

Meeting Minutes

Public Protection Committee

Monday, November 14, 2005, 6:00 P.M.

City Water Department, 300 Bliss Avenue Present: Ald. Sevenich, Stroik, Hanson, Trzebiatowski, Barber.

Also Present: Mayor Wescott, C/T Schlice, Clerk Moe, City Attorney Molepske, Ald. Walther, Wiza, Robinson, Barr, Molski, Moore, Chief Morris, Capt. Ruder, Chief Barnes, Director Euclide, Director Gardner, Director Halverson, Director Schrader, Assessor Kuehn, Personnel Specialist Jakusz, Reid Rocheleau, Ron Michaels, Elizabeth LaRose, Mike Phillips, Kurt Orlikowski, Gene Kemmeter (Gazette).

Index to these minutes:

1. Recommendation on license list.
 2. Ordinance - Keg Registration.
 3. Recommendation of the October 2005 Inspection Report: A. Construction Starts. B. Violations.
 4. Adjournment.
1. Recommendation on License List.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Barber seconded, approval of the license list. Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried.

2. Ordinance - Keg Registration.

Ald. Hanson reviewed the proposal and stated some changes were made in response to suggestions from other alderpersons. He stated the changes were that one of the forms of identification would need to be a picture identification, that the limit on the sale of kegs was removed, and that the time period to keep records was reduced to one year.

Ald. Wiza asked if the proposal needed a findings section like the smoking ordinance did.

City Attorney Molepske stated that it did not because Ch. 125 of the State Statutes permits the city to be more restrictive.

Ald. Wiza asked what was meant by "as well as provide for orderly, compatible, livable neighborhoods."

City Attorney Molepske stated that subsection was more of an afterthought or preamble and was not essential.

Ald. Walther asked if an individual purchased a keg outside of the city would they be in violation.

City Attorney Molepske stated that all they would have to do is register the keg with the Police Department.

Ald. Sevenich reviewed the correspondence from Premium Brands, Portage County Health Department, and a resolution from the UW-Stevens Point Student Government. She also spoke about an article in the paper discussing UW System's problem with student drinking and the proposals they are working on to solve that problem.

Mike Phillips, 3225 Mary Street, asked if the commemorative kegs being sold by the Point Brewery would need to be registered.

Ald. Sevenich said yes they would have to be registered.

Ald. Trzebiatowski stated he read an article in the Inside Higher Education newsletter that stated that last year UW-Madison had 17 kids sent to detox and that this year they have sent over 30. He went on to say that he contacted both the UW-Madison Police and City of Madison Police Departments and asked what they thought of a keg registration and they felt that a nuisance law would be more productive. He concluded saying that he thought it would just shift kids to stronger alcoholic drinks and expose them to more danger. He said he was not in favor of this proposal.

Capt. Ruder stated that this proposal in itself would not prevent kids from drinking, but it would assist the department in finding where the parties are happening and the individuals that are responsible for holding the party. He concluded, as Ald. Trzebiatowski stated that this is a tool to hold people accountable.

Ald. Stroik expressed concern that if the city enacts this proposal without the surrounding communities also implementing it, the students will just make their purchases outside the city. If the police come, the kids would run and the police would be no closer to solving who purchased the keg and supplied the party. He concluded that he believes the concept of the proposal could be a good tool, but the way it is currently written is not correct.

Chief Morris said that someone needs to be the leader on this issue. This proposal was requested by the constituency that is most effected by it and the Student Government Association passed a resolution in support of this. This proposal is not perfect. But it is another tool that the Police Department can use to help control problem drinking. He concluded that the AODA will be approaching the surrounding communities to adopt similar ordinances.

Ald. Hanson reiterated that this proposal was not aimed at stopping parties but to hold those people having the parties accountable for the actions of their guests.

Ald. Robinson asked if kegs are transferable.

Ald. Hanson replied the individual that signed for the kegs would be held responsible.

Ald. Sevenich stated that this proposal is a good tool and that the city needs it especially since it was brought forward by constituents and supported by other organizations and health institutions of the area. She felt that surrounding communities would follow Stevens Point's lead.

Ald. Sevenich moved, Ald. Hanson seconded, to forward the proposal to the Common Council for approval.

Ald. Stroik asked if there could be an extension on the effective date to 60 days. He said the time would allow other communities to adopt similar ordinances. He concluded that otherwise if we enact this proposal without them following our lead, we would just be hurting our businesses here in Stevens Point.

Ald. Sevenich felt that 30 days was adequate.

Vote on motion before the Committee: Ayes, Sevenich, Hanson; Nays, Stroik, Trzebiatowski, Barber. Motion fails.

Ald. Stroik moved, Ald. Trzebiatowski seconded, adoption of proposal with an amendment of an effective date of January 15, 2006. Ayes, Hanson, Trzebiatowski, Stroik; Nays, Sevenich, Barber. Motion carried.

3. Recommendation of the October 2005 Inspection Report:

A. Construction Starts.

B. Violations.

Ald. Sevenich moved, Ald. Stroik seconded, approval of the Inspection Report for October 2005. Ayes, all; nays, none. Motion carried

Meeting adjourned at 6:24 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