

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

September 28, 2010

Mayor Richards 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, David Cronk, Bob Hughes, Randy Kusilek, Scott Morrissette, Jim Nordgren

City Council Members Absent: David Reese

Staff Present: Bill Thiel, City Attorney; Scot Simpson, City Administrator; Julie Bergstrom, Finance Director; Buddy Lucero, Community Development Director; Jeff Rixmann, Ambulance Director; Roger Leque, Police Chief

Others Present: Bill Rubin, Paul Schwebach

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

September 14, 2010, Regular Meeting Minutes

MSC Cronk/Kusilek to approve minutes as submitted. Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

City – \$524,708.93

Utility – \$1,258,416.98

MSC Morrissette/Caflisch move to approve the bills subject to comptroller. Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Aldersperson Nordgren said at the last meeting, the Council was led to believe that a referendum was needed for City voters to express their feelings on medical marijuana. A petition was presented containing 877 signatures. He said medical marijuana already exists in the form of marinol, and he wondered how many of the signers were aware of it. Nordgren continued discussing marinol and its uses. He wondered why a referendum was needed. He also said billions of dollars would not be realized by legalizing medical marijuana.

Aldersperson Hughes countered and said the dosing of marinol was difficult. He said the bill is allowing people to use the marijuana in whatever form best benefits them.

Aldersperson Morrissette recognized Police Officer Chris Gottfredsen, who is the school liaison officer. He attended a badge ceremony at Greenwood. He felt he does a nice job and wanted to recognize Gottfredsen for proactive policing.

Aldersperson Kusilek thanked the UWRF Falcon Football team for hosting the junior (kids') league. He said the kids were really excited and looked up to the team. He said it was a wonderful thing for them to do.

St. Croix EDC Presentation

Bill Rubin and Paul Schwebach, from St. Croix EDC, came to the meeting to reacquaint the Council with the St. Croix EDC. The EDC provides economic development assistance to communities. Mayor Richards complimented Rubin for his contributions.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Combination Class "A" Liquor and Beer License – Kwik Trip, 1238 N. Main Street – Disposition by Motion

Mayor Richards recessed Council at 6:44 p.m. and went into a public hearing.

Jeremy Haack, Kwik Trip store leader, came before Council to let them know about the extensive training employees receive including the 'learn to serve' program. They are looking forward to being involved in the north end community.

The Mayor asked the opening date. Haack said it was October 28.

At 6:45 p.m. with no one wishing to speak for or against this issue, Council reconvened into Open Session for disposition. MSC Cafilisch/Cronk move to approve ordinance. Unanimous.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Acknowledgement receipt of the following minutes:

Fire Department – 8/2/10; Plan Commission – 8/3/10; Library Board – 9/7/10;
Historic Preservation Commission – 7/14/10; 8/18/10;
Police and Fire Commission – regular 8/2/10; special 8/16/10; 8/18/10; 9/2/10
Ambulance Commission – 8/2/10; Utility Commission – 8/16/10

Resolution No. 5404 - Approving Shared-Ride Taxi Grant Application to the State Of Wisconsin, DOT for Operating Assistance for the Year 2011

Resolution No. 5405 - Approving Agreement between City of River Falls and Pierce/St. Croix Counties Regarding Shared-Ride Taxi Funds for the Year 2011

Resolution No. 5406 - Approving 2011 Agreement for Ambulance Service

Resolution Regarding Ambulance Billing Agreement – Lifequest →→***Pulled by Nordgren***

Resolution No. 5407 - Approving Fire Chief Job Description

Resolution No. 5408 - Approving Management Analyst Intern Job Description

Resolution Approving Agreement with Central Bank Regarding Public Improvements in Knollwood Subdivision and Accepting Public Improvements in Knollwood Subdivision →→***Pulled by Morrissette***

MSC Cafilisch/Nordgren move to approve remainder of consent agenda. Unanimous.

Resolution No. 5409 - Regarding Ambulance Billing Agreement – Lifequest

Nordgren asked Ambulance Director Rixmann to speak about the agreement. Rixmann said the verbiage of the contract is basically what the City has now but the biggest changes are the phased percentages which are significantly reduced. The estimated savings is \$45,000-\$50,000.

MSC Nordgren/Morrissette move to approve resolution. Unanimous.

Resolution No. 5410 - Approving Agreement with Central Bank Regarding Public Improvements in Knollwood Subdivision and Accepting Public Improvements in Knollwood Subdivision

Morrissette said there was never a letter of credit done for the vacant street in Knollwood. He doesn't want to oppose any development, and he would like it to move forward. Morrissette didn't know that it would be feasible to have a street put in now at this time of year. He would like to have a letter of credit or the street going in with the renewal of the PUD in May 2011.

Simpson said the message could be transmitted to the Plan Commission. He said Central Bank has been notified that they should schedule a time with the Plan Commission for an update.

MSC Morrissette/Cronk move to approve resolution.

The Mayor asked if there was an advantage to either of the two options. Wronski said putting the road in was preferable. **The motion to approve the resolution was unanimous.**

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Preliminary Resolution No. 5411 Declaring Intent to Exercise Special Assessment Police Powers under Section 66.0703 Wisconsin Statutes for the Benefit of the River Falls Business Improvement District

Finance Director Bergstrom said this was the first step in establishing the assessment for next year's BID amount. If the resolution is approved, the process will move forward. They are requesting the same amount as they have since 1998.

MSC Cafilisch/Nordgren move to approve resolution. Unanimous.

REPORTS:

City Administrator's Report

City Administrator Simpson wanted to make a special recognition of Pauline Williams and the rest of the River Falls Fire Department for the efforts put forth for the 125th anniversary of the Fire Department. He said their work was tremendous, and it was an incredible turnout of the community.

The Mayor read a thank you to the Police Department from a young man for finding his bike.

Comptroller's Report for August 2010

Nordgren read the report - General Fund revenues through the end of August were \$5,437,116 or 68 percent of budgeted. August revenues included \$1.2 million in the August settlement, and \$122,000 for the 2010 contract with the Rural Fire Association. Expenditures for the same period were \$4,580,901 for a net of revenues over expenditures of \$856,215.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD

Appointment of Bob Ebert to fill vacancy through 9/2012

MS Nordgren/Morrisette moved for approval of the appointment.

Cafilisch asked if any other people applied for the vacancy. The Mayor said no but it was on the website. Cafilisch felt the website was not viewed by enough people. He thought vacancies need to be advertised better and felt it would be appropriate for the newspaper to indicate the vacancies. The Mayor agreed and felt any advertising was a plus. Hughes suggested that vacancies could be announced during the "public comment" section of the agenda. The Mayor announced the current vacancies. Hughes felt Ebert's experience would be a valued asset on the committee.

The motion to approve the appointment passed unanimously.

MSC Cronk/Cafilisch move to adjourn meeting at 7 p.m. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan, Deputy City Clerk