

Meeting Minutes

Regular Council Meeting

Council Chambers - County/City Building

March 17, 2003, 7:00P.M.

Mayor Gary W. Wescott, presiding Roll Call: Present: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Filipiak, Seiser, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Nealis, Phillips, Moore

Also Present: Comptroller/Treasurer Schlice, City Attorney Molepske, City Clerk Zdroik, Directors Van Alstine, Gardner, Schrader, Disher; Police Chief Carpenter, Fire Chief Barnes, Transit Manager Lemke, Personnel Specialist Jakusz, Fleet Maintenance Supervisor Laidlaw, Administrative Assistant Gebert, Kari Yenter, Kate Garsombke (Journal), Gene Kemmeter (Portage County Gazette), Nikki Montgomery (WSAU)

Index to these minutes:

1. Roll Call
2. Salute to the flag and Mayor's opening remarks.
3. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of February 17, 2003.
4. Persons who wish to address the mayor and council on specific agenda items other than a "Public Hearing"
5. Plan Commission meetings of February 24, 2003 and March 3, 2003.
6. Resolution - Final Plat of Godfrey's Point on Della Street.
7. Public Protection Committee meeting of March 10, 2003.
8. Board of Public Works meeting of March 10, 2003.
9. Ordinance - Traffic: 9.06(a) 738. For east and westbound traffic on Rice Street at the Canadian National Railroad tracks.
10. Public hearing - new or replacement of sanitary sewer laterals and/or water services and/or storm sewer laterals - for properties fronting upon both sides of Main Street from Rogers Street to Minnesota Avenue and for properties fronting upon both sides of Main Street from Minnesota Avenue to 300 feet east of Frontenac Avenue.
11. Final Resolution on the above.
12. Special Board of Public Works meeting of March 17, 2003.
13. Finance Committee meeting of March 10, 2003.
14. Personnel Committee meeting of March 10, 2003.
15. Board of Park Commissioners meeting of March 5, 2003.
16. Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners meeting of March 10, 2003.
17. Reports:
Police and Fire Commission meeting of March 11, 2003.
Comptroller-Treasurer's reports - December 2002 and January 2003.
18. Persons who wish to address the mayor and council for up to three (3) minutes on non-agenda item.
19. Adjournment.

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

Mayor Wescott announced a significant improvement in the City of Stevens Point's ISO rating. The Mayor is pleased to report the City of Stevens Point is now Class III which is a dramatic difference from Class V that the City used to be. He congratulated the Fire and Water Departments for their excellent job.

Mayor Wescott congratulated the City Forestry Department. The City of Stevens Point has again been named the 2002 Tree City and Growth Award recipient.

Mayor Wescott reported the City of Stevens Point has already started appropriate security precautions in light of the world events.

3. Approval of the minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of February 17, 2003.

Ald. Phillips moved, Ald. Seiser seconded, for approval of the Regular Common Council minutes of February 17, 2003.

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.

None.

5. Plan Commission meetings of February 24, 2003 and March 3, 2003.

Ald. Rackow moved, Ald. Molski seconded, for approval of the Plan Commission minutes of February 24, 2003 and March 3, 2003.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

Ald. Nealis abstained on item #4 of the Plan Commission minutes of March 3, 2003 and indicated he is in favor of the remainder of the minutes.

6. Resolution - Final Plat of Godfrey's Point on Della Street.

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

Ald. Seiser opposes the proposed plat because it includes a variance to the city ordinance.

Ald. Filipiak also opposes the final plat. The alderman feels there is a better use for this land.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Nealis, Phillips, Moore.

Nays: Ald. Filipiak, Seiser.

Ayes - 9. Nays - 2. Motion carried.

7. Public Protection Committee meeting of March 10, 2003.

Ald. Phillips moved, Ald. Sevenich seconded, for approval of the Public Protection Committee minutes of March 10, 2003.

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

8. Board of Public Works meeting of March 10, 2003.

Ald. Walther moved, Ald. Sowieja seconded, for approval of the Board of Public Works minutes of March 10, 2003.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Phillips, Nealis, Molski, Rackow, Barr, Sowieja, Seiser, Filipiak, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

9. Ordinance - Traffic:

9.06(a) 738. For east and westbound traffic on Rice Street at the Canadian National Railroad tracks.

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

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Filipiak, Seiser, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Nealis, Phillips, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

10. Public hearing - new or replacement of sanitary sewer laterals and/or water services and/or storm sewer laterals - for properties fronting upon both sides of Main Street from Rogers Street to Minnesota Avenue and for properties fronting upon both sides of Main Street from Minnesota Avenue to 300 feet east of Frontenac Avenue, was declared open by the Mayor.

Marc Buttera, 1817 Main Street, asked if the residents' services will be interrupted during the project and will the owners be notified if the services are interrupted? Mr. Buttera would also like to know if the project includes both water and sewer services?

Director Van Alstine replied the project will include the replacement of both water and sewer services. The Water Department will provide a temporary water line so there will be minimal time without water services. The sewer services will not be interrupted.

Marc Buttera asked if the property owners will be notified when the water services will be interrupted?

Director Van Alstine stated it will be a slow process so the property owners will be able to see when the work will be done in front of their property.

Marc Buttera asked how the payment of the assessment for this project is handled?

Director Van Alstine said a notice will be sent from the City Clerk's Office that will give the property owners three options to pay the assessment. The options include paying the full assessment in 30 days, five annual installments or ten annual installments.

Ald. Phillips asked what are the property owners responsible for paying for?

Director Van Alstine said if the water lateral is any material other than cast iron or plastic, the property owners would pay the replacement cost of the lateral. If the sanitary sewer is anything other than cast iron or plastic, the property owners would pay the replacement cost.

Ald. Phillips said the property owners will not pay for anything that goes across the front of their property. They only pay for the cost of the services from the street to their building.

Director Van Alstine said that is correct.

Ald. Seiser asked what are some of the substances of the laterals that will be replaced?

Director Van Alstine said most of the older water services are galvanized iron or black iron. The sewer laterals could be paper pipe coated with tar or clay.

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

11. Final Resolution on the above.

Ald. Rackow moved, Ald. Nealis seconded, for adoption of the final resolution.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Phillips, Nealis, Molski, Rackow, Barr, Sowieja, Seiser, Filipiak, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

12. Special Board of Public Works meeting of March 17, 2003.

No bids were received for the Donald Copps Pool Replacement/Regutter project, therefore, no action was taken.

13. Finance Committee meeting of March 10, 2003.

Ald. Barr moved, Ald. Phillips seconded, for approval of the Finance Committee minutes of March 10, 2003.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Filipiak, Seiser, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Nealis, Phillips, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

14. Personnel Committee meeting of March 10, 2003.

Ald. Rackow moved, Ald. Molski seconded, for approval of the Personnel Committee minutes of March 10, 2003.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Filipiak, Seiser, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Nealis, Phillips, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

15. Board of Park Commissioners meeting of March 5, 2003.

Ald. Molski moved, Ald. Seiser seconded, for approval of the Board of Park Commissioners minutes of March 5, 2003.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Phillips, Nealis, Molski, Rackow, Barr, Sowieja, Seiser, Filipiak, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

16. Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners meeting of March 10, 2003.

Ald. Sowieja moved, Ald. Moore seconded, for approval of the Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners minutes of March 10, 2003.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Filipiak, Seiser, Sowieja, Barr, Rackow, Molski, Nealis, Phillips, Moore.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

17. Reports:

Police and Fire Commission meeting of March 11, 2003.

Comptroller-Treasurer's reports - December 2002 and January 2003.

Ald. Nealis moved, Ald. Seiser seconded, to accept the reports and place them on file.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

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

Ald. Filipiak reminded the citizens of Stevens Point that the Council passed a resolution urging the United States government to work through the United Nations Security Council. Unfortunately, it does not sound like the our government will be doing that. The alderman is terrified with the fact that the United States is moving forward without the world community supporting us.

Ald. Sowieja feels the majority of the United States citizens are remaining silent. The alderman thinks this is the time for those that believe the government is doing the right thing to speak up. Iraq has not obeyed any of the signed treaties or resolutions.

Ald. Nealis received a lot of comments and grief from his constituents reference the resolution passed by the Council opposing war with Iraq.

19. Adjournment - 7:25 P.M.

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Bottom of Form