

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

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

**October 16, 2017  
7:00 P.M.**

**Mayor Mike Wiza, Presiding**

PRESENT: Ald. Jennings, Shorr, Nebel, Oberstadt, Johnson, Slowinski, Kneebone, Dugan, McComb, Phillips, Morrow (7:03 P.M.)

OTHERS

PRESENT: Clerk Moe, C/T Ladick, Asst. Fire Chief Baganz, Dir. Beduhn, Dir. Ostrowski, Dir. Schrader, Chief Skibba, Manager Jakusz, Cassie Lenos – Portage County Gazette, Brandi Makuski – City Times.

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

Mayor Wiza spoke about the Hoover overpass dedication ceremony that afternoon and said the overpass will be open by the end of the week. He said there were around 300 – 350 people present which included state representative Shankland and former Mayors. He also said former Clerk of Courts Flatoff forwarded a proclamation that was submitted by Governor Scott Walker proclaiming November 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> as Love America Week through the State of Wisconsin.

**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.**

Joe Backman, Nick Nuber, Jaya White, Kara Milkowski, Central Wisconsin Community Theatre, Stevens Point, discussed the upcoming show times for the Addams Family Musical. Mr. Backman said the show times were October 27<sup>th</sup> – October 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m., October 29<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m., and November 3<sup>rd</sup> – November 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Backman discussed the Mind of Madness Haunted House located at 1039 Ellis Street (The Idea Center). He said the last Haunted House is Friday and Saturday nights through October 28<sup>th</sup> from dusk to midnight. Mr. Backman said persons who bring a non-perishable food item or proof of the Addams Family Musical ticket can receive \$5 off.

C/T Ladick reminded everyone that Monday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> is the Operational Budget Meeting located at the Lincoln Center at 6:00 p.m. in the lunch room.

Ald. Johnson was happy to hear about redevelopment focus in the urban corridor. She also discussed the work done by the Friends of Emerson Park for holding its first gathering event

with the intent of this becoming a City owned parcel and park. Ald. Johnson said this is important because there is no City park in District 3 and the northern portion of District 5.

**5. Presentation by Sara Brish: Stevens Point Area Convention and Visitors Bureau Annual Report.**

Ms. Brish discussed the new businesses that have opened within the Stevens Point area that are increasing tourism. She said these businesses are: Cobblestone Hotel & Suites, Wissota Chophouse, Feltz's Dairy Store, Muse, Putt n' Play, and McZ's Micro Brewery – downtown Rosholt. She also discussed milestones within the City: Stevens Point Brewery celebrating 160 years and donating a mural to the City, Stevens Point hosting the Team First Soccer Academy, CREATE Portage County having a non-traditional conference center, American Belgian Malinois Specialty, and the Federal Duck Stamp contest. Ms. Brish said every 1 of 13 jobs are supported by tourism and hospitality. She said in 2016 visitors spent \$124 million dollars which is a 4% increase from 2015.

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

**6. Consent Agenda:**

- **Minutes of the Common Council meeting of September 18, 2017.**
- **Actions of the Police and Fire Commission meeting of September 5, 2017.**
  - 4. Confirmation of bills.
  - 5. Out of State travel for Assistant Chief Baganz.
- **Actions of the Water & Sewerage Commission meeting of October 9, 2017.**
  - 2. Approval of department claims.
  - 3. Draft Water Rate Study by Baker Tilly.
  - 4. Report on forecasted revenue requirements for Wastewater by Baker Tilly.
  - 8. Purchase of a new tractor backhoe.
- **Actions of the Airport Commission meeting October 9, 2017.**
  - 2. Department claims.
- **Actions of the Board of Park Commissioners meeting of October 4, 2017.**
- **Minutes of the Special Public Works meeting of September 18, 2017.**
  - 1. To award the Sidewalk Continuation Project #17-12.
- **Statutory Monthly Financial Report of the Comptroller-Treasurer.**

Ald. Johnson **moved**, Ald. McComb, seconded to approve the consent agenda.

Ald. Johnson said she appreciates what the Commission did to keep the water and sewer rates affordable and asked Dir. Lemke if the billing cycle is going to change from quarterly to monthly.

Dir. Lemke said he is looking into it and collecting data for changing it to monthly. He said they are looking at putting the monthly and quarterly rates on the bill to make the transition easier.

Ald. Phillips wanted an explanation for the rate increase on water and sewer.

Dir. Lemke said the information given to them in the packet was the recommendation from the City's auditors which was approved by the Sewer Commission. He is guessing the water









## 2. Request to Hold Event/Street Closings.

Ald. Johnson **moved**, Ald. Jennings seconded, to approve the minutes and actions of the Public Protection Committee meeting of October 9, 2017.

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

### 17. Ordinance Amendment – Public Peace and Offenses Against Public Policy – Prohibiting the scattering of newspapers, advertising material (Subsection of 24.07 of the RMC).

Attorney Beveridge said this item came up awhile back with Red Bag Newspapers. He said he was at the Municipal Attorney's conference where he learned the City of Wauwatosa has an ordinance regarding this issue. Attorney Beveridge said a bulk of the ordinance comes from the City of Wauwatosa's ordinance.

Nick Wood, 3651 Bay Settlement Road, Green Bay WI, said he was there representing multimedia channels which owns: City Times, Buyers Guide, and the Portage County Gazette. He said the quarterly Red Bag Newspapers are no longer distributed. Mr. Wood said there are processes and people in place to address these concerns. He urged the Council to vote no or to table it for further discussion. Mr. Wood said for the past four weeks they have received 59 "complaints" 29 of the calls said they never received their paper, 14 wanted to sign up for the paper, 8 were placement issues, and 2 were stops.

Mayor Wiza asked Mr. Wood what the process was if people did not want to receive the paper.

Mr. Wood said the people in the office take down the name and address of the people who do not want the paper anymore and will send it over to the circulation manager who will put a tag on the carrier's bundle to stop delivery. Mr. Wood said the carriers are supposed to keep track of the stops on a sheet of paper as well as a map so then if someone subs for them they will know. He said carriers are also instructed to stop delivery if they see papers are piling up on someone's front porch. Mr. Wood said the company switches from clear bags to bright orange bags in the winter to contrast with the snow and newspapers should be delivered on the porch so the snow blower does not destroy it.

Ald. Jennings said this ordinance would allow residents to stop regular unsolicited newspapers, flyers, etc. She said it was not accurate to say this can be resolved with a phone call to the distributor. Ald. Jennings said it does not stop the waste since it is easier for landlords to place wet destroyed newspapers in the garbage rather than calling the distributor.

Ald. Jennings **moved**, Ald. Kneebone seconded, to postpone this agenda item until further discussion has taken place.

Mayor Wiza asked Ald. Jennings when she intends to have further discussion on this agenda item.

Ald. Jennings said she wants to allow more time for the public to weigh in and more evaluation of the language in the ordinance.

Ald. Morrow said the wording of the ordinance seems vague and hard to track. He said it does not seem enforceable. Ald. Morrow said he interpreted it as this would prevent Alders from campaigning door to door and leaving information.

Mayor Wiza asked the City Attorney if this would apply to political materials.

Attorney Beveridge replied yes, legally the City cannot make an exception for political materials because it would be in violation of the First Amendment.

Ald. Johnson said her 84 year old constituent had her paper be destroyed by the snow blower destroyed three times by these papers. She said the constituent made a number of calls to the carrier and they only provided her with excuses. Ald. Johnson said the bright orange bags is not visible under a couple feet of snow. She said she is for finding a better way to do this but is against materials being placed on lawns.

Ald. Shorr agreed with Ald. Morrows concerns and hopes it can be resolved without adding something to the code.

Ald. Nebel said she was glad to hear the carriers are told to stop delivering if they see papers pile up and has noticed an improvement over the years.

Call for the Vote:       Ayes: Majority.  
                                  Nays: Minority. Motion adopted.

**18. Minutes and actions taken at the Finance Committee meeting of October 9, 2017.**

- 2. Purchase of 1466 Water St., 924 Arlington, and the unaddressed property on Water St., parcel number 2408-32-2019-12.**
- 3. Procuring architectural and engineering services related to the potential construction of a new City Hall.**
- 5. Purchase of a garbage truck on behalf of the McDill Lake District.**
- 6. Establishment of an Enterprise Fund for Parking revenues and expenditures.**
- 7. Approval of Claims Paid.**

David Medin, 2101 West River Drive Stevens Point, said he is not there to make an appeal but to state the facts. He said the court rooms need to be updated and made safer. He said in November 2016 the residents of Portage County denied a referendum for a new court house which would be large enough to hold all of the government offices. Mr. Medin said after the referendum was denied the County Board voted and approved to modify the County/City building for continued use. He said based on a space needs study the County needs 50% of the current building and the City would need 38% of the building which leaves 12% for expansion for the City. Mr. Medin said the County needs to complete the remodeling and cannot do the renovations without the City. He said the County does not have a need to purchase the City's portion of the building because they only need half of the building. Mr. Medin provided a number of options for the City could: leave and still pay a maintenance fee, rent it out with the understanding the City part of the building would not be renovated, or stay until the building is renovated and then rent it out. He said that if the City does rent out the space the County could deem any renters incompatible. Mr. Medin said one way the County can object is by using all the parking spaces around the building. He said what he discussed also goes for item number 19.

Ald. Phillips **moved**, Ald. Morrow seconded, to approve of the minutes and actions of the Finance Meeting of October 9, 2017.

Ald. Phillips asked for clarification on item number 5. He thought it should state a "garbage truck and/or equipment."

C/T Ladick thought the Council could not change the wording of the agenda item because that is how the agenda item was worded on the Finance Agenda.

Attorney Beveridge said item 5 was discussed in detail at the committee meeting. He said it would be paid for by the City; however, the Lake District pay the City back.

Ald. Shorr thanked Supervisor Medin for all of the work he has put into this as well as his presentation. He said the Council liked the Water Street location because it is still close to the County. Ald. Shorr has confidence that the County will find a solution for the issues that Supervisor Medin raised.

Ald. Slowinski said item number two is the purchase of 1466 Water Street and 924 Arlington Place. He said further down it states there will be a Special Common Council meeting after the Plan Commission meeting. Ald. Slowinski asked if the minutes and actions are approved, if this is the final approval for the purchase of those properties.

Attorney Beveridge said any action taken at this meeting would not direct the purchase of the property. He said it would have to be voted on after the Plan Commission makes their recommendation or the lapse of 30 days after it being presented to Council.

Ald. Slowinski said he has additional questions and asked when it would be appropriate to ask those questions.

Mayor Wiza replied that there would be time in the future. He said it can be added to the Plan Commission agenda, committee meeting agenda, or the Common Council agenda. Mayor Wiza told Ald. Slowinski he could also stop in tomorrow and get his questions answered.

Ald. Slowinski wanted to verify that once the minutes are approved, the decision is not made.

Attorney Beveridge said that was correct. He said there is going to be a lot of items Council would have to approve in the future such as building design and contracts for builders.

Ald. Nebel asked if the City would be going ahead with agenda item number 3.

Dir. Ostrowski said he believes this would come before the Council at their November meeting and include an official offer. He said the architectural contract would be separate and given to the Council for approval.

Ald. Dugan said this is a first step and it is natural to just keep going. She said she does not want to approve the minutes and actions because of items 2 & 3. Ald. Dugan discussed the positives of staying in the same building. She said the most sustainable building is one that already exists.



Dir. Ostrowski suggested to approve the minutes at this meeting and approve the Committees actions at the next Council meeting in November when there will be recommendation from Finance Committee and Plan Commission.

Attorney Beveridge said the Council can either make a motion on item 3 or postpone it until the next Council meeting.

Ald. Oberstadt **moved**, Ald. Kneebone seconded, to postpone the action of item 3 until the next Council meeting.

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

## **19. Adoption of the 2018 Capital Budget.**

C/T Ladick said he followed the directive of the Finance Committee to add \$6 million for a new City Hall. He said the only thing that has not been finalized is the County's request for capital projects to the building which will be before Council at the Special Council meeting in November.

Mayor Wiza asked about the tax levy impact of the additional \$6 million and additional borrowing contained in the budget.

C/T Ladick said the City has better positioned themselves with maintaining the debt service. He said he would have to review the debt service schedule.

Ald. Johnson **moved**, Ald. Nebel seconded, to postpone the adoption of the Capital Improvements Budget.

Ald. Johnson said due to there being a lot of items in the air and see the budget and how it compares to last year and how it will impact the taxpayers.

Mayor Wiza asked C/T Ladick if there is anything statutory that would require Council to do anything sooner.

C/T Ladick said there are no statutory requirements. He said the budget would need to be completed by mid to late November. C/T Ladick said they can be addressed together separately.

Ald. Shorr said he appreciated reviewing the Capital Budget ahead of time even if Council is not acting on it.

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

## **20. Mayoral Appointments: Water and Sewerage Commission**

Ald. Slowinski **moved**, Ald. Phillips seconded, to approve of the Mayoral Appointment for the Water and Sewerage Commission.

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

**21. Recommendation from BPAC to select Toole Design Group for the Transportation Alternatives Grant design services.**

Bill Fehrenbach, 1408 Wisconsin Street, wanted to provide his perspective of selecting Toole for BPAC's design service. He said his biggest criteria for selecting a company was experience. Mr. Fehrenbach said a lot of the companies had experience with trails and multi-use trails. He said Toole's application said they have put in urban bike lanes in Lacrosse, Eau Claire St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Trevor Roark, 601 Washington Ave, thanked staff for going through all of the proposals and allowing BPAC to be part of the selection process. He said the two companies were Toole Design Group (Toole) and Short Elliot Hendrickson (SEH). Mr. Roark said the Board of Public Works selected SEH and BPAC selected TOOLE as the top design consultants. He said TOOLE is recommended to the Common Council because of their experience and success with implementing and installing urban bike lanes for both small and large cities especially at and through intersections.

Ald. McComb **moved**, Ald. Shorr seconded, to approve BPAC's recommendation to select Toole Design Group for Transportation Alternatives Grant Designs Services.

Ald. McComb said engineers and transportation officials rely on Toole for setting bicycle standards for bicycle facilities. She said Toole has installed over 300 urban bike lanes nationwide. Ald. McComb said while doing research on SEH she noticed the company sub-contracted projects they were not able to complete some of which were urban bicycle lanes. She said it was evident that Toole had the experience and would be the better choice for this project.

Ald. Slowinski asked Dir. Beduhn why he chose SEH over Toole.

Dir. Beduhn said SEH was stronger with the TAP Grant and record of not losing funding.

Ald. Slowinski asked if the City went with Toole if they would lose funding.

Dir. Beduhn said SEH presented a stronger basis for following the requirements of the TAP Grant than what Toole did.

Ald. Oberstadt asked if it was an issue going with the recommendation from the BPAC rather than the committee.

Dir. Beduhn said he will need to submit to the state the ranking of the companies as well as documentation the City followed the criteria and name of the company selected.

Ald. Jennings said she spoke with a lot of DOT engineers. She said the general consensus was to go with Toole. Ald. Jennings also mentioned that the lead engineer at Toole used to be a reviewer for TAP Grants and feels confident that they know the federal guidelines.



