



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

**January 26, 2016**

Mayor Toland called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located in City Hall.

**City Council Members Present:** David Cronk, Scott Morrissette, Jim Nordgren, Diane Odeen, Aaron Taylor, Hal Watson

**Members Absent:** Dan Gulick

**Staff Present:** Scot Simpson, City Administrator; Steve Weld, City Attorney; Gordon Young, Police Chief; Julie Bergstrom, Finance Director/Assistant City Administrator; Keri Schreiner, Management Analyst Fellow; Kevin Westhuis, Utility Director; Reid Wronski, City Engineer; Ray French, Management Analyst; Lu Ann Hecht, City Clerk; Mike Noreen, Conservation and Efficiency Coordinator; Brent Buesking, Management Analyst Fellow

**Others:** Chris Blasius, Judy Berg, Maranda Mahr, Chris Gagne, Josh Hudek, Jeff Bjork, Bob Ebert, others

**The Pledge of Allegiance was said.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

January 12, 2016, Regular Meeting Minutes

**MSC Morrissette/Odeen move to approve minutes. Unanimous.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Bills - \$479,631.42

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

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

There were no public comments.

**State of the City Presentation**

City Administrator Scot Simpson provided the Council with a video presentation. After the conclusion of the video, Simpson made remarks. He talked about the goal of financial stability, and he talked about doing a two year budget, paying off the library mortgage early and having a debt-free utility. Simpson said nearly \$8 million dollars will be spent in infrastructure projects for water/wastewater/electric utilities. He said the staff is working hard on the park master plans and looking forward to the Kinni River corridor planning process. The support of the Council and community is appreciated. There were no questions.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Ordinance 2016-01 - An Ordinance Amending Chapter 8.36 Regarding Solid Waste Collection and Disposal-  
Second Reading and Disposition

**The Mayor recessed into a public hearing at 6:48 p.m. As there were no public comments, the Mayor moved back into Open Session at 6:48 p.m. MSC Cronk/Nordgren moved for approval of the ordinance. Unanimous.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Acknowledgement of the following minutes:

Park and Recreation – 12/9/15; Plan Commission – 10/6/15; Library Board – 12/7/15;

Police and Fire Commission – 9/14/15; 10/5/15; 11/2/15; 12/7/15;

Police and Fire Commission – Special Meetings – 9/24/15; 9/28/15; 10/20/15;

Utility Advisory Board – 11/16/15; POWERful Choices! – 12/10/15

**MSC Cronk/Morrisette move to approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous.**

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Resolution No. 5996 - Regarding Request from the River Falls Chamber for 2016 Events

Chris Blasius, River Falls Area Chamber of Commerce CEO, gave an overall of the 2016 events and requests. She talked about the St. Patrick's Day celebration, the Roots and Bluegrass Festival, Car Cruze-Ins, River Falls Days, Bacon Bash and Riverdazzle. Upon completion of the presentation, Blasius answered questions from Council.

**With no other questions, the Mayor asked for a motion. MSC Cronk/Morrisette move to approve the resolution. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 5997 - Regarding Commitment to Community Tariff Changes

**MSC Odeen/Morrisette move to approve the resolution. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 5998 - Regarding Renewal Energy Loan Program

**MSC Watson/Nordgren move to approve the resolution. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 5999 - Regarding Palpable Errors-2015 Tax Roll

**MS Morrisette/Odeen move to approve the resolution.** Alderperson Morrisette asked a clarifying question regarding the potential loss of property taxes. City Administrator Simpson said the statute reads that it will be divided among the taxing jurisdictions. City Attorney Weld said the statute reads there needs to be a sharing of the chargebacks. He didn't think the City was in jeopardy of not recovering. There were other questions regarding the assessments. Simpson explained what happened with the palpable errors and talked about the revaluation. Most of the errors were discovered by the City's assessor.

**With no other questions, the Mayor asked for a vote on the motion. The resolution passed unanimously.**

City Administrator Performance Review Committee

The Mayor asked for two nominations for the committee. **MSC Cronk/Nordgren move to add Comptroller Odeen and President Morrisette to the committee. Unanimous.**

**REPORTS:**

Administrator's Report

Simpson thanked the Council for its participation in tonight's workshop. He provided some information about upcoming events. He highlighted some new staff members in the report and the infrastructure report card.

**Comptroller's Report for December 2015**

Comptroller Odeen read the following: Preliminary year end General Fund revenues were \$9,380,594 with expenditures of \$8,773,127 for a net of revenues over expenditures of \$607,467. The majority of the surplus

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funds are related to cost savings in most departments, and from the Council contingency line item. Additional costs may be allocated to 2015 as final invoices and expenses are received and recorded.

**MSC Cronk/Morrisette moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan,  
Deputy City Clerk