

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

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

**January 15, 2018
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Mike Wiza, Presiding

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

EXCUSED: Ald. McComb.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Clerk Moe, C/T Ladick, Attorney Beveridge, Chief Finn, Chief Skibba, Asst. Chief Rottier, Dir. Ostrowski, Dir. Schrader, Dir. Lemke, Dir. Beduhn, Dir. Lemke, Asst. Pazdernik, Brandi Makuski – Metro Wire, Joe Bachman – Stevens Point City Times, Cassie Lenos – Portage County Gazette.

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

Mayor Wiza thanked Sargent Mike Retzki with the Stevens Point Police Department and for his 28 years of service. He reminded citizens about the slick roads and cautioned those driving. Mayor Wiza advised citizens against blowing or shoveling snow onto City roads. He quoted Martin Luther King Jr. and said “to make a career of humanity” and said to show respect and compassion to everyone regardless of their differences. Mayor Wiza reminded everyone to be cognizant of those around them.

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.

As no one wished to speak, Mayor Wiza moved onto the next agenda item.

5. Presentation by Todd Kuckkahn: Portage County Business Council Update and Annual Report.

Mr. Kuckkahn thanked the City of Stevens Point as well as Council members for their support for the Portage County Business Council (PCBC). He said the goal is retention and attraction of businesses and employees. Mr. Kuckkahn said the PCBC is focusing on talent attraction and is creating a community marketing website,

everythingpointshere.com which is projected to be completed by March 1st. He said this website would allow people to find everything for the City of Stevens Point in one area. Mr. Kukkahn said the current website allows site selection consultants to view available property and land information. He said PCBC is also working on "Inspire" which will allow students to speak with business professionals in their area of interest in. He added the PCBC is researching a "Manufacture Marketplace" which would allow businesses to search online for local vendors.

Consideration and Possible Action on the Following:

6. Consent Agenda:

- **Minutes of the Common Council meeting of December 18, 2017 and the Special Common Council meeting of January 5, 2018.**
- **Actions of the Police and Fire Commission meeting of December 5, 2017.**
 - 4. Confirmation of bills.
 - 9. Donation to PD Honor Guard.
- **Actions of the Board of Water & Sewerage Commissioners meeting of January 8, 2018.**
 - 2. Election of Officers.
 - 3. Consideration and possible action on accepting proposed ordinance language for the creation of a Community Area Network (CAN)
 - 4. Approval of department claims.
- **Actions of the Airport Commission meeting January 8, 2018.**
 - 2. Election of Officers.
 - 3. Accepting proposed ordinance.
- **Actions of the Board of Park Commissioners meeting of January 3, 2018.**
 - 3. Approval of the 2018-2022 Comprehensive Outdoor Park and Recreation Plan.
- **Actions of the Transportation Commission meeting of January 8, 2018.**
 - 2. Approval of the December 2017 financial/claims report.
 - 4. SRF Consulting Firm request to extend timeline for Transportation Development Plan to April 30, 2018.
- **Actions of the Plan Commission meeting of January 2, 2018.**
 - 3. Vacation of a portion of Cedar Street (from the railroad to Bliss Avenue) and Shaurette Street (Cypress Street to west of Maple Street). *This item still requires separate action by the Common Council after a public hearing to be held in February 2018*
 - 5. Request from Joe Klepps for a waiver from the fence guidelines at 2001 Main Street.
 - 6. Lease/license agreement between the City of Stevens Point and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for room #121 (approx. 500 sq. ft.) within 933 Michigan Avenue (Parcel ID 281240833200105) for office use.
 - 7. Certified Survey Map approval for property within and near East Park Commerce Center, north of County Highway HH and east of Venture Drive (Parcel IDs 281230801340001 & 030230801-12.01).
- **Minutes and actions of the Board of Public Works meeting of January 8, 2018.**
 - 1. Director's Report.
 - 3. To approve the Ruekert Mielke Proposal for the design of infrastructure improvements related to the East Park Commerce Center in the amount not to exceed \$372,400.00.

Ald. Ostrowski said the current fence is under 10 feet.

Ald. Shorr asked if noting the removal of the fences on the deed would free staff from performing follow up.

Dir. Ostrowski said recording the fence removal on the deed gives notice to any potential buyers in regards to what needs to happen with the fence. He recommended keeping the Plan Commission recommendation.

Ald. Shorr **moved**, Ald. Nebel seconded, to approve the permit with Plan Commission's conditions.

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

7. Resolution – Designating May 12, 2018 as International Migratory Bird Day.

Dr. Hall appreciates the continued Council and Staff support. He said after completion of the eighth year of bird City he will make a summary of what all went into this project.

Ald. Johnson **moved**, Ald. Oberstadt seconded, to approve the resolution for International Migratory Bird Day.

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

8. Resolution – Conditional Use Permit – 1925 Cypress Street - Construct a municipal service and operational facility garage (Parcel ID's 281240832300409, 281240832300408, 281240832300501, 281240832300704, 281240832300705, & 281240832300607).

Mayor Wiza said Dir. Ostrowski recommended removing the line from the resolution "and the City should work with the adjacent property owners to find suitable screening." He said even though it is removed staff will work diligently with the adjacent property owners.

Dir. Ostrowski said the language is vague and does not say if the building could move forward if the property owners and the City do not come to an agreement.

Ald. Johnson said the property owners are concerned with the project and asked if Dir. Ostrowski has spoken with them about striking the verbiage.

Dir. Ostrowski replied he has not. He said the City can work with the property owners but the current wording does not say what happens if the City and the property owners cannot come to an agreement.

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

11. Consideration of Claim-Mark Manternach-Damage to Vehicle from low-hanging branch.

Ald. Shorr **moved**, Ald. Slowinski seconded, to deny the claim.

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

12. Ordinance Amendment – Standing Rules and Officials, Boards, Employees – Amend Appointment Process for Chairpersons of the Standing Committees (Sections 2.28 and 3.14(1) of the RMC).

Ald. Jennings said this ordinance would allow Committees to select their chairpersons which leads to a more balanced and transparent government. She said by concentrating power in one entity it ends up being an autocratic process of governance rather than democratic. Ald. Jennings said she spoke with nine cities and all but one have their Committees select the chairpersons.

Ald. Jennings **moved**, Ald. Johnson seconded, to approve amending the appointment process for chairpersons of the Standing Committees, sections 2.28 and 3.14 (1) of the RMC as the City Attorney amended.

Ald. Shorr requested clarification on the last piece in the ordinance.

Mayor Wiza said the Council would have the same authority over everything like they do now. He said once his appointments to the standing committees are approved by Council, the Committees would then select their chairperson and vice-chairperson. He said once all four of the Standing Committees have selected their chair and vice chairpersons, then Council would need to affirm those appointments.

Ald. Slowinski asked if this amendment did not go through, what would be the process if the majority of the Council did not approve the Mayor's recommendations.

Mayor Wiza said the Mayor's office would shuffle the committees around taking the recommendations from Council.

Ald. Nebel asked if this would be similar to what the Commissions currently do and said she was surprised that the Council does not do the same thing.

Mayor Wiza said some of the Commissioners do this and either way it would still need to go to the Council for approval.

Kneebone, Dugan, Phillips, Morrow.
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

Mayor Wiza informed the Council that the City Attorney has prepared the language for item #8 and the Council will now move back to that item.

8. Resolution – Conditional Use Permit – 1925 Cypress Street

Attorney Beveridge said he and Dir. Ostrowski had drafted wording for the resolution. He recommended inserting, removing the struck sentence. "The City should make good faith efforts to work with the adjacent property owners to provide adequate screening."

Ald. Oberstadt **moved**, Ald. Phillips seconded, to approve the resolution as proposed.

Ald. Phillips asked if a price has been set for the building.

Mayor Wiza said the Board of Water and Sewerage has not yet gotten to that point.

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

- 15. Adjourn into closed session (approximately 8:00 P.M.) pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(e) (deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session) on the following:**
- a. Negotiating the potential purchase of the former Emerson School Site.**
 - b. Conferring with the City Attorney regarding a dispute with an insurance company regrading damage to a masonry pillar at the Lincoln Center that resulted from it being struck by a vehicle.**

Ald. Phillips **moved**, Ald. Johnson seconded, to go into closed session.

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

Council went into closed session at 8:07 p.m.

16. Reconvene into open session for possible action on the above.

The Council reconvened back into open session at 8:34 p.m.

Ald. Johnson **moved**, Ald. Nebel seconded, to allow City Staff and the Mayor to continue to work with the School District on the negotiation of the Emerson School property.

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

17. Adjournment.

Adjourned at 8:35 p.m.