

**CITY OF RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN  
COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**

**July 22, 2008**

Council President Wayne Beebe called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located in City Hall.

**City Council Members Present:** Tom Caflisch, Dave Cronk, Bob Ebert, Jim Nordgren and Michael Woolsey

**Members Absent:** Mayor Don Richards, Joleen Larson

**Staff Present:** Bill Thiel, City Attorney; Reid Wronski, City Engineer; Tony Steiner, City Planner; Carl Gaulke, Utility General Manager; Julie Bergstrom, Finance Director

**Others Present:** Adam Schmidt, Geri Campbell

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

July 8, 2008, Regular Meeting Minutes

**MSC Cronk/Ebert to approve minutes as submitted. Unanimous.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS**

City – \$363,060.17                      Utility - \$993,600.04

**MS Cronk/Beebe approve the bills subject to comptroller.** Nordgren noted two items on the City bills – architectural fees which were \$32,000 and Harmon Concrete for curb and gutter which was \$45,000. He also noted a payment from Utilities to WPPI for the June usage \$639,371. **Bills were approved unanimously.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

Geri Campbell, Candidate for St. Croix County Register of Deeds, came to introduce herself. She gave a brief overview of her experience and thanked the Council for their time.

Adam Schmidt, from The Route, came to ask Council's approval for an Off Road Bicycle Race on August 23 and 24, 2008. He talked about KORC (Kinnickinnic Off Road Cyclists) who are a group that has put a lot of volunteer time into developing bicycle/hiking trails around the Whitetail Ridge Industrial Park. He would like to request the use of the trails for the race. He was requesting from the City, eight barricades, temporary closure of the Whitetail Boulevard from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday and closure all day Sunday for parking. Schmidt provided more information about the race and said there would be 800-1000 people here for the race and it would be a great tourism opportunity for the City.

Discussion continued as Council asked Schmidt more specific questions about the event. Both Caflisch and Cronk commended Schmidt for bringing the race to River Falls.

**MSC Caflisch/Cronk move to grant permission for the Off Road Bicycle Race on August 23 and 24. Unanimous.** Beebe noted that this was a positive event.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Acknowledge Receipt of the following Minutes: Plan Commission – 6/3/08; Library Board – 6/2/08; Fire Department – 6/2/08; Park and Recreation Board – 6/18/08; Design Review Committee – 6/9/08; Utility Commission – 6/16/08

Resolution No. 5149 - Authorizing Advertising for Bids for Sterling Ponds Pathway Paving Project

Resolution No. 5150 - Awarding Bid for 2008 Mill and Overlay Program

Resolution Awarding Bid and Authorizing Cost Share Agreement for Mann Creek Stormwater Outfall Stabilization Project →→***Pulled by Caflisch***

Resolution No. 5151 - Regarding Tuition Reimbursement-Beth Schlegel

Resolution No. 5152 - Approving Actuarial Services Contract

Resolution No. 5153 - Approving Wisconsin Energy Independent Community

Resolution No. 5154 - Approving Request for Closure of River Walk

**MSC Cronk/Beebe move to approve remainder of Consent Agenda. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 5155 - Awarding Bid and Authorizing Cost Share Agreement for Mann Creek Stormwater Outfall Stabilization Project

Cafilisch asked for clarification of why the lowest bidder was withdrawing their bid. Wronski noted their explanation was in the packet and said he thought the company misunderstood the nature of the drainage area. He felt the company realized that time was of the essence and they would require a longer period of time and a possible rainstorm could cause them problems which they didn't factor in when submitting their bid.

Wronski expressed concern about the low bidder's bid being so low. He said it was up to the Council to allow them to withdraw their bid. He said from a City standpoint the difference is \$4000.

Discussion continued. City Attorney Thiel explained that the bidder is not free to withdraw the bid as it is a contract and gave more information about it in relation to Wisconsin law. Thiel said it is up to Council as to whether they would let the low bidder withdraw their bid. He recommended Council take into consideration Wronski's need to get the project done.

Further discussion continued. **MS Cafilisch/Cronk move to approve resolution. Council President Beebe asked for a roll call vote. The roll call vote was unanimous to approve the resolution.**

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Ordinance 2008-22 - Ordinance Amending the Municipal Code for Design Review Standard on Portable Signs – First Reading

Cronk asked where the City comes up with the specific size for the signs. Steiner said that the sign requirements passed in an ordinance a few years ago are smaller than a number of the portable sizes that store owners currently use. Because of this, the size requirements are being revised to a larger size. Cronk asked if business owners had been asked about this and Steiner said yes.

Woolsey asked about the how the sign height should be determined. Steiner said if signs are too large, they obstruct the sidewalk.

Beebe noted at the next Council meeting the ordinance will be on for a second reading and public hearing.

Cafilisch wanted to make a couple of comments. He asked that the monthly reports be distributed on a monthly basis. He also asked that the topic of future expansion in the industrial park be on the next Council agenda.

**REPORTS:**

Comptroller's Report

General Fund revenues for the first six months of the year were \$3,104,465, which is 39 percent of budgeted. Expenditures for the same period were \$3,362,784, which is 42 percent of the amount budgeted and we have then a net of expenditures over revenues of \$258,319.

**MSC Cronk/Beebe move to adjourn at 7:05 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan  
Deputy City Clerk