

Meeting Minutes

Regular City Council Meeting

April 18, 2005, 7:00P.M.

Council Chambers, County-City Building

Mayor Gary W. Wescott, presiding Roll Call: Present: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Markham, Wiza, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore

Also Present: City Attorney Molepske, City Clerk Kranig, Comptroller/Treasurer Schlice, Directors Gardner, Schrader, Euclide, Halverson; Police Chief Morris, Fire Chief Barnes, Administrative Assistant Ostrowski, Kari Yenter, City Forester Ernster, Don Kissinger (DNR), Gene Kemmeter (Portage County Gazette), Kelly McBride (Journal)

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2. Salute to the flag and Mayor's opening remarks.
3. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of March 21, 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.
5. Tree City USA and Tree City USA Growth Awards.
6. Plan Commission meeting of April 4, 2005.
7. Public Hearing - rezone 548 Second Street North from "B-4" Commercial zoning to "R-2" Single Family zoning.
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10. Resolution on the above.
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22. Resolution terminating Tax Incremental Finance District #3.
23. Ordinance - recodification of existing ordinances to conform to new numbering of the Wisconsin Statutes.
24. Board of Park Commissioners meeting of April 6, 2005.
25. Resolution - Outdoor Recreation Aids.
26. Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners meeting of April 11, 2005.
27. Reports: Police and Fire Commission meeting of April 12, 2005.  
Statutory monthly financial report of the Comptroller-Treasurer.  
Transportation Commission meetings of April 7, 2005 and April 14, 2005.
28. Farewell remarks: A. Ald. Markham. B. Ald. Sowieja. C. Ald. Rackow.  
D. City Clerk Kranig.
29. Persons who wish to address the mayor and council for up to three (3) minutes on a non-agenda item.
30. Adjournment.
  2. Salute to the flag and Mayor's opening remarks.

Mayor Wescott led the salute to the flag.

3. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of March 21, 2005.

Ald. Barr moved, Ald. Sowieja seconded, for approval of the regular Common Council minutes of March 21, 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 #20 - Finance Committee meeting of 04-11-05  
1600 Fremont Street  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Joe Elia Item #15 - Public Protection Committee meeting of 04-11-05  
Aces Food and Spirits  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Jim Guzman Item #20 - Finance Committee meeting of 04-11-05  
Guzman Corporation  
Stevens Point, WI 54481

Reid Rocheleau Item #6 - Plan Commission meeting of 04-04-05  
Village of Whiting Item #20 - Finance Committee meeting of 04-11-05  
Item #29 - Persons who wish to address Mayor and Council

5. Tree City USA and Tree City USA Growth Awards.

City Forester Ernster said the City of Stevens Point will be receiving the Tree City USA and Tree City USA Growth awards. Urban trees are very

important and benefit our community.

Urban Forestry Coordinator Don Kissinger, Wausau, said this is the 24th year that the City of Stevens Point has received the Tree City USA award. The City of Stevens Point was one of the first five cities to receive the award. There are four standards a city is required to meet before receiving the Tree City USA award including: 1) a Park Board, 2) tree ordinance, 3) \$2 per capita for Forestry related items, 4) Arbor Day observance and proclamation. The Tree City USA Growth award which the City of Stevens Point has received for the past six years is more difficult to obtain. The City of Stevens Point has done an outstanding job.

Mayor Wescott congratulated City Forester Ernster, staff and Director Schrader for their great work.

6. Plan Commission meeting of April 4, 2005.

Ald. Sowieja moved, Ald. Stroik seconded, for approval of the Plan Commission minutes of April 4, 2005.

Reid Rocheleau voiced his concerns about the Plan Commission minutes of the February 7, 2005. Mr. Rocheleau is concerned that the minutes are not word for word.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

7. Public Hearing - rezone 548 Second Street North from "B-4" Commercial zoning to "R-2" Single Family zoning, was declared open by the Mayor.

David A. Suchon, 318 West Casimir Road, plans to divide his lot on Second Street North into two parcels. The entire lot is currently zoned commercial. Mr. Suchon would like to keep the south side portion of the lot commercial and rezone 548 Second Street North to "R-2" single family so he can build a home.

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

8. Ordinance on the above.

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

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Markham, Wiza, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

9. Public Hearing - construct a storage building at 540 Second Street North as a conditional use, was declared open by the Mayor.

Dave Suchon, 318 West Casimir Road, is asking to construct a storage building as a conditional use. The plans and size of the building have yet to be determined.

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

10. Resolution on the above.

Ald. Rackow moved, Ald. Molski seconded, for adoption of the resolution.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Rackow, Barr, Sowieja, Wiza, Markham, Walther, Sevenich.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

11. Public Hearing - allow consumption of alcohol in exterior volleyball court at 916 Maria 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. Rackow moved, Ald. Markham seconded, for adoption of the resolution.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Markham, Wiza, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

13. Resolution - acceptance of land donation - West River Drive and West McDonald Drive.

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

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Rackow, Barr, Sowieja, Wiza, Markham, Walther, Sevenich.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

14. Resolution - acceptance of road dedication - Portage County Business Park.

Mayor Wescott asked that the Council consider granting the Mayor and City Clerk the authority to negotiate the exact location of the road in the Industrial Park.

Director Gardner said the purchaser of the property is requesting to relocate the road slightly but the exact location is not determined. The Portage County Planning office is in the process of negotiations with the buyer and asked the City to make this exception. The closing date for this property will be before the Council meets again.

Mayor Wescott said if the road deviation is not significant, the Council can grant the authority to the Mayor and Clerk.

Ald. Rackow moved, Ald. Molski seconded, for adoption of the resolution with the provision that the Mayor and City Clerk have the authority to negotiate the exact location of the street.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Markham, Wiza, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

15. Public Protection Committee meeting of April 11, 2005.

Ald. Rackow moved, Ald. Walther seconded, for approval of the Public Protection Committee minutes of April 11, 2005.

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

16. Ordinance - satellite receiving stations.

Ald. Markham moved, Ald. Wiza seconded, for adoption of the ordinance.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Rackow, Barr, Sowieja, Wiza, Markham, Walther, Sevenich.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

17. Board of Public Works meeting of April 11, 2005.

Ald. Sowieja moved, Ald. Barr seconded, for approval of the Board of Public Works minutes of April 11, 2005.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Markham, Wiza, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

18. Preliminary Resolution - sanitary sewer, water main, appurtenant services and area assessment - Norway Pine Drive.

Ald. Molski moved, Ald. Wiza seconded, for adoption of the preliminary resolution.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Rackow, Barr, Sowieja, Wiza, Markham, Walther, Sevenich.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

19. Ordinance - Traffic: Parking lot behind 1016 Main Street.

Ald. Sevenich moved, Ald. Markham seconded, for adoption of the traffic ordinance.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Markham, Wiza, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

20. Finance Committee meeting of April 11, 2005.

Ald. Barr moved, Ald. Sowieja seconded, for approval of the Finance Committee minutes of April 11, 2005, with item #8 pulled for further review.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Rackow, Barr, Sowieja, Wiza, Markham, Walther, Sevenich.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

C. J. Robinson, 5th District Alderman Elect, said the neighbors are supportive of this development. Mr. Robinson would like to see more green space incorporated with this development as well as a fence constructed at the rear of the facility.

Mayor Wescott said these items are likely to be discussed as part of the conditional use.

Reid Rocheleau, Village of Whiting, noted the false information published in the Stevens Point Journal that the southside city-owned property was already purchased by the Colligans. Mr. Rocheleau is concerned that the development is too large for the area. There is not enough parking and the parking in the front of the development will block the view.

Jim Guzman, Guzman Corporation, is here as a resource. As per city code for that size building, 27 parking stalls are required. 37 parking stalls will be provided.

Ald. Sowieja moved, Ald. Walther seconded, to approve the sale of the southside property to Colligans Bakery for \$90,000 providing the project obtain a conditional use.

Ald. Sowieja feels the Colligan Bakery is a good fit for the neighborhood. The development requires a conditional use which entitles the City to make specific requirements.

Ald. Rackow urged approval of the sale of land to Colligans Bakery. This development should be a good compliment for this area and inspire other owners to improve their property.

Ald. Walther said the City has a chance to make some progress on the southside. This development is too important to turn down.

Ald. Molski said the development will be an asset to the southside as well as the entire city.

Ald. Barber asked if the land is already sold and was told it is not.

Ald. Barber is concerned about trucks backing from the street into the loading dock at the bakery.

Director Gardner said a few site plans have been reviewed and the loading dock is in different locations. A final decision has not been made.

Ald. Barber questioned the location of water drainage, dumpsters, fencing and lighting.

Director Gardner said the storm sewer will be located in the parking area. The latest site plan shows a dumpster enclosure included with the building facade. The specifics will be up to the Plan Commission and Council to decide.

Ald. Barber asked if the truck route is known.

Director Gardner said the truck route is on Business 51. The deliveries would be off of either Madison Street or Dixon Street.

Ald. Barber asked if the City contacted Colligans to purchase this property or did they contact the City.

Director Gardner replied, they contacted us.

Ald. Barber asked if they decide not to build, can the City take back the property.

City Attorney Molepske said as part of the conditional use provision, they would be required to build right away.

Ald. Sevenich said there are a couple of high priced properties in her district that have been up for sale for a long time. The city's tax base does not increase if the land is not developed.

Ald. Wiza is glad to see a bakery in this area.

Ald. Moore said the City has had a bad rap as being difficult to work with in bringing new business. We have an opportunity to show we can work with them.

Ald. Stroik said this is a potential \$900,000 development once it is completed. It is equal or higher in value than the buildings it replaces.

Mayor Wescott noted that the City does not have a public purpose for this property.

Director Euclide agreed that this land is not needed for construction staging.

Director Halverson agreed that the land is not needed.

Mayor Wescott is very supportive of this development. The City of Stevens Point's economy must grow in order to maintain the broad variety of municipal services.

Roll call on item #8 of the Finance minutes:

Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Markham, Wiza, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Stroik, Moore.

Nays: Ald. Barber.

Ayes - 10. Nays - 1. Motion carried.

21. Resolution terminating Tax Incremental Finance District #1.

Ald. Molski moved, Ald. Stroik seconded, for adoption of the resolution.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Rackow, Barr, Sowieja, Wiza, Markham, Walther, Sevenich.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

22. Resolution terminating Tax Incremental Finance District #3.

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

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Markham, Wiza, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

23. Ordinance - recodification of existing ordinances to conform to new numbering of the Wisconsin Statutes.

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

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Barber, Stroik, Molski, Rackow, Barr, Sowieja, Wiza, Markham, Walther, Sevenich.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

24. Board of Park Commissioners meeting of April 6, 2005.

Ald. Wiza moved, Ald. Sevenich seconded, for approval of the Board of Park Commissioners meeting minutes of April 6, 2005.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

25. Resolution - Outdoor Recreation Aids.

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

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Markham, Wiza, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Stroik, Barber, Moore.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

26. Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners meeting of April 11, 2005.

Ald. Wiza moved, Ald. Stroik seconded, for approval of the Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners meeting minutes of April 11, 2005.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

27. Reports:

Police and Fire Commission meeting of April 12, 2005.

Statutory monthly financial report of the Comptroller-Treasurer.

Transportation Commission meetings of April 7, 2005 and April 14, 2005.

Ald. Walther moved, Ald. Moore seconded, to accept the reports and place them on file.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

28. Farewell remarks:

A. Ald. Markham.

B. Ald. Sowieja.

C. Ald. Rackow.

D. City Clerk Kranig.

Ald. Markham thanked her fellow council members for the privilege of serving with them. She thanked all the city staff members who turn the Council's ideas into reality. The alderperson also thanked the citizens of the Third District for the opportunity to represent them for the past two years. Ald. Markham reported on the importance of safe drinking water. The City of Stevens Point has wonderful drinking water. To maintain the high quality of our drinking water, we must continue to properly control the land uses near the well fields and the river.

Mayor Wescott presented retiring Ald. Markham with a plaque.

First, Ald. Sowieja thanked everyone for their help in the past four years. It was a pleasure to work with everyone. Leadership and courage are exemplified in every decision you make. Ald. Sowieja wished Alderman Elect Christopher Robinson the best of luck. The Alderman thanked his family and friends for their support. Lastly, Ald. Sowieja thanked his constituents that believed in his leadership and were gracious enough to cast a vote for him.

Mayor Wescott presented retiring Ald. Sowieja with a plaque.

Ald. Rackow was thankful for the opportunity to address the Council. During his term in office as alderman, there were three mayors and 26 alderpersons other than the ones currently in office. Ald. Rackow recited some of the noteworthy projects that he had the pleasure of working on including the Water Street Study of 1995, Metropolitan Bicycle/Pedestrian plan of 1997, annexation of Fairview Village, renewal of the Cable Communications Franchise Agreement of June 17, 2002, Boundary Adjustment with the Town of Plover, and the Lincoln Center project. The alderman thanked the residents of the Seventh District and his wife for all of their support. Ald. Rackow wished the new Council the best of luck.

Mayor Wescott recited and presented retiring Ald. Rackow with a plaque.

City Clerk Kranig said it was a pleasure to return to City Hall to see old friends and meet new alderpersons and staff. The city is in very capable hands of the Mayor, Council and dedicated staff. Clerk Kranig thanked everyone for making this past year easy and enjoyable. The Clerk looks forward to retirement having the knowledge that all is well in this wonderful city that she is proud to call home.

Mayor Wescott presented retiring City Clerk Kranig with a plaque.

29. Persons who wish to address the mayor and council for up to three (3) minutes on a non-agenda item.

Reid Rocheleau, Village of Whiting, voiced his concerns on the sale of the city-owned land located on the southside of the city. Mr. Rocheleau also voiced his concern on the make-up of the city's commissions and boards.

30. Adjournment - 8:25 P.M.

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