



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

February 23, 2016

Mayor Toland called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located in City Hall.

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

Members Absent: None

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; Brent Buesking, Management Analyst Fellow; Ron Groth, Waste Water/Water Superintendent; Lu Ann Hecht, City Clerk

Others: Nate Schurman, Mark Chapin, Bob Ebert, Kevin Swanson, others

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

February 9, 2016, Regular Meeting Minutes

MSC Morrissette/Cronk move to approve minutes. Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Bills - \$5,827,711.18

MSC Taylor/Cronk move to approve bills subject to the comptroller. Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Bob Ebert, 415 N. Pearl – invited the public to a screening of the movie “Mad City Chickens” at the library on March 2. He hopes the movie will begin a dialogue about backyard chickens.

Kevin Swanson, 945 Lucille Court – he wants to start getting involved in the City. He thanked Alderperson Morrissette for his help in the process. He wanted to give kudos for all the work being done. Swanson had questions for Council which he will email. The Mayor thanked him for getting involved.

Principals Nate Schurman and Mark Chapin from the River Falls School District provided a presentation to the Council on Character Education.

CONSENT AGENDA:

1. Acknowledge of the following minutes:

BID Board – 2/9/16; City Council and Utility Advisory Board Workshop – 1/26/16;

Utility Advisory Board - 1/18/16; Historic Preservation Commission – 2/10/16;

POWERful Choices! – 1/14/16; Library Board – 1/4/16; Park and Recreation Advisory Board – 1/20/16

Resolution No. 6002 - Regarding Disposal of Public Surplus City Equipment

Resolution No. 6003 - Regarding Palpable Errors-2015 Tax Roll

Resolution No. 6004 - Establishing Ward 5 Polling Place for 2016 Elections

MSC Cronk/Morrissette move to approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 6005 - Approving Bids for Wastewater Treatment Plant

Mark Lundgren from MSA provided a presentation for Council on the construction bid award. He talked about the four needs for the WWTP including: biosolids storage, biosolids equipment for safety and ease of operations, scum handling and final clarifier use. He showed a site plan, timeline and bid results. He recommended awarding a bid to Miron and the creation of a contingency fund. He talked about future savings from upgrades. Upon completion of the presentation, Lundgren stood for questions.

Aldersperson Morrissette asked about the amount of the contingency fund and how it was determined. Lundgren said it was five percent. City Engineer Wronski provided further explanation on the amount.

MSC Cronk/Morrissette move to approve the resolution. Unanimous.

Resolution No. 6006 - Regarding Debt Management and Fund Balance Policies

Management Analyst Fellow Keri Schreiner gave an overview of the debt management and fund balance policies. She talked about the types of permitted debt, guidelines for use, and rating agencies requirements. Schreiner talked about the fund balance policy including general fund goals, enterprise fund goal, and internal service fund goal. She stood for questions. Alderspersons Morrissette and Watson asked questions about the goals. City Administrator Simpson made further remarks about the goals.

MSC Morrissette/Odeen move to approve the resolution. Unanimous.

Resolution No. 6007 - Providing for the Sale of Approximately \$4,620,000 Sewer System Revenue Bonds, Series 2016A

Sean Lentz from Ehler's Associates gave a presentation on the sewer system revenue bonds. These bonds would help finance the wastewater treatment plant project. At the conclusion of the presentation, there were no questions from Council. **MSC Morrissette/Odeen move to approve the resolution. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 6008 - Providing for the Sale of Approximately \$4,305,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2016B

Sean Lentz from Ehler's Associates gave a presentation on the sale of general obligation refunding bonds. Lentz said this would provide an opportunity to refinance City debt which would result in lower debt service payments. He explained the callable portion was eligible to be refinanced. He talked about the potential savings. Lentz answered questions from the Council.

MSC Odeen/Gulick move to approve the resolution. Unanimous.

REPORTS:

Board of Review/Open Book Report

City Clerk Lu Ann Hecht gave a presentation on the Board of Review and Open Book. She talked about property assessment and how it is done, a notice of change and what to do if you receive a notice. Hecht then talked about the Board of Review, its makeup and what it does. She provided the dates of Open Book and Board of Review. There were no questions from the Council.

Administrator's Report

Aldersperson Gulick had a question about information in the report. Aldersperson Watson asked about the threshold for Council approval on projects. Simpson provided an explanation.

Comptroller's Report for January 2016

Comptroller Odeen read the January report as follows: General Fund revenues through the end of January were \$844,212 and include the January property tax settlement and first quarter transportation aids. Expenditures

for the same period were \$524,711 or seven percent of budgeted, for a net of revenues over expenditures of \$319,501.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor's Appointments

The Mayor asked for approval on the following appointments:

Historic Preservation Commission

Appointment of Rebecca Prendergast (to fill Jeanne Zirbel vacancy) through January 2019

River Falls Housing Authority

Appointment of Michael Larson (to fill Edward Valle vacancy) through December 2020

MSC Morrissette/Odeen move to approve the appointments. Unanimous.

CLOSED SESSION:

MS Watson/Odeen at 7:44 p.m. to Recess into Closed Session per Wisconsin State Statutes § 19.85(1)(c) and (e) for the following purposes:

“Considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercise responsibility, to wit: City Administrator; and deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive bargaining reasons require a closed session, to wit: purchase/sale of property in the River Falls Industrial Park; sale of property in Whitetail Ridge Corporate Park; sale of property in Sterling Ponds Corporate Park.”

The roll call vote to move into Closed Session was unanimous.

Closed Session items were discussed.

MSC Cronk/Morrissette moved to reconvene into Open Session at 8:50 p.m. Unanimous.

MSC Morrissette/Cronk moved to approve Resolution No. 6009 – Approving Option Agreement for Kellogg Properties, LLC. Unanimous.

MSC Cronk/Morrissette move to adjourn at 8:51 p.m. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan,
Deputy City Clerk