



*CITY OF RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN
COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS*

May 28, 2019

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 Sergeant Elizabeth Posel; Development Services Director Amy Peterson; Utility Director Kevin Westhuis; Civil Engineer Zach Regnier; City Clerk Amy White; Finance Director Sarah Karlsson; Assistant to the City Administrator Brandt Johnson; Wastewater/Water Superintendent Ron Groth

Others Present: Elizabeth Bowden, Lorraine Davis, Patricia LaRue, Julia Tiede, Jenna Stam, Kristin Grove, others

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

May 14, 2019, Workshop and Regular Minutes

MSC Morrissette/Odeen approve minutes. Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Bills \$627,574.22

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

PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Proclamation Honoring the 100th Anniversary of Wisconsin Ratifying the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution Granting Suffrage to Women

The Mayor read the proclamation. Lorraine Davis thanked the Mayor for the proclamation. She talked about Wisconsin being the first state to ratify the 19th Amendment which gave women the right to vote. Davis provided a brief history, talked about the upcoming event, and she introduced members who passed out flyers and buttons.

Public Comment

Elizabeth Bowden, 317 Clark Street – she wanted to be on record expressing concern about the Kinnickinnic River regarding the Depot/City Station project. She spoke in length about the river and how development may affect it. Bowden encouraged Council to slow the process down.

Patricia LaRue, 489 Marcella Court – she talked about the Depot/City Station project and the people it will bring to the City. She felt it will bring new life into the City effecting the community in a positive way.

There were no other public comments.

Change of Agent – WE Market Co-op dba Whole Earth Cooperative of River Falls

MS Morrissette/Odeen moved to approve the change of agent. Alderperson Morrissette asked the new agent, Julia Tiede, to come forward. Morrissette asked Tiede if she possessed a responsible server's license, if she

understood the requirements of an agent, and if she understood if there was an alcohol violation occurred while she wasn't present, she would be responsible. Tiede answered yes to all. **With no other questions or comments, the Mayor asked for a vote on the motion. It passed unanimously.**

PUBLIC HEARING:

Annual Liquor License and Beer License Renewals

The Mayor recessed into a Public Hearing at 6:46 p.m. With no one wanting to speak, he closed the Public Hearing at 6:46 p.m. and moved back into Open Session.

Aldersperson Morrissette wanted to ask the new agents for Kwik Trip South and Broz questions. The agents came forward. Morrissette asked Kristin Grove, the agent for Bo's, if she possessed a responsible server's license, if she understood the role and requirements of an agent, and if she understood that if an alcohol related violation occurs while she is not there, she is still responsible. Grove answered yes to all.

Morrissette asked Jenna Stam, the agent for Kwik Trip, if she possessed a responsible bartender's/server's license, if she understood the requirements of an agent, and if she understood that if a violation occurs while she is not there, she is responsible. Stam answered yes to all.

The Mayor took a roll call of agents present. Agents were present from Aldi, American Legion, Bob and Steve's, Broz Sports Bar, Devine Liquors, Dick's Hometown Liquors, Emma's Bar, Falls Theatre, Family Fresh Market, Holiday Station Store, Johnnies Bar, Junior's, Kwik Trip Store 453, Lazy River, Luigi's Pizza, Mainstreeter, Mariachi Loco, Maverick's, Mel's, Moonshiner's, Pizza Hut, River Falls Copper Kettle, River Falls Golf Club, the Moose Lodge, Shooters, Steve's Pizza, WE Market Co-op, Westwind Supper Club,

The Mayor moved onto approving licenses by class. He read the process for approving licenses.

MS Morrissette/Page move to grant renewals for the Class "A" beer licenses and Class "A" cider only license contingent that all licensing requirements are met at the time of issuance for Bob and Steve's Stores #4 and #6 and Holiday Station Store #8.

Aldersperson Gagne asked the agents to train staff to observe and identify intoxicated individuals and to not overserve. **With no other comments, the Mayor asked for a vote on the motion. It passed unanimously.**

MSC Watson/Gagne move to grant renewals for the combination "Class A" liquor and Class "A" beer licenses contingent that all licensing requirements are met at the time of issuance for Aldi, Devine Liquors, Erickson's Diversified, Dick's Hometown Liquor, Kwik Trip Store #301 and #453 and WE Market. Unanimous.

MSC Morrissette/Odeen move to grant renewals for the Class "B" beer licenses contingent that all licensing requirements are met at the time of issuance for Falls Theatre, Luigi's Pizza, Pizza Hut, and Steve's Pizza. Unanimous.

MSC Watson/Page move to grant renewals for the combination "Class B" liquor and Class "B" beer licenses contingent that all licensing requirements are met at the time of issuance for American Legion, Bo's 'N Mine, Broz, Emma's, Johnnies, Junior's, Lazy River, Mainstreeters, Mariachi Loco, Maverick's, Mel's, Moonshiners, Copper Kettle, the River Falls Golf Course, Moose Lodge, Shooters, and Westwind. Unanimous.

MSC Morrissette/Downing move to grant a new "Class C" wine license to Falls Theatre contingent that all licensing requirements are met. Unanimous.

Resolution No. 6372 - Approving Specific Implementation Plan (SIP) for the Depot/City Station
The Mayor recessed into a Public Hearing at 6:55 p.m. With no one wanting to speak, he closed the Public Hearing at 6:55 p.m. and moved back into Open Session. MS Morrissette/Gagne move to approve resolution.

Gagne talked about the City's housing study which surveyed housing needs. He spoke about the City's many housing needs including low income housing. Gagne felt this project would address some of those needs. He also talked about flooding and the developer being willing to assist if there were any concerns. Gagne was in favor of the project.

Aldersperson Watson agreed with some of the comments including that the City needs denser, downtown housing to support the main street. He thinks there are a lot of positive aspects to the project. He spoke about a planned urban development and how often the rules are changed and provided examples. The City has a PUD ordinance that has five criteria which need to be met in order to accept an application. They are: community benefits, character and intensity of land use, economic feasibility and impact, engineering design standards, and preservation and maintenance of open space. He was disappointed because he didn't feel these issues were addressed by staff. The Plan Commission voted to move ahead with the contingency that these items are to be addressed. Watson talked about the time restraints for PUDs. He would like to see a longer period – maybe 90 days – so the Plan Commission can do its due diligence. We are supposed to have an influence over how projects look. He doesn't feel that is happening with current projects. Watson wants the City staff and the Plan Commission to review the criteria of acceptability of the project. He felt the information wasn't readily available to the public.

As there were no other comments, the Mayor asked for a vote on the motion. Everyone voted in favor of the resolution except for Watson who voted against.

Ordinance 2019-07 – An Ordinance Amending Section 10.12.030 Official Parking Control Map (Revising No Parking Zone – 700 Block St. Croix Street) – Second Reading and Disposition

The Mayor recessed into a Public Hearing at 7:06 p.m. With no one wanting to speak, he closed the Public Hearing at 7:07 p.m. and moved back into Open Session. MSC Morrissette/Downing move to approve ordinance. Unanimous.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Acknowledgement of the following minutes: Historic Preservation Commission – 4/10/19; Plan Commission – 3/19/19 and 4/2/19; Park and Recreation Advisory Board – 4/17/19; Utility Advisory Board – 4/15/19; West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility Commission – 3/21/19; BID Board – 4/9/19

Resolution No. 6373 Regarding Overweight Permits for the West Central Biosolids Facility
MSC Morrissette/Odeen move to approve Consent Agenda. Unanimous.

REPORTS:

Administrator's Report

City Administrator Simpson said an email was sent to Council stating that there would not be a Closed Session tonight unless Council wanted it.

Simpson wanted to recognize the work of the City Clerk's office with the liquor license process. It's important work which looks easy, but it is not. Simpson spoke further about staff and the process.

Simpson appreciated the approval of the Gerrard project. He said the memo in tonight's packet isn't the only memo on this project. There is a lot of background and history on the project. Simpson said TID 7 was created on January 13, 2009. There was an agreement with Frisbie Architects for a significant project on April 14, 2009. The Gerrard option to purchase which included details and the plans for project was executed on May 9, 2017. He welcomes feedback for this process but doesn't believe staff "fast-tracked" the project. It has been several

years in coming. The City endeavors to have a transparent and participatory process so people have a say in what is going on.

Simpson said the housing affordability reporting that the City asked for a waiver is due to the staff's belief that the state made an error in allowing the builder's association to dictate how reporting should be done by cities for their sole benefit. There's a waiver process for cities to use when they believe a reporting requirement is unnecessary. The City isn't opposed to reporting to what we are doing but just that requirement. He provided further explanation about the builder's association and builder's fees.

Gagne asked what the City uses impact fees for. Simpson said impact fees are based on the cost of services to that dwelling.

Morrisette acknowledged Sergeant Elizabeth Posel on her efforts to get a grant for fingerprinting. He appreciated her effort going above and beyond.

Comptroller's Report for April 2019

Comptroller Odeen read the following: General Fund revenues through the end of April were \$3,926,787 or 36 percent of the annual budget. Revenues in April include \$171,884 in transportation aids and annual lottery credits from the state of Wisconsin, and \$33,215 in quarterly cable franchise fees. Expenditures for the same period were \$3,030,679 or 28 percent of the annual budget, for a net of revenues over expenditures of \$896,108.

The Mayor provided a reminder about the first Cookout Conversation on Thursday, June 6, at 6 p.m. at Sterling Pond Park.

MSC Bjerstedt/Downing move to adjourn at 7:16 p.m. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan, Deputy Clerk