

Meeting Minutes

Regular City Council Meeting

January 16, 2006, 7:00 P.M.

Council Chambers, County-City Building

Mayor Gary W. Wescott, presiding Roll Call: Present: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Hanson, Wiza, Robinson, Barr, Trzebiatowski, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore

Also Present: City Clerk Moe, Comptroller/Treasurer Schlice, Directors Gardner, Schrader, Halverson; Police Captain Dowling, Fire Chief Barnes, Transit Manager Lemke, Kari Yenter, Portage County Senior Planner Schuler, Sarah Wallace (Portage County Planning and Zoning), Gene Kemmeter (Portage County Gazette), Heather Clark (Journal)

Index to these minutes:

2. Salute to the flag and Mayor's opening remarks.
3. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of December 19, 2005.
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. Update on Downtown Main Street Program by Ron Blaha and Jami Gebert.
6. Public Hearing - Comprehensive Plan.
7. Ordinance on the above.
8. Plan Commission meeting of January 3, 2006.
9. Public Hearing - Request to rezone approximately 15 acres of land along Dubai Avenue west of Reserve Street from R-LD Low Density to Planned Development District #3.
10. Ordinance on the above.
11. Public Hearing - Request to construct Rest Home and Home for the Aged on Amber Avenue between Woodland Street and Sandpiper Drive as a conditional use.
12. Resolution on the above.
13. Public Hearing - Request to amend "B-2" CBD Transition District to include Halfway Houses and Correctional Facilities as a conditional use.
14. Ordinance on the above.

15. Preliminary Plat for the Second Addition to Heffron Woods Subdivision.
16. Resolution amending Sewer Service District - NW corner of DuBay Avenue and Reserve Street (20 acres).
17. Resolution amending Sewer Service District - bounded by Canadian National Railroad, Brilowski Road, County Highway HH, and west boundary line of the Town of Stockton (640 acres).
18. Public Protection Committee meeting of January 9, 2006.
19. Personnel Committee meeting of January 9, 2006.
20. Board of Public Works meeting of January 9, 2006.
21. Jurisdictional Transfer - Brilowski Road.
22. Finance Committee meeting of January 9, 2006.
23. Board of Park Commissioners meeting of January 4, 2006.
24. Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners meeting of January 9, 2006.
25. Reports: Police and Fire Commission meetings of December 21, 2005 and January 10, 2006. Statutory monthly financial report of the Comptroller-Treasurer.
26. Comprehensive report on transit operations by Transit Manager Lemke.
27. Persons who wish to address the Mayor and Council for up to three (3) minutes on a non-agenda item.
28. Adjournment.

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

Mayor Wescott noted this is the day that our nation sets aside to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. King encouraged everyone to remember that all labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance.

Mayor Wescott stated this year is going to be an incredibly busy year as the City carries forward with the tremendous momentum established in 2005. Mayor Wescott reviewed a number of upcoming projects for the next 90 days in the City of Stevens Point.

3. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of December 19, 2005.

Ald. Barr moved, Ald. Stroik seconded, for approval of the regular Common Council minutes of December 19, 2005.

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.

C. J. Robinson Item #27 - Persons who wish to address Mayor and Council

1600 Fremont Street

Stevens Point, WI 54481

Update on Downtown Main Street Program by Ron Blaha and Jami Gebert was moved to item #7 by consent of Mayor Wescott and the Council.

5. Public Hearing - Comprehensive Plan, was declared open by the Mayor.

Director Gardner said the planning for the comprehensive plan has been a public process which started in August, 2001. By state law, the City of Stevens Point is required to have a comprehensive plan in order to enforce the regulations.

Elbert Rackow, 1824 Gilkay Street, stated the staff has done a remarkable job of refining and assembling the material for the plan. Mr. Rackow

thanked and congratulated the staff for all their hard work. The comprehensive plan is a fine product of a long and thorough process. He urged adoption of this plan.

George Rogers, 1032 Ridge Road, said his main concern is the protection and conservation of the water. We must keep contamination away from the river. Wetlands are also important because they store water. Cooperation between local governments is necessary.

Bob Woehr, 727 Second Street, commended the staff for creating a fine comprehensive plan. Mr. Woehr does have one concern with the truck route on Second Street that is included in the plan. There is not a way to get off the Second Street truck route other than to go on roads that are not truck routes.

Mayor Wescott replied the Police Department is looking into this concern.

Portage County Senior Planner Schuler thanked the Council and Plan Commission members for their involvement. It is valuable to work together. The comprehensive plan is flexible.

Mayor Wescott stated the comprehensive plan is clearly the centerpiece of the community development planning process. The plan states the community's goals and outlines policies for guiding this community for years to come.

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

6. Ordinance on the above.

Ald. Moore moved, Ald. Barr seconded, for adoption of the ordinance.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Trzebiatowski, Barr, Robinson, Wiza, Hanson, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

7. Update on Downtown Main Street Program by Ron Blaha and Jami Gebert.

Ron Blaha, President of Association of Downtown Businesses, thanked the Council for the opportunity to share the progress of the downtown.

Jami Gebert, Main Street Manager, read the new mission and vision statement for the downtown. A web site has been developed for the downtown businesses. Ms. Gebert reviewed several of the events that had taken place downtown.

Mr. Blaha said the downtown is alive and well with a lot going on. He said the opening of the east entrance to the downtown has been very successful. Mr. Blaha named numerous successful changes, improvements, activities and events that have happened downtown. Additional jobs have been created downtown.

Ms. Gebert created a guide to recruit businesses downtown. There is less vacant space downtown today than two years ago but there is always room for improvement. Ms. Gebert's goal is to bring in new businesses from outside Portage County.

Mayor Wescott said with all the facts, it is impressive what is going on downtown. We now have far less vacant space downtown.

Ald. Sevenich asked how long the Main Street program will last.

Jami Gebert said the Main Street program started in June, 2004. When applying for the program, you must find your own funding for three years. At this time, they are looking at alternate sources for funding to continue the program for more than three years.

8. Plan Commission meeting of January 3, 2006.

Ald. Barr moved, Ald. Moore seconded, for approval of the Plan Commission minutes of January 3, 2006.

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

9. Public Hearing - Request to rezone approximately 15 acres of land along Dubay Avenue west of Reserve Street from R-LD Low Density to Planned Development District #3, was declared open by the Mayor.

Larry Stuczynski, 1280 North Reserve Drive, is concerned with the zoning change due to the fact that his business is directly to the west of the proposal. Mr. Stuczynski operates a stone crushing and recycling business on his land. The zoning change would create more people in this area. His business does create noise, dust and truck traffic which are major concerns. If the zoning change is approved, Mr. Stuczynski would like to see fencing or containment to keep people from wondering onto his property to observe his operation.

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

10. Ordinance on the above.

Mayor Wescott said the request to rezone the land along Dubay Avenue west of Reserve Street was a topic of lengthy discussion at the Plan Commission meeting.

Ald. Trzebiatowski questioned the number of conditions.

Director Gardner said the ordinance includes all the concerns raised at the Plan Commission meeting.

Ald. Moore moved, Ald. Barr seconded, for adoption for the ordinance.

Ald. Stroik asked if Mr. Stuczynski's property will be in jeopardy of being down zoned as a result of this request.

Director Gardner said the property in question is not in the city and is not subject to city zoning. The Portage County Board of Adjustments placed five conditions on the stock pile operation. One condition is the hours of operation. Another condition is if the piles reach a certain height or become unsightly, the board can request that the piles be crushed. Director Gardner noted the developer's latest site plan changed the placement of the buildings. The developer is also planning on planting trees.

Ald. Stroik asked since this was discussed at the Plan Commission meeting and tonight, is it appropriate for the City to take a proactive stance saying that they knew when we allowed this development there could potentially be a noise problem. The City would not want this to have a harmful effect on Mr. Stuczynski's business.

Director Gardner stated it is already part of the record.

Ald. Sevenich asked if the capacity issue is for the sewer.

Mayor Wescott said there is not a capacity issue. The Mayor discussed this issue with the Director of Public Works. After the city's engineering review and an independent engineering review, they do not believe there is an issue with capacity.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Hanson, Wiza, Robinson, Barr, Trzebiatowski, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

11. Public Hearing - Request to construct Rest Home and Home for the Aged on Amber Avenue between Woodland Street and Sandpiper Drive as a conditional use, 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. Trzebiatowski moved, Ald. Molski seconded, for adoption of the resolution.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Trzebiatowski, Barr, Robinson, Wiza, Hanson, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

13. Public Hearing - Request to amend "B-2" CBD Transition District to include Halfway Houses and Correctional Facilities as a conditional use, was declared open by the Mayor.

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

14. Ordinance on the above.

Ald. Moore moved, Ald. Sevenich seconded, for adoption of the ordinance.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Hanson, Wiza, Robinson, Barr, Trzebiatowski, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

15. Preliminary Plat for the Second Addition to Heffron Woods Subdivision.

Ald. Barr moved, Ald. Trzebiatowski seconded, for adoption of the Resolution - Preliminary Plat for the Second Addition to Heffron Woods Subdivision as presented.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Trzebiatowski, Barr, Robinson, Wiza, Hanson, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

16. Resolution amending Sewer Service District - NW corner of DuBay Avenue and Reserve Street (20 acres).

Larry Stuczynski, 1280 North Reserve Drive, stated sewer and water services were installed to the Eagle Point subdivision at no cost to the city. There was a verbal agreement with the former Director of Public Works that anyone who hooked up to the services that they would pay a fair reimbursement. Since this time, Harmony I has hooked up and no compensation has been made. Now, Harmony II is looking at connecting to the services and Mr. Stuczynski would like this request tabled until we can determine what is a fair assessment. Why should one developer pay the entire costs of the sewer and water project that was originally designed for Eagle Point. Mr. Stuczynski would like written documentation stating he is not liable if the sewer fails.

Mayor Wescott said when the Director of Public Works in a staff report to the alderpersons signed off that there is sufficient capacity, this is providing that record. To amend the Sewer Service District is a lengthy process, this will give Mr. Stuczynski ample time to continue to work with the owners of the property for financial compensation.

Ald. Moore moved, Ald. Wiza seconded, for adoption of the resolution.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Hanson, Wiza, Robinson, Barr, Trzebiatowski, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

17. Resolution amending Sewer Service District - bounded by Canadian National Railroad, Brilowski Road, County Highway HH, and west boundary line of the Town of Stockton (640 acres).

Ald. Sevenich moved, Ald. Hanson seconded, for adoption of the resolution.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Trzebiatowski, Barr, Robinson, Wiza, Hanson, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

18. Public Protection Committee meeting of January 9, 2006.

Ald. Sevenich moved, Ald. Stroik seconded, for approval of the Public Protection Committee minutes of January 9, 2006.

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

19. Personnel Committee meeting of January 9, 2006.

Ald. Molski moved, Ald. Robinson seconded, for approval of the Personnel Committee minutes of January 9, 2006.

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

20. Board of Public Works meeting of January 9, 2006.

Ald. Sevenich moved, Ald. Wiza seconded, for approval of the Board of Public Works minutes of January 9, 2006

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Hanson, Wiza, Robinson, Barr, Trzebiatowski, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

21. Jurisdictional Transfer - Brilowski Road.

Ald. Trzebiatowski moved, Ald. Molski seconded, to accept the Jurisdictional Transfer - Brilowski Road.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Trzebiatowski, Barr, Robinson, Wiza, Hanson, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

22. Finance Committee meeting of January 9, 2006.

Ald. Barr moved, Ald. Molski seconded, for approval of the Finance Committee minutes of January 9, 2006.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Hanson, Wiza, Robinson, Barr, Trzebiatowski, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

23. Board of Park Commissioners meeting of January 4, 2006.

Ald. Wiza moved, Ald. Robinson seconded, for approval of the Board of Park Commissioners minutes of January 4, 2006.

Ald. Wiza pointed out that the City of Stevens Point was awarded the Tree City USA award for the 25th year.

Mayor Wescott commended the Forestry Department for their exceptional work.

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

24. Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners meeting of January 9, 2006.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Wiza seconded, for approval of the Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners minutes of January 9, 2006.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Trzebiatowski, Barr, Robinson, Wiza, Hanson, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

25. Reports:

Police and Fire Commission meetings of December 21, 2005 and January 10, 2006.

Statutory monthly financial report of the Comptroller-Treasurer.

Ald. Wiza moved, Ald. Trzebiatowski seconded, to accept the reports and place them on file.

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

26. Comprehensive report on transit operations by Transit Manager Lemke.

Mayor Wescott announced the comprehensive report on transit operations will be postponed until the February Council meeting.

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

C. J. Robinson thanked the residents and businesses of Stevens Point for their support of the Boys and Girls Club.

28. Adjournment - 8: 15 P.M.

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Bottom of Form