off of the recommendation from the insurance company.

C/T Ladick said that once he receives a claim, he forwards it to the insurance company to determine if the City had any liability. The insurance company only deals with municipalities so





Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Morrow, Phillips, McComb, Dugan, Kneebone, Slowinski, Johnson, Oberstadt, Nebel, Shorr, Jennings.  
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

Council adjourned into closed session at 8:51 p.m.

**33. Reconvene into open session for possible action on the above.**

10:25 p.m. went back into Open Session.

Ald. Slowinski **moved**, Ald. Phillips seconded, to authorize staff to secure two options to purchase land for future development opportunities not to exceed \$1,000.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Morrow, Phillips, Dugan, Slowinski, Johnson, Oberstadt, Nebel, Shorr.  
Nays: Ald. McComb, Kneebone, Jennings.  
Motion Adopted.

**34. Authorization to hire a contractor(s) to perform land building suitability analysis in connection with a potential land acquisition.**

Ald. Slowinski **moved**, Ald. Shorr seconded, to authorize to hire a contractor to land building suitability analysis in connection with a potential land acquisition, not to exceed \$4,860 plus 20%.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Ald. Shorr, Nebel, Oberstadt, Johnson, Slowinski, Dugan, McComb, Phillips, Morrow.  
Nays: Ald. Jennings, Kneebone. Motion Adopted

**35. Adjournment.**

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

RMC – Revised Municipal Code