



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

**March 8, 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:** Dan Gulick, Scott Morrissette, Jim Nordgren, Diane Odeen, Aaron Taylor, Hal Watson

**Members Absent:** David Cronk

**Staff Present:** Scot Simpson, City Administrator; Dan Gustafson, 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; Ray French, Management Analyst, Wes Arndt, WPPI

**Others:** Pat Connor, Susan Reese, others

**The Pledge of Allegiance was said.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

February 23, 2016, Regular Meeting Minutes

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

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Bills - \$1,296,367.01

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

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

There were no public comments.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Resolution No. 6010 - Approving Lease between City of River Falls and University of Wisconsin-River Falls (Mann Valley Land)

**MSC Odeen/Morrissette move to approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous.**

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Resolution No. 6011 – Regarding WPPI Contract Extension

**MS Morrissette/Odeen move to approve the resolution.**

Aldersperson Morrissette remarked on the good relationship between the City and WPPI. He has some hesitations about the contract due to changing energy markets and the political atmosphere. Long term contract restricts the City's flexibility. Morrissette was afraid that the City could be in this situation again in 10 years. He would have liked to have seen a more laddered approach to future contracts. He asked WPPI to consider this. He is in support of the extension because this is the best option to the citizens.

Aldersperson Nordgren asked how many members have approved the contract. Utility Director Westhuis noted Pat Connors, Senior Vice President of Power Supply for WPPI, said 48 had approved the contract.

**With no other comments, the Mayor asked for a vote on the resolution. It passed unanimously.**

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Connors thanked the Council for 35 years of partnership. He said the City has been one of the top utilities in the country and felt it could continue that way and said WPPI would continue to provide support.

**REPORTS:**

**Summer Recreation Program**

Recreation Manager Cindi Danke talked about the City's recreation program. Registration for summer programs begins next Monday. Danke talked about the several programs and camps offered. She talked about applying for grants and the t-shirt design challenge. Danke introduced Chair Susan Reese.

**Park and Recreation Advisory Board**

Chair Susan Reese provided a report for Council. She thanked several staff members for their assistance and good work including: Cindi Danke, Brenda Rundle, Buddy Lucero, Tony Steiner, Mike Huth, Amy Peterson, Terry Kusilek, Tom Schwalen, Irv Peskar, Jon Kusilek and Nate Croes. Reese named Park Board members including: Jim Nordgren, Brandon Dobbertin, Patricia La Rue, Brenda Gaulke and Dennis Zielski. She talked about swimming lessons, the rental of shelters and the new pickleball courts. There has been a lot of traffic in the parks which illustrates the need for the park plan. She talked about new additions to the parks including the storm shelter and TriAngels Playground and the grant received from the Rotary for trail signage. Reese talked about opportunities for corporations to donate to the City's park.

**Administrator's Report**

City Administrator Simpson said staff was doing tree trimming and street sweeping. Reminder that construction season begins and also to leash and keep up after your pet.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Mayor's Appointments**

The Mayor asked for approval on the following appointment:

**Historic Preservation Commission**

Reappointment of Jayne Hoffman through January 2019

**MSC Watson/Odeen move to approve the appointment. Unanimous.**

**CLOSED SESSION:**

**MS Watson/Morrisette at 6:52 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 Sterling Ponds Corporate Park.”

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

Closed Session items were discussed.

**MSC Morrisette/Odeen moved to reconvene into Open Session at 7:27 p.m. Unanimous. MSC Nordgren/Morrisette move to adjourn at 7:27 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan,  
Deputy City Clerk