



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

January 23, 2018

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

City Council Members Present: Todd Bjerstedt, Jeff Bjork, Sean Downing, Christopher Gagne, Scott Morrissette, Diane Odeen, Hal Watson

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: City Administrator Scot Simpson; City Attorney Dan Gustafson; Police Chief Gordon Young; Utility Director Kevin Westhuis; Management Analyst Fellow Jason Rohloff; Management Analyst Keri Schreiner; Development Services Director Amy Peterson; SCADA Engineer Greg Dietsche; IT Coordinator Mike Reardon; Community Development Director Buddy Lucero; Operations Director Mike Stifter; Civil Engineer Zach Regnier; Senior Civil Engineer Crystal Raleigh; City Engineer Reid Wronski; Communications Manager Mary Zimmermann; Wastewater/Water Superintendent Ron Groth

Others Present: William Hansen, Adam Cudd, Patricia LaRue, Ben Fochs

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

January 9, 2018, Regular Meeting Minutes

MSC Watson/Bjork approve minutes. Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Bills \$915,902.57

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

PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Patricia LaRue, 489 Marcella Court – wanted to give a ‘shout out’ to the Utility Board. They were the first body to speak out on the Kinni Corridor plan/dams at their December meeting. She mentioned each board member by name with her observation of his/her contribution to that meeting. She thanked them.

Ben Fochs, 680 County Road MM – thanked Council for considering the updated bike/pedestrian plan. He asked about well #5.

The Mayor asked Utility Director Westhuis if he wanted to respond. Westhuis said the raw water at well #5 had a detect for chloroform bacteria. Over the last three months, the City has been disinfecting the well but the bacteria keeps returning. This week, the well was cleaned and televised. Next steps are being considered. Westhuis stressed that the water coming out of it was always safe because it was chlorinated. He said the well has been shut off for a couple of months.

Joyce Connolly, 1434 S. Main - came to represent the John and Alice Hanson Family Trust which borders the 22-acre parcel on the east side of the Best Maid cookie factory that is being considered for open bow hunting. She said letters were sent to Council expressing their opposition. She cited concerns with parking and trespassing and wanted to reiterate their opposition.

Alderson Bjork talked about the great services the City provides. He talked specifically about the snow plowing and utilities. Alderson Morrissette reminded residents to clear the snow around fire hydrants.

State of the City Presentation

City Administrator Scot Simpson gave introductory remarks which was followed by a video about the City's accomplishments in 2017. Simpson thanked the Mayor and Council for its trust and support, the residents for their partnerships, and City staff for doing their work with passion. Simpson talked about the accomplishments in 2017. He talked about trail completions, the power plant and north interceptor sewer projects, and a feasibility study beginning for public safety facilities. Simpson talked about the 20th anniversary of the 'new library' and Kinni Corridor project. He spoke about the Glen Park project, and he thanked the Park Board for its efforts. Simpson talked about the grand openings which happened in the fall of 2017. He talked about the St. Croix Valley incubator project. Simpson talked about different businesses which were welcomed to the community and the 2017 Citizen Survey. In 2017, the City's goal of 10 percent customer participation in renewal energy was met.

The Mayor thanked the citizens for their involvement and support.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Storm Water Permit – 2017 Annual Report - Resolution No. 6224 Authorizing Content of 2017 Annual Report to Discharge Storm Water

The Mayor recessed into a Public Hearing at 6:56 p.m. Senior Civil Engineer Crystal Raleigh and Civil Engineer Zach Regnier provided a presentation for Council. Regnier talked about the MS4 permit and the six minimum control measures which include: public education and outreach, public involvement and participation, illicit discharge detection and elimination, construction site pollution control, post construction storm water management, and pollution prevention. Raleigh talked about TMDL compliance. She spoke about phosphorus, modeling of the City, ways to remove of phosphorus from the City and Lake St. Croix TMDL compliance. Raleigh stood for questions. There were several questions from Council including how much phosphorus was generated in the City. There were also questions about the adopt-a-pond program.

As there were no comments from the public, the Mayor moved back into Open Session at 7:14 p.m. MSC Morrissette/Bjork move to approve resolution. Unanimous.

Ordinance 2018-01 - Amending Titles 9, 12, and 17 of the Municipal Code Regarding Hunting within City Limits-Second Reading and Disposition

The Mayor recessed into a Public Hearing at 7:14 p.m.

Aaron Cudd, 583 Country Oaks Circle – came representing the Paul Cudd family. He was also concerned with trespassing and parking.

Ben Fochs, 680 County Road MM – felt if the public was aware of the boundaries, issues of trespassing could be resolved. He felt hunting was also a public safety issue and talked about managing the deer population.

As there were no other comments, the Mayor moved back into Open Session at 7:17 p.m. MS Morrissette/Gagne move to approve the ordinance with the removal of the 22-acre parcel (parcel number three in the staff report).

Alderson Bjerstedt clarified that staff permission was needed to hunt on the City land. Alderson Watson shared that the Park Board talked about the parking issue. They didn't believe much hunting would happen in that area but recognized the landowners' concerns about parking. He did not have a problem removing that parcel from the ordinance.

Alderson Gagne shared concerns about safety/parking on the highway. He was in favor of removing the parcel also.

Alderson Downing asked about being in compliance if the parcel was removed. City Administrator Simpson said yes the parcel can be removed - there cannot be a blanket prohibition on bow hunting. The question for Council is has there been a substantive change since what was noticed in the first reading. Simpson felt the Council could argue that it was not. He said it would be helpful for the Councilor who made the motion to agree it was not a substantive change. Alderson Morrissette agreed it was not. Simpson explained how ordinances were noticed. Morrissette explained his reasoning; Gagne also provided an explanation. Simpson said the hunting map can be amended from time to time by resolution. **With no other questions, the Mayor asked for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.**

Ordinance 2018-02 Amending Multifamily Design Standards in Section 17.73 of the Municipal Code-Second Reading and Disposition

The Mayor recessed into a Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m. As there were no public comments, the Mayor moved back into Open Session at 7:25 p.m. MS Morrissette/Odeen move to approve ordinance.

Alderson Bjork had issues with the ordinance. He asked for clarification on the bike rack requirement. Development Services Peterson provided answers. Alderson Odeen reminded the Council that this ordinance was for duplexes with four or more units. She was in favor of the ordinance; she wanted to encourage bicycle use. Alderson Watson agreed.

Alderson Gagne asked for clarification about the bike parking location. Peterson said it doesn't specifically require the bike rack to be in the front of the building. The Mayor said it would mostly be for rentals with college students and bikes. Gagne had an issue with needing the bike rack to be by a building entry. Odeen asked if variances were allowed. Peterson said yes and staff will be reviewing site plans and will work with the developer.

City Administrator Simpson reminded the Council that one of the main aims was applying design standards to these duplexes. The bike rack was just one element. Simpson provided further clarification.

Bjork asked if the ordinance just applied to duplexes. Simpson said this ordinance adds duplexes with eight or more units. Watson talked about the multi-family units on the east side of town with lots of bikes. He is in favor of the ordinance. He asked for further clarification on the entry versus the yard. Peterson said it would depend on the site plan; she would prefer that they wouldn't be in the front yard.

Gagne was in favor of the ordinance. **He moved to strike number four from section three. There was no second. The Mayor asked for a vote on the original motion. The ordinance passed 6-1 with all voting in favor except for Bjork.**

Bjork asked for a roll call vote. Simpson said there was one nay vote which was Bjork.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Acknowledgement of the following minutes:

River Falls Housing Authority – 12/17/2017; Park and Recreation Advisory Board – 12/13/17;

Historic Preservation Commission – 12/13/17; Plan Commission – 1/2/18; EMS Advisory Board –

12/4/17; Library Board – 12/4/17; 11/6/17→→**Pulled by Gagne**; Utility Advisory Board – 12/18/17

Resolution Supporting an Application to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for Funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) →→**Pulled by Downing**

Resolution No. 6225 - Approving City Administrator Annual Performance Review Process

Resolution Approving Percent for Art Policy→→**Pulled by Downing**

Resolution Approving Option Agreement with Interfacial Consultants→→**Pulled by Downing**

MSC Morrissette/Watson move to approve remainder of Consent Agenda. Unanimous.

Library Board Minutes from 12/4/17 and 11/6/17

Alderpersion Gagne wanted to give an update on the Library Director retirement/recruitment. **MSC Gagne/Odeen move to approve minutes. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 6226 - Supporting an Application to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for Funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)

Alderpersion Downing was in favor of the resolution and provided his reasons why. **MSC Downing/Odeen move to approve resolution. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 6227 - Approving Percent for Art Policy

Alderpersion Downing was in favor of the resolution and provided his reasons why. **MS Downing/Odeen move to approve the resolution.** Alderpersion Morrissette likes public art policy but has some concerns about adding additional costs to public projects. He would rather see money allocated out of the general fund. Alderpersion Bjerstedt agreed. Alderpersion Gagne asked if this was requirement. City Administrator Simpson said this was policy direction for staff. He said it was up to one percent but it could be zero. Gagne didn't think it should be a requirement.

Alderpersion Watson said that unless a mechanism is put in place, it doesn't tend to happen. It gives staff direction that we value art, noting the utility box art project. Watson is in support of it. He would be willing to discuss another funding mechanism when we get back into the budgeting process. Morrissette talked about having staff come back with another funding option to consider.

MS Odeen/Morrissette moved to amend the second whereas with wording "to be funded out of the project budget or general fund".

Alderpersion Bjerstedt asked if it was still a requirement. There was further discussion. Simpson again said this was a policy and provides direction to staff. He provided further explanation. Alderpersion Bjork asked for clarification on Odeen's amendment. Morrissette asked if this would affect applications for grants. Simpson said grants are based on eligible expenses.

MS Gagne/Bjerstedt move to change wording "River Falls Creates *will* allocate" to "River Falls Creates *may* allocate". The Mayor asked for a vote. All voted in favor except for Odeen.

The Mayor asked for a vote on Odeen's amendment on funding. The amendment passed with all voting in favor.

The Mayor asked for a vote on the resolution as amended. The resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 6228 Approving Option Agreement with Interfacial Consultants

Alderpersion Downing was curious about what they produce, the effects on the environment and the number of employees. Simpson said they make products in compounding - some with recycled materials. There are 8-12 employees currently. **MSC Downing/Odeen move to approve resolution. Unanimous.**

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

Ordinance 2018-03 - An Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory of the Town of Troy (City of River Falls, Cernohous and Evan Trust, River Falls School District and Johnson) and to the City of River Falls, Wisconsin-First Reading

There were no comments/questions.

Ordinance 2018-04 - An Ordinance Annexing Certain Territory of the Town of River Falls (Apostolic Gospel Church and Dennis Elrod) to the City of River Falls, Wisconsin-First Reading

There were no comments/questions.

Resolution No. 6229 - Regarding Purchase of Water/Wastewater SCADA System

SCADA Engineer Greg Dietsche and Wastewater/Water Superintendent Ron Groth provided a presentation for Council. Dietsche talked about what SCADA is and does for water and wastewater. Groth talked about how the SCADA system communicates and the failure rate of the current system. Groth also talked about the quote for the project and his experience with the company making the bid.

Alderson Watson was totally in favor of the project. He clarified that the water being taken out of the ground not the river. Groth affirmed that was correct. **MSC Watson/Bjork moved to approve the resolution. Unanimous.**

REPORTS:

Strategic Plan Update

Management Analyst Keri Schreiner provided a report on the 4th quarter 2017 strategic plan goals. She reviewed the five goals and the status of each. Alderson Morrissette talked about not being able to measure job growth. He would like to remove it from the report due to that reason. Morrissette wanted the Council to spend some time reviewing the report maybe in a workshop.

Administrator's Report

City Administrator Simpson gave kudos to the City's snowplowing crew and talked about priority routing. He also provided important upcoming dates.

Comptroller's Report for December 2017

Comptroller Odeen read the report: preliminary year end General Fund revenues were \$9,762,770, with expenditures of \$9,752,939, for a net budget surplus of \$9,831.

The 2017 budget had included the use of \$525,000 of fund balance for succession planning purposes. No fund balance has been used as of this report, which leaves the fund balance in a stronger position at the end of 2017 than was anticipated.

Additional costs will likely be allocated to 2017 as final invoices and expenses are received and recorded.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor's Appointment

Business Improvement District

Reappointment of Shari Frisbie through December 2020

MSC Morrissette/Odeen move to approve appointment. Unanimous.

MSC Bjerstedt/Morrissette move to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan, Deputy City Clerk