

Meeting Minutes

Regular City Council Meeting

February 18, 2008, 7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers, County-City Building

Mayor Andrew Halverson, presiding

Roll Call: 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, Halverson; Police Chief Morris, Fire Chief Barnes, Assessor Siebers, Personnel Specialist Jakusz, Kari Yenter, Gene Kemmeter (Portage County Gazette), Jason Zencka (Stevens Point Journal)

Index to these minutes:

2. Salute to the Flag and Mayor's opening remarks.
3. Approval of the minutes and reaffirmation of the actions taken at the Special Common Council meeting of December 14, 2007 - Closed Session - AIG Development Project.
4. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of January 21, 2008, and the Special Common Council meeting of February 11, 2008.
5. 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.
6. Persons who wish to address the Mayor and Council for up to three (3) minutes on a non-agenda item.
7. Presentation by State Senator Julie Lassa.
8. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Plan Commission meeting of February 4, 2008.
9. Public Hearing - Vacation of a portion of Mary's Drive.
10. Resolution on the above.
11. Public Hearing - Conditional Use - Request of Marion Flood, 1832 Illinois Avenue, to Construct an Addition using Traditional Neighborhood Overlay District Setback Requirements.
12. Resolution on the above.
13. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Board of Public Works meeting of February 11, 2008.
14. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Finance Committee meeting of February 11, 2008.
15. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Special Finance Committee meeting of February 18, 2008.
16. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Public Protection Committee meeting of February 11, 2008.
17. Consideration of Ordinance Amendments to Chapter 12.14 - License and Permits - pertaining to fermented malt beverage and liquor sales.
18. Consideration of Ordinance - Section 3.40(1)(a) - Creation of a Greeter Position at the Polling Places.
19. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Special Personnel Committee meeting of February 18, 2008.
20. Approval of amended minutes from the January 14, 2008 Board of Water & Sewage Commission meeting and approval of the minutes and actions taken by the Board of Water & Sewage Commission at the February 11, 2008 meeting.
21. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Police and Fire Commission meeting of February 12, 2008.
22. Consideration of the minutes and actions taken at the Transportation Commission meeting of February 7, 2008.
23. Consideration of the statutory monthly financial report of the Comptroller-Treasurer.
24. Adjournment.

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

Mayor Halverson reviewed the process and procedures for snow removal within the City of Stevens Point.

3. Approval of the minutes and reaffirmation of the actions taken at the Special Common Council meeting of December 14, 2007 - Closed Session - AIG Development Project.

City Attorney Molepske said the City received a preliminary draft of the developer's agreement. He said the developer's agreement and TIF District will be voted on at a later time.

Ald. Wiza asked if item #4 of the resolution will come out of the TIF District.

Mayor Halverson replied that is correct.

Ald. Walther moved, Ald. Trzebiatowski seconded, approval of the minutes and reaffirmation of the actions taken at the Special Common Council meeting of December 14, 2007 - Closed Session - AIG Development Project.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

4. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of January 21, 2008, and the Special Common Council meeting of February 11, 2008.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Moore seconded, approval of the minutes of the regular Common Council meeting of January 21, 2008 and Special Common Council meeting of February 11, 2008.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

5. \*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.

Elbert Rackow Item #16 - Public Protection Committee meeting of Feb. 11, 2008

1824 Gilkay Street

Stevens Point, WI 54481

Thomas Haulfmann Item #6 - Persons who wish to address Mayor and Council  
5316 Carol's Lane  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Reid Rocheleau Item #6 - Persons who wish to address Mayor and Council  
408 Cedar Street Item #20 - Board of Water and Sewage Commission meetings  
Whiting, WI

Peter Shuda Item #17 - Ordinance amendments to Chapter 12.14  
800 Third Street  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Ald. Myers Item #6 - Persons who wish to address Mayor and Council  
First District

Ald. Molski Item #6 - Persons who wish to address Mayor and Council  
Eighth District

Ald. Heart Item #6 - Persons who wish to address Mayor and Council  
Fifth District

Ald. Stroik Item #6 - Persons who wish to address Mayor and Council  
Ninth District

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

Tom Haulfmann, 5316 Carol's Lane, said a vote was taken at the Town of Hull to give the Town the authority to pursue the purchase of the land. He said the land would be developed with nine to ten owner occupied duplexes. Mr. Haulfmann believes this is an acceptable solution that the neighborhood needs.

Reid Rocheleau, 408 Cedar Street, is disappointed in the Mayor and Council for continuing to conduct public business behind closed doors. Mr. Rocheleau voiced his concerns on the development of AIG in the business park.

Ald. Myers reminded everyone to get out and vote tomorrow.

Ald. Molski announced there will be an Eighth District listening session on February 25, 2008 at Washington School between 6:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

Ald. Heart announced on February 20, 2008, there will be a public information session on the closure of East Avenue at 5:00 p.m.

Ald. Stroik announced there will be a Ninth District listening session on February 21, 2008 at the Lincoln Center from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Halverson noted he will be starting up the Mayor's television show.

7. Presentation by State Senator Julie Lassa.

Senator Lassa presented Mayor Halverson with a check in the amount of \$30,786 from the State of Wisconsin to help the City of Stevens Point stimulate job creation and economic development.

Mayor Halverson thanked the State Senator.

8. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Plan Commission meeting of February 4, 2008.

Ald. Moore moved, Ald. Molski seconded, approval of the minutes and affirm the actions taken at the Plan Commission meeting of February 4, 2008.

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

9. Public Hearing - Vacation of a portion of Mary's Drive.

The public hearing was declared open by the Mayor.

Reid Rocheleau believes the vacation of a portion of Mary's Drive should be postponed until the development for this area is finalized. He said by vacating Mary's Drive now, it would only benefit the Hofmeister family.

Mayor Halverson said the vacation of Mary's Drive is primarily to square off the road.

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

10. Resolution on the above.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Trzebiatowski seconded, approval of the vacation of a portion of Mary's Drive as listed in the resolution.

Ald. Wiza said it was his understanding that this was only a public hearing in the event that the City may need to vacate the road depending on what is developed on the property. He was under the impression that no action would be taken this evening.

Mayor Halverson said the resolution as presented will be voted on tonight.

City Attorney Molepske said it could be delayed. He said the forty day waiting period has expired since the publication so it can be acted on this evening.

Ald. Wiza replied so it is not necessary to approve this because no one has any idea what is going to be developed on the property.

Mayor Halverson said it is his understanding that the vacation of this portion of Mary's Drive would make it easier to develop anything.

Ald. Stroik said this will not change the emergency exit.

Ald. Wiza asked if emergency vehicles need more than one way in and out.

Ald. Moore asked if only the cul-de-sac is being eliminated.

Director Gardner replied that is correct.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Myers, Walther, Hanson, Heart, Slowinski, Trzebiatowski, Molski, Stroik, Brooks, Moore.

Nays: Ald. Wiza.

Ayes - 10. Nays - 1. Motion carried.

11. Public Hearing - Conditional Use - Request of Marion Flood, 1832 Illinois Avenue, to Construct an Addition using Traditional Neighborhood Overlay District Setback Requirements.

The public hearing was declared open by the Mayor.

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

12. Resolution on the above.

Ald. Molski moved, Ald. Myers seconded, approval of the request to construct an addition using Traditional Neighborhood Overlay District setback requirements.

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 Board of Public Works meeting of February 11, 2008.

Ald. Walther moved, Ald. Brooks seconded, approval of the minutes and affirm the actions taken at the Board of Public Works meeting of February 11, 2008.

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 Finance Committee meeting of February 11, 2008.

Ald. Molski moved, Ald. Moore seconded, approval of the Finance Committee minutes of February 11, 2008.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

15. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Special Finance Committee meeting of February 18, 2008.

Clerk Moe read the minutes of the Special Finance Committee meeting of February 18, 2008.

Ald. Moore moved, Ald. Molski seconded, to approve the minutes and affirm the actions taken at the Special Finance Committee meeting of February 18, 2008.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Brooks, Stroik, Molski, Trzebiatowski, Slowinski, Heart, Wiza, Hanson, Walther, Myers.

Nays: Nays. Motion carried.

16. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Public Protection Committee meeting of February 11, 2008.

Elbert Rackow, 1824 Gilkay Street, is available for any questions on deer culling.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Trzebiatowski seconded, approval of the minutes and actions taken at the Public Protection Committee meeting of February 11, 2008.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

17. Consideration of Ordinance Amendments to Chapter 12.14 - License and Permits - pertaining to fermented malt beverage and liquor sales.

Peter Shuda, 800 Third Street, voiced his concerns on extending the hours for alcohol sales. He said the City needs to put public safety before someone's profits.

Ald. Trzebiatowski moved, Ald. Stroik seconded, to approve the ordinance amending Municipal Code 12.14.

Ald. Stroik said the ordinance amendment will bring the City in line with county-wide ordinances.

Ald. Brooks asked if the Police Chief foresees any patterns or problems.

Chief Morris does not believe the ordinance amendment will worsen the situation. He said the City will be consistent with the county.

Ald. Myers asked what the closing hours are.

Mayor Halverson said alcohol cannot be sold between the hours of 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m.

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

18. Consideration of Ordinance - Section 3.40(1)(a) - Creation of a Greeter Position at the Polling Places.

Clerk Moe said this will allow him to bring in an additional person to assist with the elections.

Ald. Trzebiatowski moved, Ald. Hanson seconded, to approve the creation of the Greeter position under Section 3.40(1)(a).

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

Clerk Moe announced the voting area at Jefferson School has been moved to the back of the school and voting at McKinley School will take place on the southeast side of the school.

Mayor Halverson noted the polling location for the Third District has been moved to the University Center.

19. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Special Personnel Committee meeting of February 18, 2008.

Clerk Moe read the minutes of the Special Personnel Committee meeting of February 18, 2008.

Ald. Hanson moved, Ald. Moore seconded, approval of the minutes and affirm the actions taken at the Special Personnel Committee meeting of February 18, 2008.

Ald. Wiza noted that he voted against the motion because it did not include the ratio of two days for one day of sick time.

Ald. Stroik commented that there have been a lot of special meetings. He would like the City to try to avoid these meetings because they are not inviting to the public.

Mayor Halverson agrees with the Alderman and is trying not to have so many special meetings.

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

20. Approval of amended minutes from the January 14, 2008 Board of Water & Sewage Commission meeting and approval of the minutes and actions taken by the Board of Water & Sewage Commission at the February 11, 2008 meeting.

Reid Rocheleau is concerned with the process the Water Department uses to adjust customers' bills. He said it is costing the City money.

Ald. Moore moved, Ald. Slowinski seconded, to affirm the actions and approve the amended minutes from the January 14, 2008 Board of Water and Sewage Commission meeting and the minutes and actions of the February 11, 2008 meeting.

Ald. Wiza asked Director Halverson if adjusting the bills is common practice with households and businesses.

Director Halverson said the Water and Sewage Department has a Sewer Adjustment policy. She said each situation is looked at individually. The Director stated any adjustment over \$2,000 has to be brought before the Water and Sewage Commission.

Ald. Stroik does not think the City should be responsible for the problem at Wal-Mart.

Ald. Myers said the water should have been shut off since the building is vacant.

Ald. Wiza moved, Ald. Heart seconded, to pull item #4 from the Board of Water and Sewage Commission meeting minutes for further discussion.

The following is the vote on the motion to pull item #4:

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

The following is the vote on the original motion:

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

Ald. Moore asked if the only discount is on the sewer portion.

Director Halverson said that is correct.

Ald. Moore asked how large the water bill is compared to the sewer bill.

Director Halverson said it is \$1.01 for every 100 cubic feet.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Myers seconded, to deny the sewer charge adjustment.

Ald. Myers is afraid the discount will set a precedent.

Director Halverson said residential adjustments have been done for years. She said the policy authorizes her to do this up to a \$2,000 limit.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

21. Consideration of minutes and actions taken at the Police and Fire Commission meeting of February 12, 2008.

Ald. Slowinski moved, Ald. Wiza seconded, approval of the minutes and affirm the actions taken at the Police and Fire Commission meeting of February 12, 2008.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

22. Consideration of the minutes and actions taken at the Transportation Commission meeting of February 7, 2008.

Ald. Walther moved, Ald. Slowinski seconded, approval of the minutes and affirm the actions taken at the Transportation Commission meeting of February 7, 2008.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

23. Consideration of the statutory monthly financial report of the Comptroller-Treasurer.

Ald. Myers moved, Ald. Moore seconded, to approve the statutory monthly financial report of the Comptroller-Treasurer.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

24. Adjournment.

Adjournment at 8:15 P.M.

The meeting minutes reproduced on this website are derived from the computer files used to produce the official minutes for the City of Stevens Point, but are unofficial. The minutes on this web site cannot be certified under s. 889.08, Wis. Stats., and cannot be considered prima facie evidence under s. 889.04, Wis. Stats. Certain tables, maps, and other documents that are a part of the official minutes are not included in the files reproduced on this website. Please consult the printed minutes, available in the City Clerk's Office, for the official text. The decisions made by City of Stevens Point boards, committees, and commissions (other than the Police & Fire Commission) are advisory only and are not binding on the City until affirmed at a meeting of the Common Council. Some of the minutes on this web site might not be approved by the Common Council as of today.

Bottom of Form