

City of Stevens Point Meeting Minutes

Common Council

Monday, April 20, 2009

Mayor Andrew Halverson, presiding

PRESENT: Ald. Myers, Walther, Hanson, Wiza, Heart, Slowinski, Trzebiatowski, Molski, Stroik, Brooks, Moore

ALSO PRESENT: City Attorney Molepske, City Clerk Moe, Comptroller/Treasurer Schlice, Directors Gardner, Schrader, Popoff; GIS/Construction Mgr. Lemke, Adm. Director Morris, Assessor Siebers, Assistant to the Mayor Pazdernik, Kari Yenter, Michael O'Meara, Gene Kemmeter (Portage County Gazette), Meredith Thorn (Stevens Point Journal), Transit Manager Lemke (arrived late), Personnel Manager Jakusz (arrived late)

Index of these Minutes:

2. Salute to the Flag and Mayor's opening remarks.
3. Consideration of the minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of March 16, and the Special Common Council meeting of April 6, 2009.
4. 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.
5. Persons who wish to address the Mayor and Council for up to three (3) minutes on a non-agenda item.
6. Presentation of Tree City USA and Tree City USA Growth Awards by City Forester Todd Ernster and WI DNR Urban Forestry Coordinator Don Kissinger.
7. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Plan Commission meeting of April 6, 2009.
8. Public Hearing - Conditional Use - 1320 Strong's Avenue - Request to Extend the Liquor License Premises to Include Exterior Seating Area.
9. Consideration of Resolution on the above.
10. Consideration of Resolution - Accepting Right of Way - approximately 0.169 acres of right of way for the improvements to Business Park Drive and County Road HH.
11. Consideration of the minutes and actions taken at the Public Protection Committee meeting of April 13, 2009.
12. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Board of Public Works meeting of April 13, 2009.
13. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Finance Committee meeting of April 13, 2009.
14. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Personnel Committee meeting of April 13, 2009.
15. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Transportation Commission meeting of April 1, 2009.
16. Consideration of the Late Night Bus Agreement with the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point.
17. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Board of Water & Sewage Commissioners meeting of April 13, 2009.
18. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Police and Fire Commission meeting of April 7, 2009.
19. Consideration of the Statutory Monthly Financial Report of the Comptroller-Treasurer.
20. Remarks by Retiring Alderpersons Norm Myers Sr. and George Hanson.
21. Adjournment.

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

Mayor Halverson stated the City of Stevens Point was the first municipality to take advantage of the Build America bonds. He thanked the Comptroller-Treasurer for his hard work. The Mayor said the City of Stevens Point received an award for a lighting project that was completed at the City Streets Department. Mayor Halverson thanked the alderpersons for their efforts with the city-wide clean-up. He also thanked Ald. Myers and Ald. Hanson for their service to the City of Stevens Point.

3. Consideration of the minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of March 16, and the Special Common Council meeting of April 6, 2009.

Mary Ann Laszewski, 1209 Wisconsin Street, stated the public was barred from speaking at the Special Common Council meeting of April 6, 2009. She questions the need to improve the intersection of CTH HH and Business Park Drive. Ms. Laszewski suggested that Travel Guard stagger their work hours to accommodate the traffic concerns.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Molski seconded, approval of the regular Common Council minutes of March 16, and the Special Common Council minutes of April 6, 2009.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

4. *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.

Mary Ann Laszewski, 1209 Wisconsin Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481:

Item #3 - Regular Common Council meeting of March 16, 2009 and Special Common Council meeting of April 6, 2009

Item #5 - Persons who wish to address Mayor and Council

Reid Rocheleau, 408 Cedar Street, Whiting, WI:

Item #5 - Persons who wish to address Mayor and Council

Item #12 - Board of Public Works meeting of April 13, 2009

Kelly Krumsee, 1200 North Point Drive, Stevens Point, WI:

Item #16 - Late Night Bus Agreement with UWSP

Crystal Laabs, 212 Watson Hall, Stevens Point, WI 54481:

Item #16 - Late Night Bus Agreement with UWSP

Katie Kloth, 753 Franklin Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481:

Item #16 - Late Night Bus Agreement with UWSP

Matt Guidry, 2300A College Avenue, Stevens Point, WI 54481:
Item #16 - Late Night Bus Agreement with UWSP

Samuel Glenzer, 123 Walkins Ct., Whiting, WI:
Item #16 - Late Night Bus Agreement with UWSP

Ashley Riederer, 231 Knutzen, Stevens Point, WI:
Item #16 - Late Night Bus Agreement with UWSP

Assessor Siebers, City of Stevens Point:
Item #5 - Persons who wish to address Mayor and Council

Ald. Slowinski, District #6:
Item #5 - Persons who wish to address Mayor and Council

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

Mary Ann Laszewski, 1209 Wisconsin Street, said there is a current City policy that gives the general public the opportunity to speak at Council meetings. She said in the past year, at some select Council meetings the public has been barred from speaking at these meetings. Ms. Laszewski said she was told the reason the public was barred from speaking was because there is a goal to have as much discussion take place at the Committee or Commission level.

Reid Rocheleau, 408 Cedar Street, said the only way the City passes controversial legislation is during closed session or at special short-noticed meetings. He believes the City should have pulled out of the CTH HH and Business Park Drive project.

Assessor Siebers announced he will be locked up on Thursday to benefit the Muscular Dystrophy Association.

Ald. Slowinski announced that McDill Pond's water level will be brought back up on May 1, 2009. He thanked everyone for their efforts in improving McDill Pond.

6. Presentation of Tree City USA and Tree City USA Growth Awards by City Forester Todd Ernster and WI DNR Urban Forestry Coordinator Don Kissinger.

City Forester Todd Ernster said the City received the Wisconsin DNR Urban Forestry grant which will be used to plant 32 trees on Plover Street and Shaurette Street. He said the grant funds will also be used to develop a street/tree plan.

Don Kissinger, WI DNR Urban Forestry Coordinator, said the City of Stevens Point has received five grants since the program started in 1992. He noted trees are valuable to a community. Mr. Kissinger stated this is the 28th time the City of Stevens Point received the Tree City USA Award. He said this is also the 9th Growth Award for the City of Stevens Point.

Mayor Halverson thanked City Forester Ernster for his professionalism during the Plover Street water and sewer project.

7. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Plan Commission meeting of April 6, 2009.

Ald. Moore moved, Ald. Brooks seconded, approval of the minutes and actions taken at the Plan Commission meeting of April 6, 2009.

Roll Call: Aye all.
Nays none. Motion carried.

8. Public Hearing - Conditional Use - 1320 Strongs Avenue - Request to Extend the Liquor License Premises to Include Exterior Seating Area.

The public hearing was declared open by the Mayor.

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

9. Consideration of Resolution on the above. Resolution

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Hanson seconded, approval of the request to extend the Liquor License Premises to include exterior seating area.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Brooks, Stroik, Molski, Trzebiatowski, Slowinski, Heart, Wiza, Hanson, Walther, Myers.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

10. Consideration of Resolution - Accepting Right of Way - approximately 0.169 acres of right of way for the improvements to Business Park Drive and County Road HH. Resolution

Ald. Brooks moved, Ald. Walther seconded, approval of the resolution accepting Right of Way - approximately 0.169 acres of right of way for the improvements to Business Park Drive and County Road HH.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Myers, Walther, Hanson, Wiza, Slowinski, Trzebiatowski, Molski, Stroik, Brooks, Moore.
Nays: Ald. Heart.
Ayes - 10. Nays - 1. Motion carried.

11. Consideration of the minutes and actions taken at the Public Protection Committee meeting of April 13, 2009.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Hanson seconded, approval of the minutes and actions taken at the Public Protection Committee meeting of April 13, 2009.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

12. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Board of Public Works meeting of April 13, 2009.

Reid Rocheleau, 408 Cedar Street, said it was decided to use blacktop rather than concrete for the Fourth Avenue project. He would like to know what the quote was for blacktop last year to see if the City saved money by waiting. Mr. Rocheleau thanked Ald. Wiza for requesting to have the fencing for the dog park placed on the Board of Public Works agenda. He made a donation of \$1,000 for the dog park.

Mayor Halverson thanked Mr. Rocheleau for his contribution.

Ald. Walther moved, Ald. Myers seconded, to approve the minutes and affirm the actions of the Board of Public Works meeting of April 13, 2009.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Brooks, Stroik, Molski, Trzebiatowski, Slowinski, Heart, Wiza, Hanson, Walther, Myers.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

13. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Finance Committee meeting of April 13, 2009.

Ald. Molski moved, Ald. Hanson seconded, approval of the minutes and actions taken at the Finance Committee meeting of April 13, 2009.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Myers, Walther, Hanson, Wiza, Heart, Slowinski, Trzebiatowski, Molski, Stroik, Brooks, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

14. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Personnel Committee meeting of April 13, 2009.

Ald. Hanson moved, Ald. Wiza seconded, approval of the minutes and affirm the actions taken at the Personnel Committee meeting of April 13, 2009.

Roll Call: Ayes all.
Nays none. Motion carried.

15. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Transportation Commission meeting of April 1, 2009.

Ald. Walther moved, Ald. Stroik seconded, to approve the minutes and affirm the actions of the Transportation Commission meeting of April 1, 2009.

Roll Call: Ayes all.
Nays none. Motion carried.

16. Consideration of the Late Night Bus Agreement with the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point. Agreement

Kelly Krumsee, 1200 North Point Drive, is in favor of the late night bus agreement with UWSP. She regularly uses the bus service. Ms. Krumsee said the late night bus service will increase business to the downtown, increase safety and help the environment.

Crystal Laabs, 212 Watson Hall, is in favor of the late night bus route. She said the downtown businesses could stay open later which will create additional jobs. Ms. Laabs said the university received a grant for this service and the students will also pay for the service.

Katie Kloth, 753 Franklin Street, said the majority of the students voted in favor of a late night bus service. She said a late night bus route would be a great fit in this eco-municipality.

Matt Guidry, 2300A College Avenue, said the late night bus service will increase safety for the students.

Samuel Glenzer, 123 Walkins Court, said this is a great idea to provide business opportunities for the downtown and increase safety.

Ashley Riederer, 231 Knutzen, registered in favor but did not wish to speak.

Mayor Halverson thanked Transit Manager Lemke and Chairman Walther for their efforts.

Ald. Walther moved, Ald. Trzebiatowski seconded, to approve the Late Night Bus Agreement with UWSP.

Ald. Walther thanked Transit Manager Lemke for her time and efforts.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Brooks, Stroik, Molski, Trzebiatowski, Slowinski, Heart, Wiza, Hanson, Walther, Myers.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

17. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Board of Water & Sewage Commissioners meeting of April 13, 2009.

Ald. Slowinski moved, Ald. Heart seconded, approval of the minutes and actions taken at the Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners meeting of April 13, 2009.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Myers, Walther, Hanson, Wiza, Heart, Slowinski, Trzebiatowski, Molski, Stroik, Brooks, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

18. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Police and Fire Commission meeting of April 7, 2009.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Brooks seconded, approval of the minutes and actions taken at the Police and Fire Commission meeting of April 7, 2009.

Roll Call: Ayes all.
Nays none. Motion carried.

19. Consideration of the Statutory Monthly Financial Report of the Comptroller-Treasurer. Report

Ald. Molski moved, Ald. Trzebiatowski seconded, to accept the Statutory Monthly Financial Report of the Comptroller-Treasurer and place it on file.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

20. Remarks by Retiring Alderpersons Norm Myers Sr. and George Hanson.

Ald. Myers appreciates the professionalism of the City staff. He said it was good working with all of his peers for the past two years. The alderman appreciates Tom Mallison for running for office and his service to the City.

Ald. Hanson said it was an honor and privilege to serve the citizens of Stevens Point. He said this is great community and a great place to live.

Mayor Halverson unofficially welcomed Aldermen Elect Michael O'Meara and Tom Mallison.

21. Adjournment.

Adjournment at 8:00 p.m.

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