

**City of Stevens Point  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

**Council Chambers  
County-City Building**

**November 21, 2011  
7:00 PM**

**Mayor Andrew J. Halverson, presiding**

**Roll Call:** Present: Ald. Beveridge, Suomi, O'Meara, Wiza, M. Stroik, Slowinski, Molski, R. Stroik, Brooks, Moore.

Excused: Ald. Trzebiatowski

Also Present: City Clerk Moe, C/T Schlice, City Atty. Molepske, Directors Schrader, Ostrowski, Lemke, Halverson, Assessor Siebers, Emergency Management Director McGinty, Police Chief Ruder, Officer Kontos, Fire Chief Kujawa, Assistant to the Mayor Pazdernik, B.C. Kowalski-Stevens Point Journal, Matt Brown-Portage Co. Gazette

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

Mayor Halverson stated Ald. Trzebiatowski is in the hospital and wished him the best. Mayor Halverson wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

**3. Consideration and possible action of the minutes of the Common Council meeting of October 17, 2011 and the Special Common Council meetings of November 1 and November 14, 2011.**

Ald. R. Stroik **moved**, seconded by Ald. Moore, to approve the minutes of the Common Council meeting of October 17, 2011 and the Special Common Council meetings of November 1 and November 14, 2011.

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.**

Reid Rocheleau, Item #5, 18, 19  
Dave Wilz, Item #6  
David Pederson, Item #6  
David Schleihs, Item #18  
Barb Jacob, Item #18, 19  
Mary Ann Laszewski, Item #18

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

Roger Hackler, 1025 Park St., Apt. A, expressed his concern regarding drunk drivers and recommended a law banning parking near bars to prevent intoxicated individuals from driving. He also discussed noise and light pollution in his neighborhood.

Reid Rocheleau, 408 Cedar St., Whiting, discussed budget issues and voiced concerns regarding various alderpersons and Dept. heads.

### **Consideration and Possible Action on the Following:**

#### **6. Minutes and Actions Taken at the Plan Commission meeting of November 7, 2011.**

Dave Wilz, 1909 Mary's Drive, asked the Council to support the Plan Commission's recommendation not to pursue the Klesmith-Callan annexation.

David Pederson, 668 Granite Ridge Road, supports the denial decision of the Plan Commission regarding the Klesmith-Callan annexation. He said he had letters that he would forward to the City Council regarding the annexation. He encouraged the City to consider drawing up boundary agreements with surrounding municipalities.

Mayor Halverson stated the ending time of the minutes was 6:55 as opposed to 7:55. He also said the alley vacations would be immediately effective after passage of the resolutions tonight.

Ald. Moore **moved**, seconded by Ald. Molski, to approve the minutes and actions taken at the Plan Commission meeting of November 7, 2011.

Ald. R. Stroik asked Dir. Ostrowski if current signage in the area of 3001 Hoover Ave. is similar to the one being requested.

Dir. Ostrowski said the signs along the Hoover Ave. corridor are mostly under the 100-150 square feet area which is standard within the uniform sign code that is the maximum size allowed. He said there might be one or two that are slightly over the twenty foot height that were built prior to the sign code implementation. He said there was no other billboard-type advertising along Hoover Ave.

Ald. R. Stroik asked what might allow this billboard since there are already billboards there.

Dir. Ostrowski clarified there are no actual billboards along Hoover Ave. as it serves as a minor arterial street which do not have billboards on them. He said billboards that are in the City are on major arterial streets such as Church Street, Division, the Interstate and Highway 10.

Ald. R. Stroik asked if the City's stance will be to oppose billboards other than on the major arterial streets.

Dir. Ostrowski said the architectural appeal of these signs do not fit the Hoover Avenue corridor and should be looked at on a case-by-case basis.

Roll Call:     Ayes: All.  
                  Nays: None. Motion carried.

## 7. **Public Hearings – Vacation of the Following Alleys:**

Mayor Halverson stated the vacation of these alleys to the adjacent property owner will add \$100 - \$200 value to each property and will increase taxes approximately \$0.35 over an annual period of the current tax rate. He stated the vacations are because the alleys have been wooded over and were never really utilized when these subdivisions were built. He encouraged property owners to contact Dir. Ostrowski, Dir. Lemke or City Assessor Siebers who will be handling all the deed work and all paperwork associated with these vacations. He said the property owners will not be burdened with deeds or paperwork, however, property owners will be responsible for a survey to square up their certified survey map for their plot. He said the City is considering hiring a surveyor to do a mass survey of all these properties and then special assess the balance back to the property owners.

Ald. O'Meara asked Dir. Lemke if any alleys have municipal or other utilities in them or if any are being contemplated.

Dir. Lemke stated there are no existing utilities in any of the proposed vacations and the potential for any utilities is not there because the parcels are already served with utilities. He said there is one exception where the owner has requested estimates to extend his utilities.

Mayor Halverson declared the public hearing open.

### **a. Alley that runs between and parallel with Jefferson Street and Oak Street beginning at California Avenue and ending at Texas Avenue.**

No one wished to speak.

### **b. Alley that runs between and parallel with Minnesota Avenue and Vermont Avenue beginning at Center Street and ending at Dixon Street.**

No one wished to speak.

### **c. Alley that runs between and parallel with Center Street and Oak Street beginning at Frontenac Avenue and ending at California Avenue.**

Julius Shuda, 3209 Oak St., felt the City should pay for the surveying as the City is initiating the vacation.

### **d. Alley or a portion thereof that is located between and parallel with Minnesota Avenue and Vermont Avenue beginning at Center Street and ending at Jefferson Street.**

No one wished to speak.

### **e. Alley that runs between and parallel with Oak Street and Center Street beginning at Vermont Avenue and ending at Frontenac Avenue.**

Stephen Brazalle, 2924 Center St., was concerned about the utility easements and utility poles in the alley where he lives. He said since the City is requesting the vacation, the City should be responsible for at least half of the surveying costs. He

also asked what will happen with splitting the property if a building is more than halfway into the alley.

Mayor Halverson said all issues will be addressed and declared the public hearing closed as no one further wished to speak.

## 8. Ordinance Amendments on the Above.

Mayor Halverson stated the utility easements and any structures overlapping the public right of way will continue to operate.

City Atty. Molepske stated if a garage in an alley is on the opposing owner's property, the easement would be preserved.

Ald. Brooks asked if any of the streets have a disconnected sidewalk due to the alleys.

Mayor Halverson said these are indiscernible, unused, grown over alleys and didn't think there would be any disconnected sidewalks.

Dir. Lemke said there would most likely be sidewalks in place.

Ald. Beveridge said he agreed the homeowners should not be responsible for survey charges.

Ald. O'Meara felt there was no reason for a survey and if homeowners felt the parcel would be worth more with a survey, then they can pay for it.

City Atty. Molepske agreed and said the property lines would be extended. The City holds the land in trust and when it's no longer needed, the adjoining property owner succeeds automatically the property and would not need a survey.

Ald. Moore asked why this alley vacation was being addressed now when the City Assessor had asked for postponement until after the beginning of the year.

Assessor Siebers stated he had asked for postponement due to change in staffing levels in his department. He said it would be better if the public was notified of the change this next spring instead of a year or more from now as there could be different property owners, etc.

Mayor Halverson noted an error on the agenda, the vacation of the alleyways are Resolutions, not Ordinance Amendments.

Ald. O'Meara **moved**, seconded by Ald. Beveridge, to accept the Resolutions vacating the alleys that are highlighted in A, B, C, D, and E.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Brooks, R. Stroik, Molski, Slowinski, M. Stroik, Wiza, O'Meara, Suomi, Beveridge.  
Nays: None. One excused. Motion carried.

## 9. Ordinance – Annexation of 340 Wood Lane.

Ald. Moore **moved**, seconded by Ald. Slowinski, to approve the ordinance annexation of 340 Wood Lane.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Brooks, R. Stroik, Molski, Slowinski, M. Stroik, Wiza, O'Meara, Suomi, Beveridge.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

**10. Public Hearing – Zoning – 340 Wood Lane – Zone as “R-2” Single Family Residence District.**

Mayor Halverson declared the Public Hearing open.

As no one wished to speak, Mayor Halverson declared the Public Hearing closed.

**11. Ordinance Amendment on the Above.**

Ald. Moore **moved**, seconded by Ald. Molski, to approve the zoning of 340 Wood Lane as an “R-2” Single Family Residence District.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Beveridge, Suomi, O'Meara, Wiza, M. Stroik, Slowinski, Molski, R. Stroik, Brooks, Moore.

Nays: None. Motion carried.

**12. Public Hearing – Conditional Use – 3001 Hoover Avenue – To Locate an Off-Premise Advertising Sign.**

Mayor Halverson declared the Public Hearing open.

Rich Reinart, Lamar Advertising, spoke in favor of more outdoor advertising. He said the area has grown over time, is in industrial zoning and it's been 25 years since Lamar has put a sign up in the area.

As no one further wished to speak, Mayor Halverson declared the Public Hearing closed.

**13. Resolution on the Above.**

Ald. Brooks **moved**, seconded by Ald. Beveridge, to **deny** 3001 Hoover Avenue's Conditional Use, to Locate an Off-Premise Advertising Sign.

Ald. Beveridge felt outdoor advertising is obnoxious and an eyesore.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Brooks, R. Stroik, Molski, Slowinski, M. Stroik, Wiza, O'Meara, Suomi, Beveridge

Nays: None. Motion carried.

**14. Public Hearing – Conditional Use – 1574 Water Street – To Allow Four Unrelated Persons to Reside in Dwelling.**

Mary Ann Laszewski, 1209 Wisconsin St., was against allowing four unrelated persons to reside together and was concerned about setting precedence if this was approved.

Cathy Dugan, 416 Sommers St., supports the denial of allowing four unrelated individuals residing together.



**16. Ordinance Amendments – Modifying Fees and Charges – Required by the Community Development Department.**

Ald. Beveridge **moved**, seconded by Ald. Brooks, to approve the Ordinance Amendments – Modifying Fees and Charges – Required by the Community Development Department.

Ald. Wiza questioned if this is required, then why is the Council voting on it and could a no vote nullify the requirement. He said there is no requirement for the fees.

City Atty. Molepske said the wording should be 'requested.'

Mayor Halverson clarified there are certain fees and charges that are required to be paid for permits within the Community Development Department now. These will also be required to be paid at the new levels that the Council sets with this particular action.

Ald. Suomi felt section 6 is too vague and asked if it could be made more specific.

Dir. Ostrowski said this is a two-step process. The first is amending the ordinances to take all fees out. The second step is placing the fees in the resolution. He is not looking to change any definitions in the current ordinances. All that is being done is to make some slight language changes.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Brooks, R. Stroik, Molski, Slowinski, M. Stroik, Wiza, O'Meara, Suomi, Beveridge.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

**17. Resolution – Department of Community Development Fee Schedule.**

Ald. O'Meara **moved**, seconded by Ald. Beveridge, to approve the Resolution – Department of Community Development Fee Schedule.

Ald. Brooks asked for clarification of the fee schedule's term of 'units' under Multiple Family Dwelling License.

Dir. Ostrowski stated there are two categories in which they charge, if there are four or fewer units, they charge by occupant and if there are more than four units, they charge by unit.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Beveridge, Suomi, O'Meara, Wiza, M. Stroik, Slowinski, Molski, R. Stroik, Brooks, Moore.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

**18. Minutes and Actions Taken at the Personnel Committee meeting of November 14, 2011.**

Reid Rocheleau, 408 Cedar St., Whiting, expressed his concerns with the Community Development Authority remaining and the expansion of City personnel. He asked that Mayor Halverson be taken off the CDA.

Barb Jacob, 1616 Depot St., stated she is not in favor of combining the Community Development Department and Community Development Authority and felt it would take the community out of development. She also felt two separate individuals should be running the departments.

Mary Ann Laszewski, 1209 Wisconsin St., asked why two organizations are doing the same work. She expressed concern that the handpicked CDA can bypass the Council's approval for large projects.

Dave Schleih, 1026 Smith St., President, Police and Fire Commission, thanked the Personnel Committee for supporting the starting salary of the Assistant Fire Chief position and he urged the Council to support the Personnel Committee's decision so the PFC can move the hiring process forward.

Ald. Molski **moved**, seconded by Ald. Brooks, to approve the minutes and actions taken at the Personnel Committee meeting of November 14, 2011.

Roll Call: Ayes: Majority.  
Nays: Minority. Ald. Wiza. Motion carried.

#### **19. Actions Taken at the Special Personnel Committee meeting of November 21, 2011.**

City Clerk Moe read the actions of the Special Personnel Committee meeting of November 21, 2011, which convened at 5:50 PM. The one agenda item was discussion and possible action to authorize creation of the Associate Planner/Economic Development specialist position in Community Development at Grade G Step 1. Motion was made by Ald. Beveridge, seconded by Ald. Brooks to approve the position. Ayes all, nays none. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:53 PM.

Reid Rocheleau, expressed his displeasure with city personnel.

Barb Jacob, felt there was no need for another individual in the Community Development Department in light of the budget crisis and feels more research should be done prior to adding another position.

Ald. Beveridge said the reason the Special Personnel meeting was held tonight was because members of the Committee wanted to review the job description prior to making a decision on the position and he had requested more detailed information for tonight.

Ald. Suomi asked Mayor Halverson to clarify where the funds were coming from for the position.

Mayor Halverson said with the approved combination of the Director of Community Development also serving as the Executive Director of the CDA, fifty percent of the salary and benefit package for the Executive Director/Community Development Director would be split fifty/fifty between the CDA using non-HUD related dollars and specific levy dollars which was a gain of approximately \$58,000 in terms of savings on salary and benefit package for the Director. Then \$30,000 would be added that was redirected from the ADB to the office of Community Development which totals \$88,000 for this position. He said the actual cost of the full-time position with a family health insurance plan as well as all other fringes is approximately \$77,500 which leaves the City almost \$10,000 ahead.

Ald. Molski **moved**, seconded by Ald. Brooks, to approve the actions taken at the Special Personnel Committee meeting of November 21, 2011.

Ald. Moore felt the position would be a great benefit to the City.

Roll Call: Ayes: All.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

**20. Minutes and Actions Taken at the Public Protection Committee meeting of November 14, 2011.**

Ald. R. Stroik **moved**, seconded by Ald. Slowinski, to approve the minutes and actions taken at the Public Protection Committee meeting of November 14, 2011.

Roll Call: Ayes: All.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

**21. Minutes and Actions Taken at the Board of Public Works meeting of November 14, 2011.**

Ald. O'Meara **moved**, seconded by Ald. Brooks, to approve the minutes and actions taken at the Board of Public Works meeting of November 14, 2011.

Roll Call: Ayes: All.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

**22. Minutes and Actions Taken at the Board of Water & Sewage Commissioners meeting of November 14, 2011.**

Ald. R. Stroik **moved**, seconded by Ald. M. Stroik, to approve the minutes and actions taken at the Board of Water & Sewage Commissioners meeting of November 14, 2011.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Moore, Brooks, R. Stroik, Molski, Slowinski, M. Stroik, Wiza, O'Meara, Suomi, Beveridge.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

**23. Minutes and actions Taken at the Police and Fire Commission meetings of October 12, October 19, and November 8, 2011.**

Ald. Brooks **moved**, seconded by Ald. Beveridge, to approve the minutes and actions taken at the Police and Fire Commission meetings of October 12, October 19, and November 8, 2011.

Roll Call: Ayes: All.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

**24. Minutes and Actions Taken at the Board of Park Commissioners meeting of November 2, 2011.**

Ald. Brooks **moved**, seconded by Ald. Slowinski, to approve the minutes and actions taken at the Board of Park Commissioners meeting of November 2, 2011.

Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Beveridge, Suomi, O'Meara, Wiza, M. Stroik, Slowinski, Molski, R. Stroik, Brooks, Moore.  
Nays: None. Motion carried.

**25. Statutory Monthly Financial Report of the Comptroller-Treasurer.**

Ald. Moore **moved**, seconded by Ald. M. Stroik, to approve the Statutory Monthly Financial Report of the Comptroller-Treasurer.

Roll Call:      Ayes: All.  
                     Nays: None. Motion carried.

**26. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM.**