



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

**May 8, 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, Sean Downing, Christopher Gagne, Scott Morrissette, Diane Odeen, Michael Page, Hal Watson

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Scot Simpson; City Attorney Dan Gustafson; Police Chief Gordon Young; Development Services Director Amy Peterson; City Engineer Reid Wronski; Utility Director Kevin Westhuis; Management Analyst Fellow Jason Rohloff; Management Analyst Keri Schreiner; Assistant City Administrator Julie Bergstrom; Deputy Clerk Jennifer Rogers; Civil Engineer Zach Regnier; Senior Civil Engineer Crystal Raleigh; Clerk of Court Melinda Johnson; City Treasurer Susan Langer; Judge June Cicero

**Others Present:** Michael Madsen, Jeff Bjork, Dustin Hanson, others

**The Pledge of Allegiance was said.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

April 24, 2018, Regular, Workshop and Closed Session Minutes; April 17 Organizational Meeting Minutes  
**MSC Morrissette/Odeen approve minutes. Unanimous.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Bills \$2,549,161.79

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

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

Michael Madsen, 371 High Ridge Road – came to talk about the fence ordinance. He talked about wanting to build a fence due to safety and dog walkers. He talked about his concerns with the ordinance including the landscaping requirement. Madsen would like the ordinance to go back to the way it was. Alderperson Bjerstedt asked if he was in favor of the ordinance. Madsen said no and noted the landscaping. He would like it to go back to the way it was.

Jeff Bjork, 759 River Ridge Road – came to speak about turtle conservation and talked about a group called Turtles for Tomorrow.

The Mayor recognized Judge June Cicero for her 34 years of service to the City. She received a standing ovation the audience. The Judge spoke about the love for her job and River Falls. She thanked the Council for the trust they placed in her to be the City's judge.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Junior's Liquor License Renewal

**The Mayor recessed into a Public Hearing at 6:50 p.m. With no one wanting to speak, he closed the Public Hearing at 6:51 p.m. and moved back into Open Session.**

**MS Morrisette/Page move to amend the licensed premises.** Alderperson Morrisette was concerned about parking in the area. He asked the agent to consider paving the lot across the street. Agent Dustin Hanson said it will be taken under consideration.

Alderperson Gagne asked about staffing the outdoor facility. Hanson explained anytime the patio is open, it would be staffed full time. There was further discussion.

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

**MS Morrisette/Odeen move to approve the license for JRKM Management DBA Junior's Bar and Restaurant from July 1, 2018, to June 30, 2019.** Alderperson Watson clarified that was for a combination "Class B" liquor and Class "B" beer license. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Resolution No. 6264 - Awarding Bid for 2018 Sidewalk, Curb, Gutter, and Structure Repair Program  
Resolution Approving Relocation Order for Property Acquisitions – STH 35/65 Ramp (Hanson Drive and Division Street) →→*pulled by Downing*

Resolution No. 6265 - for the Final Acceptance of Public Improvements in Knollwood  
**MSC Watson/Bjerstedt move to approve remainder of Consent Agenda. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 6266 - Approving Relocation Order for Property Acquisitions – STH 35/65 Ramp (Hanson Drive and Division Street)

Alderperson Downing asked City Administrator Simpson to provide clarification for the public. Simpson said the Council is approving a relocation order for two properties. The City is purchasing the properties but the State is doing the work and paying for the road. He explained the resolution provides the go ahead to purchase the properties covered by the resolution and sets in motion the condemnation process if an agreed upon price is not reached. Simpson relayed a conversation he had with one of the owners. City Engineer Wronski had a conversation with owners of the other property, and they are on board. Simpson said it is not a voluntary process once the Council sets it in motion. He provided further comments. Wronski showed a map of the location.

**MSC Downing/Morrisette move to approve resolution. Unanimous.**

**ORDINANCE AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Ordinance 2018-04 Amending Title 17-Zoning of the Municipal Code Related to Fences – First Reading  
Alderperson Page asked if it just applied to new construction. Simpson said yes. He provided further information.

Alderperson Gagne noted that staff and the Plan Commission spent a lot of time on the ordinance. He thought it was good step to find middle ground. Simpson addressed Madsen's earlier concerns and talked about the landscaping requirement. He said the Council could modify the ordinance at the second reading. There was further discussion about landscaping by Alderperson Gagne and Morrisette. Morrisette talked about conversations he had with Madsen.

Ordinance 2018-05 Amending the Official Traffic Control Map, Speed Limit on Huppert Street from Chapman Dr. to Arrow Court – First Reading

There were no comments.

Ordinance 2018-06 Creating a One-Way Alley for Riverwalk-First Reading

Alderperson Downing asked about cosmetic improvements. Simpson said the change only involves a couple of signs. He talked about several items which need to be addressed. Alderperson Page asked about a future scenario to have only foot traffic on the alley. Simpson explained his thoughts about the future of the alley.

## **REPORTS**

### **Liquor License Process**

Deputy Clerk Jennifer Roger gave a presentation on the liquor license process. Liquor licenses are a privilege granted by the local governing authority and is governed by State Statutes. She talked about the different types of liquor licenses, the number of licenses in the City, the application process, what is an agent, and the renewals. Rogers stood for questions.

Aldersperson Bjerstedt asked if the City was at the maximum quota of licenses. Rogers said yes. Aldersperson Page asked how the quota was set and if it would be re-evaluated in the future. Rogers said the quota is set by the State. She is unsure if any changes will happen soon as the State is slow to make those changes. Watson asked about reserve licenses. Gagne asked about breweries. Rogers said those licenses are issued by the State.

### **Administrator's Report**

Simpson thanked Council for the Strategic Plan Session that happened earlier in the day. He also provided updates. Page asked about training materials for the Board of Review.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Two proclamations were read: one for National Public Works Week and Police Appreciation Week.

### **Mayor's Appointments:**

#### **Business Improvement District**

Reappointment of Kerri Olson through December 2020

#### **Park and Recreation Advisory Board**

Reappointment of Brenda Gaulke through May 2021

Reappointment of Susan Reese through May 2021

**MSC Morrissette/Gagne move to approve the Mayor's Appointments. Unanimous.**

## **CLOSED SESSION:**

**MS Watson/Morrissette move to recess into Closed Session at 7:23 p.m. per Wisconsin State Statutes for the following purposes: § 19.85(1)(e) "deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session, to wit: sale of property in Whitetail Ridge Corporate Park/Sterling Ponds Corporate Park."**

**The Mayor asked for a roll call vote to move into Closed Session. It passed unanimously.**

**MSC Morrissette/Odeen at 7:36 p.m. to move back into Open Session. Unanimous.**

**MSC Bjerstedt/Odeen move to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan, Deputy Clerk