

Meeting Minutes
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
Council Chambers
January 17, 2000
County-City Building
7:00 P.M.

Mayor Gary W. Wescott, presiding

Roll Call: Present: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Pazdernik, Perlak, Kedrowski, Barr, Rackow, Aldinger, Nealis, Phillips, Niedbalski
Also Present: Comptroller-Treasurer Schlice, City Attorney Molepske, City Clerk Zdroik, Directors Gardner, Van Alstine, Schrader; Police Chief Carpenter, Water/Sewage Adm. Disher, Assessor Kuehn, County Personnel Director Freiberg, Adm. Asst. Bumgarner, Kari Yenter, Susan Kampmeier (Journal), Mike Kemmeter (WIZD), Gene Kemmeter (Portage County Gazette)

2. Salute to the flag and prayer.

In honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the third Monday in January, Martin Luther King Jr. day is known as a day of community service.

3. Approval of minutes of the Regular Common Council meeting of December 20, 1999.

Ald. Walther moved, Ald. Rackow seconded, to approve the regular council minutes of December 20, 1999.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

4. *Persons who wish to address the mayor and council on specific agenda items.

Those who wish to address the Common Council on an agenda item labeled as a "Public Hearing" are not required to identify themselves.

Bernie Coerper Item #5 - Plan Commission meeting of January 3, 2000

1400 W River Drive Item #6 - Ordinance-amending building codes

Stevens Point WI 54481

Reid Rocheleau Item # 5 - Plan Commission meeting of January 3, 2000

Village of Whiting resident Item #11 - Resolution-Railroad Quiet Zone

Item #17 - Board of Park Commissioners meeting of January 5, 2000

5. Plan Commission meeting of January 3, 2000.

Ald. Kedrowski moved, Ald. Phillips seconded, to adopt and affirm the Plan Commission minutes of January 3, 2000, with items #6 and #7 pulled for further discussion.

Ald. Nealis asked since this item is not scheduled for a public hearing until February, can this item be discussed?

City Attorney Molepske said Alderman Kedrowski can speak on the item tonight but no action or vote will be taken this evening.

Mayor Wescott informed the council members action on this item will be taken in February when the public hearing is scheduled. Any member of the council has the right to discuss this item.

Bernie Coerper, 1400 W. River Drive, said the setback requirements will make it more difficult for homes to be built. In fairness to the affected property owners, notification should have been sent to the property owners.

Mayor Wescott once again reminded the council members the ordinance will be presented at the February meeting.

Reid Rocheleau stated there is not much difference between a 5-foot sideyard setback and a 10-foot sideyard setback. Mr. Rocheleau said increasing the setback from 5 feet to 10 feet is not solving what you are trying to do here.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

Item #6 - Parkwood 6th Addition

Ald. Kedrowski is concerned with the vacation of Glacier Drive.

Ald. Kedrowski moved, Ald. Phillips seconded, to deny the vacation of 174.5 feet of Glacier Drive east of Olympia Avenue.

Ald. Kedrowski compared this situation as being similar to the Echo Dells and Coon Avenue situation. The alderman suggested making Glacier Drive a through-street, if this is not possible at least a pedestrian walkway.

Director Gardner stated if Glacier Drive was constructed east of Olympia Avenue, it would require the removal of one of the largest trees in the area and the elimination of one lot. There are both pros and cons to the vacation of Glacier Drive. The introduction to the vacation of Glacier Drive will be presented to the council in February.

Ald. Kedrowski asked if the vote this evening is on the preliminary plat plan?

Director Van Alstine stated most of the traffic flow is traveling to the north and west not south and east.

Ald. Kedrowski asked if it would help to put in water lines?

Director Van Alstine explained the placement of the water lines.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Walther, Pazdernik, Perlak, Kedrowski, Phillips.

Nays: Ald. Sevenich, Barr, Rackow, Aldinger, Nealis, Niedbalski.
Ayes -5. Nays - 6. Motion defeated.

Item #7 - Amend sideyard setback requirement "B-4" commercial district

Ald. Kedrowski asked if the only option would be to approve or deny the ordinance at next month s public hearing?

City Attorney Molepske stated the ordinance can only be amended to be less restrictive than presented.

Ald. Kedrowski said not all setbacks fit each situation. The setback restrictions should be determined according to the height of the building.

Ald. Phillips proposed making setbacks proportional to the building height. The alderman suggested a 45 degree angle from the eave of the building to the property line. For instance, a 20-foot building would need a 20-foot setback, the alderman said.

Mayor Wescott stated the Plan Commission recommended a 10-foot sideyard setback. This recommendation can either be accepted, amended to a lesser restrictive setback or vote to reject and send it back to the Plan Commission.

City Attorney Molepske agreed with Mayor Wescott as to the options of the council.

Ald. Nealis suggested the City move with caution when determining setback requirements. The setback requirements could have a negative impact for some property owners.

Ald. Kedrowski asked would it be a proper motion to return this item to the Plan Commission for further study?

City Attorney Molepske said it is a proper motion.

Mayor Wescott asked Alderman Phillips was the proposed setback proportional to the building height addressed at the Plan Commission meeting?

Ald. Phillips stated it was not.

Mayor Wescott ruled the motion in order.

Ald. Kedrowski moved, Ald. Phillips seconded, to refer Ald. Phillip s proposal of a consistent 45 degree angle from the property line to the eave the building to the Plan Commission for further study.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Phillips, Rackow, Barr, Kedrowski, Perlak, Pazdernik, Walther.

Nays: Ald. Niedbalski, Nealis, Aldinger, Sevenich.

Ayes - 7. Nays - 4. Motion carried.

6. Ordinance - amending Subsections (4) and (5) of Section 30.01 - Building Codes.
(This ordinance will adopt Wisconsin Administrative Building Codes and amends parking lot requirements.)

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

Bernie Coerper addressed the parking issues for his properties and stated he lost some parking spaces due to the road construction on the west side which is a hardship for him. Mr. Coerper has a building permit to construct a commercial building five feet from a residentially zoned property. He asked that his proposed building be grandfathered.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Niedbalski, Phillips, Nealis, Aldinger, Rackow, Barr, Kedrowski, Perlak, Pazdernik, Walther, Sevenich.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

7. Public Protection Committee meeting of January 10, 2000.

Ald. Niedbalski moved, Ald. Walther seconded, for approval of the Public Protection Committee minutes of January 10, 2000.

Roll Call: Ayes all.

Nays none. Motion carried.

8. Ordinance - amending Section 21.13 - Building and Premises Maintenance Occupancy Code - Service Charge. (This ordinance will increase the \$10 fee to \$25 on secondary inspections.)

Ald. Rackow moved, Ald. Aldinger seconded, for adoption of the ordinance.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Pazdernik, Perlak, Kedrowski, Barr, Rackow, Aldinger, Nealis, Phillips, Niedbalski.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

9. Ordinance - amending Section 21.16 - Building and Premises Maintenance and Occupancy Code - Parking Violations. (This ordinance will eliminate appeal of parking violations to the Public Protection Committee.)

Ald. Niedbalski moved, Ald. Nealis seconded, for adoption of the ordinance.

Ald. Kedrowski asked for an explanation for the change in the procedure to appeal parking violations.

Currently, parking violations issued by a police officer go through the traffic court for appeals, parking violations issued by a city inspector go to the Public Protection Committee for an appeal, Mayor Wescott stated.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Pazdernik, Perlak, Kedrowski, Barr, Rackow, Aldinger, Nealis, Phillips, Niedbalski.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

10. Board of Public Works meeting of January 10, 2000.

Ald. Perlak moved, Ald. Pazdernik seconded, for approval of the Board of Public Works minutes of January 10, 2000.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Niedbalski, Phillips, Nealis, Aldinger, Rackow, Barr, Kedrowski, Perlak, Pazdernik, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

11. Resolution - Railroad Quiet Zone - pilot program.

Reid Rocheleau asked if railroad crossing gates will be installed on Country Club Drive?

Mayor Wescott stated that is correct.

Reid Rocheleau expressed concern about the city's eligibility for the pilot program due to the unprotected railroad crossings at Prairie, Wood, and Tamarac Streets.

Mayor Wescott read a portion of a railroad article from the Stevens Point Sunday Journal. The pilot program would create a railroad quiet zone and also enhance safety in the City. The Mayor said this is an excellent opportunity for the City to explore with the Federal Railroad Commission how a quiet zone can be established in the Stevens Point area.

Ald. Kedrowski agrees with a study of the railroad crossings on the streets west of Water Street. If the City eliminated the railroad crossings on Tamarac, Prairie, and Wood Streets, about 25 percent of the crossing whistle blowing would cease.

Mayor Wescott warned on not getting our hopes up too high. The federal, state and local governments will be working together with the railroad. The Mayor stated this may happen quickly or we may have to work on this at the city level. The resolution for the pilot program is an innovative and creative idea.

Ald. Nealis moved, Ald. Walther seconded, for adoption of the resolution.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Niedbalski, Phillips, Nealis, Aldinger, Rackow, Barr, Kedrowski, Perlak, Pazdernik, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

12. Ordinance - Traffic Studies:

A. #99-11-A - Create a No Parking Zone - Area of the Intersection of Michigan Avenue and Jefferson Street.

B. #99-11-B - Create Two-Hour Parking Zone on South Side of Prais Street - Michigan Avenue East to Clayton Avenue.

C. #99-11-C - Create Two-Hour Parking Zone on North and South Side of Peck Street from Michigan Avenue to Clayton Avenue.

D. #99-11-D - Create a No Parking Zone - East Side of Alley - 900 Block of Main Street.

Ald. Rackow moved, Ald. Walther seconded, for adoption of the traffic ordinances.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Pazdernik, Perlak, Kedrowski, Barr, Rackow, Aldinger, Nealis, Phillips, Niedbalski.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

13. Finance Committee meeting of January 10, 2000.

Ald. Barr moved, Ald. Sevenich seconded, to adopt and affirm the Finance Committee minutes of January 10, 2000.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Pazdernik, Perlak, Kedrowski, Barr, Rackow, Aldinger, Nealis, Phillips, Niedbalski.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

14. Personnel Committee meeting of January 10, 2000.

Ald. Pazdernik moved, Ald. Rackow seconded, for approval of the Personnel Committee minutes of January 10, 2000.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Niedbalski, Phillips, Nealis, Aldinger, Rackow, Barr, Kedrowski, Perlak, Pazdernik, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

15. Ratification of the 1999 and 2000 Labor Agreement with AFSCME, Local 309, Streets and Parks.

Ald. Rackow moved, Ald. Kedrowski seconded, to ratify the 1999 and 2000 labor agreement with AFSCME, Local 309, Streets and Parks.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Pazdernik, Perlak, Kedrowski, Barr, Rackow, Aldinger, Nealis, Phillips, Niedbalski.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

16. Ratification of the 1999 and 2000 Labor Agreement with AFSCME, Local 348, Clerical and Related.

Ald. Walther moved, Ald. Sevenich seconded, to ratify the 1999 and 2000 labor agreement with AFSCME, Local 348, Clerical and Related.

Ald. Pazdernik asked for a clarification of the "Related" portion of the AFSCME, Local 348, Clerical and Related.

Mayor Wescott answered some of the Engineering Department employees and technicians are included in this union.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Pazdernik, Perlak, Kedrowski, Barr, Rackow, Aldinger, Nealis, Phillips, Niedbalski.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

17. Board of Park Commissioners meeting of January 5, 2000.

Reid Rocheleau suggested the City reconsider purchasing the property adjacent to the north of Morton Park.

Ald. Kedrowski moved, Ald. Aldinger seconded, to adopt and affirm the Board of Park Commissioners minutes of January 5, 2000, with item #4 pulled for further discussion.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Sevenich, Walther, Pazdernik, Perlak, Kedrowski, Barr, Rackow, Aldinger, Nealis, Phillips, Niedbalski.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

Ald. Kedrowski urged the council to consider purchasing the property to the north of Morton Park because the amount of green space in this area is limited.

Ald. Rackow said when the property becomes available, the city should take advantage of the opportunity to purchase it. The City only has the opportunity to purchase property when the property is up for sale.

Director Schrader stated the Park Commission had also recommended against the purchase of the property to the north of Morton Park because the long range park plan calls for purchasing the properties to the south of Morton Park, along Bush Street. The Director is concerned if the funding will be available if the City purchased the property to the north of the park and should the opportunity to purchase the property to the south of the park become available. The City faces the possibility of having to pay relocation costs for the person renting the property.

City Attorney Molepske said the City will have the possibility of facing relocation costs.

Director Schrader said this is the cost of adding park land to the inner city.

Ald. Kedrowski said he is comfortable voting on this item without knowing the costs.

Ald. Nealis said the land s location along Patch Street is not ideal for a park. The alderman suggested purchasing park land on the east side of city, where we can purchase more land for our money.

Ald. Niedbalski moved, Ald. Phillips seconded, to affirm the action taken at the Park Commission meeting of January 5, 2000, not to purchase the property at 2417 Patch Street, north of Morton Park.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Niedbalski, Phillips, Nealis, Barr, Perlak, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: Ald. Aldinger, Rackow, Kedrowski, Pazdernik.
Ayes - 7. Nays - 4. Motion carried.

18. Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners meeting of January 10, 2000.

Ald. Aldinger moved, Ald. Phillips seconded, for approval of the Board of Water and Sewage Commissioners minutes of January 10, 2000.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Niedbalski, Phillips, Nealis, Aldinger, Rackow, Barr, Kedrowski, Perlak, Pazdernik, Walther, Sevenich.
Nays: None. Motion carried.

19. Reports of various officers and commission.

Comptroller-Treasurer s report - November 1999.

Police and Fire Commission minutes of January 10, 2000.

Ald. Rackow moved, Ald. Phillips seconded, to place the reports on file.

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

20. Persons who wish to address the mayor and council on non-agenda items.

Mayor Wescott introduced 8th ward alderperson candidates, Tony Patton and Marge Molski.

21. Adjournment - 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.