

**CITY OF STEVENS POINT
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Council Chambers
County-City Building
1516 Church St.**

**April 15, 2019
7:00 P.M.**

Mayor Mike Wiza, Presiding

PRESENT: Ald. Jennings, Shorr, Oberstadt, Johnson, Slowinski, Kneebone, Dugan, McComb, Phillips, Morrow.

EXCUSED: Ald. Nebel.

OTHERS

PRESENT: Clerk Piotrowski, Attorney Beveridge, C/T Ladick, Police Chief Skibba, Fire Chief Finn, Dir. Schrader, Dir. Lemke, Dir. Ostrowski, Dir. Beduhn, H/R Manager Jakusz, Mayoral Assistant Pazdernik, Marissa Loew, Joe Bachman – Portage County Gazette, Brandi Makuski – Metro Wire.

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

Mayor Wiza said Jim Oliva is going to be retiring from Trivia in the next couple of years. He said Jim Oliva did the Trivia contest out of passion, which is why the elected official in that room do their job, passion. Mayor Wiza said this is why people do things, to help others.

3. *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.

Mayor Wiza reminded citizens to register at this time.

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

Jessica Hilgers, 1608 West River Drive, said she works at the Family Crisis Center. She said the Family Crisis Center serves people who are at their worst traumatic moments, but are moving towards prevention. Ms. Hilgers spoke about upcoming event the Family Crisis Center is having for Sexual Assault Awareness month. She said if anyone wants to receive more information on what the Family Crisis Center does they can go to capservices.org, go to the Family Crisis Center which is open 24/7, or can call their phone number which is manned 24/7 at 715-343-7125.

5. Presentations to the Mayor and Council: by Todd Kuckkahn, Portage County Business Council Annual Report.

Mr. Kuckkahn said the Business Council is concerned with retention and attraction of businesses and employees. He talked about the Business Council's new website, everythingpointshere.com. Mr. Kuckkahn talked about Inspire Central Wisconsin, which allows high school and college students to do research on businesses. He discussed how the Supply Chain Marketplace can help businesses purchase supplies from local companies. Mr. Kuckkahn said the Portage County Business Council is putting a lot of focus on talent, attraction and retention rather than advertising.

Consideration and Possible Action on the Following:

6. Consent Agenda:

- **Minutes of the Common Council meeting of March 18, 2019.**
- **Actions of the Police and Fire Commission meeting of March 05, 2019.**
 - 4. **Confirmation of Bills.**
- **Actions of the Plan Commission meeting of April 1, 2019.**
 - 5. **Request from Graphic House Incorporated, representing Associated Bank, for a sign variance to construct two freestanding signs that are closer than the required separation distance, taller than the current height requirements, and larger than the current size requirements at 5597 US Highway 10 East (Parcel ID 2408-35-1400-10).**
- **Actions of the Personnel Committee meeting of April 8, 2019.**
 - 1. **Request to hire LTE Clerical Support-Fire Department.**
- **Minutes and Actions of the Board of Public Works meeting of March 11, 2019.**
 - 2. **To award the Whiting Avenue Reconstruction Project #19-09 to Stuczynski Trucking & Excavating Inc., Stevens Point in the amount not to exceed \$757,743.79.**
- **Minutes and Actions of the Public Protection Committee Meeting of March 11, 2019.**
 - 1. **License List.**
 - 2. **Temporary Class "B" / Class "B" License (Picnic).**
 - 3. **Class "B" Fermented Malt Beverage and Class "C" Wine License.**
 - 4. **Change of Agent.**
 - 5. **Extended Premises Permit.**
 - 6. **Requests to Hold Events.**
 - 7. **Bee Keeping License.**
- **Minutes and Actions of the Finance Committee meeting of April 8, 2019.**
 - 1. **Reject Claim – pothole damage.**
 - 2. **Approval of Claims Paid.**
- **Actions of the Transportation Commission meeting of April 8, 2019.**
 - 2. **Approval of February 2019 financial/claims report.**
 - 4. **Approval to move forward with the bus procurement process for two (2) Gillig buses, one (1) paratransit bus, and one (1) rural bus.**
- **Actions of the Airport Commission of April, 10, 2019.**
 - 2. **Discussion and Action on department claims.**
- **Actions of the Board of Water and Sewerage Commissioners meeting of April 10, 2019.**
 - 2. **Discussion and possible action on department claims.**
 - 3. **Discussion and action on awarding the Sanitary Sewer Lining Project #19-10 to Visu-Sewer of Pewaukee, WI in the amount not to exceed \$212,948.35.**

4. Discussion and action on approving quote from Hydro-Klean of Rogers, MN to perform sewer spot lining repairs in the amount not to exceed \$13,000.00
 5. Discussion and action on awarding the Lift Station Upgrade Project #19-03 to Pember Companies of Menomonie, WI in the amount not to exceed \$2,047,457. 50.
 6. Report on Water distribution and supply operations.
 7. Report on Collection System Maintenance.
 8. Report on Sewage Treatment Operations.
 9. Discussion and action on the purchase and installation of a new backup generator for the Waste Water Treatment Plant.
 10. Report on Stormwater/ CAN operations.
- Statutory Monthly Financial Report by Comptroller/Treasurer.
 - Mayoral Appointment – Scott Beduhn as Interim Director of Parks, Recreation, Forestry and Community Media.

Ald. Dugan **moved**, Ald. Oberstadt seconded, to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Ald. Dugan said she is happy that the Plan Commission recommended that tourist rooming houses get licensed by the state. She said she hopes the City requires a limited number of tourist rooming houses in a neighborhood. Ald. Dugan suggested the City sets up a separate building code and a property maintenance compliance for these houses.

Mayor Wiza said the current rooming houses are inspected and are in compliance with state and municipal standards.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Jennings, Shorr, Oberstadt, Johnson, Slowinski, Kneebone, Dugan, McComb, Phillips, Morrow.
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

7. Approve 2019-2020 tentative agreement with the Stevens Point Police Officers Organization.

Ald. Morrow **moved**, Ald. Kneebone seconded, to approve the 2019-2020 tentative agreement with the Stevens Point Police Officers organization.

Ald. Phillips said he believes the City of Stevens Point residents want a faster response time. He said we want the officers to be a part of the community. Ald. Phillips said he thinks the City is moving in the wrong direction.

Ald. Dugan said she agrees with Ald. Phillips. She said she is concerned that a lot of the Police and Fire Department employees may not be a part of the community and are missing out on what Stevens Point really is.

Ald. Jennings said she agrees in principal but this is State regulated and Council cannot mandate this.

Ald. Kneebone said she hopes that officers would want to live in the City but knows that it might be nice to get away from a stressful workplace. She said just because someone lives outside of the City does not mean they will not be invested in the community. Ald. Kneebone said she does not see this as a bad thing.

Ald. McComb said the City is having issues filling positions and said she is confident this will help.

Mayor Wiza said the City has around 250 dedicated employees and some of which do not live within the geographical boundary of the City. He said not living in the City does not make them less apart of the community.

Chief Skibba said with improved communications and scheduling in advance officers rarely respond from their homes. He said in case of emergencies they do rely on the Sherriff's Department, Plover, and State Patrol, as those departments rely on the City as well.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Morrow, McComb, Kneebone, Slowinski, Johnson, Oberstadt, Shorr, Jennings.
Nays: Phillips, Dugan. Motion adopted.

8. Ordinance Amendment –Traffic- 9.05 (g), (i), (k)and (u) regarding No Parking, No Parking During School Hours, Loading Zones and Parking Reserved for Handicapped Persons.

Ald. Jennings said she had questions at the Board of Public Works meeting on Monday in regards to adding handicapped parking near the proposed pharmacy on Main Street. She said she does not feel Dir. Beduhn had enough time to evaluate the project. Ald. Jennings asked Dir. Beduhn if he sees a problem with the accessible parking and if he would continue further evaluation.

Dir. Beduhn said he found something that was convenient and said if Council was not satisfied then he could do further research and come up with a plan.

Ald. Jennings **moved**, Ald. Johnson seconded, to approve the ordinance amended and post pone action on Section 6.

Attorney Beveridge suggested that the motion not be to postpone because changes are going to be made to ordinance amendment.

Mayor Wiza asked Ald. Jennings if the ultimate goal is to get handicapped parking closer to the proposed pharmacy.

Ald. Jennings said she wants a thorough evaluation of the corridor for best accessible parking on Main Street.

Mayor Wiza asked if that would forego the existing proposal.

Ald. Jennings said the image that was presented at the Board Public Works meeting was a specific site and thought this needed more time to be reviewed.

Mayor Wiza asked Ald. Jennings if she is against the spot where it is now.

Ald. Jennings replied yes and said it is not ideal and may not allow for flexibility.

Mayor Wiza said he talked with Dir. Beduhn and said this spot was the quickest and easiest to put in since the access isle and ramp for the curb are already in place. He said because the ordinance amendment will change, he suggested taking Attorney Beveridge's advice and approving all but article 6.

Ald. Jennings said that is fine with her, but she already made a motion.

Mayor Wiza suggested Council votes down the current motion, and make a second motion to approve everything except article 6.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: None.
Nays: All. Motion denied.

Ald. Kneebone **moved**, Ald. Johnson seconded, to approve the ordinance amendment except for section 6 related to section 9.06 (u) of the RMC.

Ald. Johnson suggested to reach out to Dir. Piotrowski at the ADRC for guidance with this project.

Ald. Kneebone suggested Karalyn Perterson at Mid-State Independent Living Consultants as a resource.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Jennings, Shorr, Oberstadt, Johnson, Slowinski,
Kneebone, Dugan, McComb, Phillips, Morrow.
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

9. Ordinance Amendment – Traffic- Creating Section 9.14(7) Traffic Control Attendants.

Ald. Oberstadt **moved**, Ald. Slowinski seconded, to approve the ordinance amendment regarding traffic, creation of section 9.14 (7) Traffic Control Attendants.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Morrow, Phillips, McComb, Dugan, Kneebone,
Slowinski, Johnson, Oberstadt, Shorr, Jennings.
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

10. Resolution – Creating of Tax Incremental Finance District 10, Approving its Project Plan and Establishing its Boundaries.

Cara Adams, 2117 Main Street, said she is against creating TIF District 10 because it is fiscally irresponsible. She said voting for a TIF today ties the hands of policy makers of the future. Ms. Adams said development would be a better alternative over incentives.

Jerome Segura III, 2117 Main Street, said he is against TIF Districts because they fail to deliver, they do not create anything that would have been developed anyways. He said it only raises tax rates.

Trevor Roark, 601 Washington Avenue, said a lot of projects were approved to start this summer that rely on TIF. He suggested that the City waits to see how these projects do before starting another TIF project. Mr. Roark said the residents of Stevens Point should ask to see the math before anymore TIFs are developed. He said the math is the City's Expenses + Debt Service + Infrastructure Liability vs. Tax Revenue. Mr. Roark said if the City continues to expand outwards and not watch the debt service, the City will never become fiscally solvent. He suggested to fix the current infrastructure and increase walkability.

C/T Ladick said he researched how TIF municipalities did compared to non-TIF municipalities over the past five years and found that TIF municipalities had double the rate of property tax base increases. He said percentage wise, City of Stevens Point is the fastest growing in Portage County. He said the City looks at each development agreement and thinking about the costs and if they are going to get enough extra property tax maintenance in return.

Dir. Ostrowski said the City verifies they have the revenues before they start incurring project related costs.

Ald. Jennings asked Dir. Ostrowski if he could explain why the City does not use the resources for other things.

Dir. Ostrowski said the costs occurred are paid for by the increment that is generated from the projects. He said these projects will generate the revenues for the projects.

Ald. Kneebone asked C/T Ladick if the base rate will increase if property assessments increase.

C/T Ladick said the tax rate in TIF districts will be the same as outside of the TIF districts. He said the municipality will set the base value to the fair market value. C/T Ladick said if the value increases then the funds will go into the TIF district if approved by all taxing jurisdictions.

Ald. Phillips asked if Mr. Segura is employed with the University.

Mayor Wiza confirmed with Ms. Adams that Mr. Segura is self-employed and no longer works for the University.

Ald. Shorr said TIF projects are vitally needed for the growth in a community. He said the Lullaby site sat vacant for 11 years and a TIF incentive was needed for a development.

Ald. Shorr said Council takes a lot of time to review and think about the cases in regards to development.

Mayor Wiza reminded everyone that they are just approving the creation of TIF 10 and not approving any projects. He said any projects will come through Council at a later date.

Ald. Dugan said she is very proud of what Council and City staff has done so far.

Ald. Morrow said he is not a big fan of TIFs, but with how the laws are imposed by the State the City has to become more creative with ways to keep the revenue needed to fund basic Public Services.

Ald. McComb said she talked with Dr. Segura and has researched Tax Incentive Funding. She said after her research she found economists giving caution with Tax Incentives and Funding. Ald. McComb said she talked with City staff and found that the City already does what economists suggests and more. She said the money used for the developments in TIF districts come from the developments themselves, and that is why it cannot be used elsewhere.

Ald. Phillips asked if the undeveloped piece of property on the west side is included in the proposed TIF district.

Mayor Wiza said it is not in the proposal.

Ald. Kneebone said studies show tax revenue is higher in the urban core. She said this district will help bolster the City's urban core.

Ald. Shorr said a lot of discussion was taken in place in closed session because of bargaining purposes per State Statute. He said this allows the City to get the best deal for tax payers.

Ald. Phillips **moved**, Ald. McComb seconded, to approve the resolution creating tax incremental finance District 10, the project plan and establishing its boundaries.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Jennings, Shorr, Oberstadt, Johnson, Slowinski,
Kneebone, Dugan, McComb, Phillips, Morrow.
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

11. Ordinance Amendment – Officials, Boards, Employees - 3.56 of the Revised Municipal Code of the City of Stevens Point – Neighborhood Associations.

Ald. Dugan **moved**, Ald. Jennings seconded, to approve the ordinance amendment for neighborhood associations.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Morrow, Phillips, McComb, Dugan, Kneebone,
Slowinski, Johnson, Oberstadt, Shorr, Jennings.
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

12. Ordinance Amendment – Streets, Alleys, Sidewalks - 16.08 of the Revised Municipal Code of the City of Stevens Point – Parklets.

Trevor Roark, 601 Washington Avenue, said this parklet ordinance is a step in the right direction for downtown business to increase their operable space. He said there has been a lot of hours put in by a lot of people and was collaborative effort.

Ald. Oberstadt **moved**, Ald. Johnson seconded, to approve the ordinance amendment regarding streets, alleys, and sidewalks, 16.08 of the revised municipal code.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Jennings, Shorr, Oberstadt, Johnson, Slowinski,
Kneebone, Dugan, McComb, Phillips, Morrow.
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

13. Agreement with Portage County regarding the costs and funding for an IT upgrade requested by the County for the transfer of property tax data from the City of Stevens Point to Portage County.

C/T Ladick said Portage County updated their tax and land record software. He said Portage County is requesting the data in a special format that would cost \$5,000 for program upgrades. C/T Ladick said the City does not believe is right for them pay for the upgrade. He said the tentative agreement is an in-kind exchange where the City would cover the \$5,000 in exchange for the County covering some of the IT costs that they would typically bill the City for. C/T Ladick said they would look at taking the \$5,000 from the contingency account to pay for the upgrade. He said the City would have a Memorandum of Understanding with the County before the upgrade is paid for.

Mayor Wiza asked C/T Ladick if the City is required to provide the data in the format the County is asking for it in.

C/T Ladick said the City is not required to. He said the City has worked with the County on multiple solutions that would be free; however, they did not work.

Ald. Slowinski **moved**, Ald. Morrow seconded, to approve the agreement with Portage County regarding the costs and funding for an IT upgrade requested by the County for the transfer of property tax data from the City of Stevens Point to Portage County.

Ald. Johnson asked if other municipalities in the County are having the same issue with the formatting.

C/T Ladick said the County collects taxes for some of the municipalities so he is unsure if anyone is having the same issue or not.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Morrow, Phillips, McComb, Dugan, Kneebone,
Slowinski, Johnson, Oberstadt, Shorr, Jennings.
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

14. Recognition of Service and Remarks by Alderperson Mary McComb, Alderperson Heidi Oberstadt and Director Tom Schrader.

Mayor Wiza presented Dir. Schrader with a plaque and thanked him for all his years of service.

Dir. Schrader said retiring was a hard decision to make because he really enjoyed coming to work every day. He said the City's biggest accomplishment that he was able to be a part of was the Green Circle Trail. Dir. Schrader said he has worked with great staff over the past 37. He thanked his family for all of their support and understanding throughout the years.

Mayor Wiza presented Ald. Heidi Oberstadt with a plaque of recognition and thanked her for her service.

Ald. Oberstadt said local government needs more kindness and stability and said no one is an alder for the pay or the glory. She said she would always try to show kindness and smile to those when they got up to speak in front of Council. Ald. Oberstadt said constituents should question their elected officials and keep them accountable for their decisions. She said if constituents keep being cruel to their public officials, you will end up with cruel people in return. Ald. Oberstadt urged everyone to treat her replacement, her colleges, and each other with kindness. She thanked her fellow Council members and City Staff for the opportunities to work with them. Ald. Oberstadt thanked City residents for allowing to serve them in the past four years.

Mayor Wiza presented Ald. McComb with a plaque of recognition and thanked her for her service.

Ald. McComb thanked the residents of District 9 and of Stevens Point for their support. She said Council's responsibility is to make the best decisions for the good of all by listening to constituents, listening to each other, and considering research data and expert testimony. Ald. McComb gave a shout out to City staff and the Streets Department for their dedication.

15. Adjourn into closed session (approximately 7:55P.M.) pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(e) (deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session) on the following:

- a. **Negotiating the terms of a development agreement relating to a possible project in Tax Increment Finance District 5.**
- b. **Negotiating the terms of a development agreement relating to a possible project in Tax Increment Finance District 5.**
- c. **Negotiating the terms of a development agreement relating to a possible project in Tax Increment Finance District 6.**
- d. **The potential purchase of property(ies) in Tax Increment Finance District 10.**

Ald. Phillips **moved**, Ald. Johnson seconded, to go into closed session.

Call for the Vote: Ayes: Jennings, Shorr, Oberstadt, Johnson, Slowinski,
Kneebone, Dugan, McComb, Phillips, Morrow.
Nays: None. Motion adopted.

Adjourned into closed session at 9:00 p.m.

16. Reconvene into open session on possible action on the above item.

No action required in open session.

17. Adjournment.

Adjourned at 10:15 p.m.