



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

August 13, 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 Chief Gordon Young; Utility Director Kevin Westhuis; Finance Director Sarah Karlsson; Operations Director Mike Stifter; Assistant City Administrator Julie Bergstrom; City Engineer Crystal Raleigh; EMS Director Jason Stroud; City Clerk Amy White; Assistant to the City Administrator Brandt Johnson; Library Director Tanya Misselt; Senior Planner Brandy Howe

Others Present: Larry Larson, Tom Caflisch, Bill Gnatzig, Thadis Hague, Sherry Hague, Larry Johnson, Martin Tiede, Monte Hansen, Larry Waters, others

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

July 23, 2019, Regular Meeting Minutes

MSC Morrissette/Downing approve minutes. Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Bills \$2,505,672.89

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

PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

There were no public comments.

Updates from the School District

Superintendent Benson gave a brief presentation. He thanked the Council for hosting a joint meeting with the School Board. Benson talked about a \$48 million referendum that passed in 2018. There are renovations happening at all the buildings. Construction will be done in December for Rocky Branch and Greenwood. We are on time and on budget. Construction at Westside will be delayed because summer school was held there. All projects at the high school should be done in the next few weeks. At the middle school, four science labs were completed, the library had media center major renovation, some classrooms have received new flooring. Next year, air conditioning will be installed. If people are interested in learning more, Benson invited them to contact him.

Report from the Historic Preservation Commission

Heidi Heinz, Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC), provided a presentation. She recognized fellow members: Jane Hoffman, Jeff Bjork, Pam Friede, Mark Anderson, Denton Anderson, and Councilor Michael Page. She also mentioned City staff, Brandy and Sam. She thanked them for going above and beyond the call of duty. Heinz talked about the HPC's purpose which includes protecting historic sites, safeguarding cultural heritage, stabilizing property values and enhancing historic attractions.

One of the HPC's powers is to designate historic sites/structures by plaquing them and issuing certificates of appropriateness.

Heinz talked about a 2018 HPC retreat, the Historic Preservation Plan update, and the City's power plant. She spoke about public outreach done by the commission. Heinz said three plaques were done this year for the Swinging Bridge, Veterans Park, and the Walker Farm. She also talked about what was ahead to accomplish.

Alderson Odeen asked about Heinz's shirt. She provided an explanation. Alderson Morrissette thanked Heinz for the lead taken on Veterans Park.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Resolution No. 6390 - Amending Official City Newspaper

Resolution Approving Agreement with Genevieve Rugo and Hovde Trust – North Interceptor Sewer Project→→*pulled by Downing*

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

Resolution No. 6391 - Approving Agreement with Genevieve Rugo and Hovde Trust – North Interceptor Sewer Project

Alderson Downing wanted clarification on what was included in the cost of the project. City Administrator Simpson said there was a charge for the property acquisition and the property owner was also interested in having the ability to connect to the City's water/sewer in the future. The estimated cost to do that is \$80,000-\$100,000. The property owners would have additional costs to connect. Downing asked if that was a final estimate. Simpson said that was the best estimate we have to date. **MSC Downing/Morrissette move to approve resolution. Unanimous.**

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution No. 6392 - Approving 2020-2024 Fiscal Plan

Finance Director Karlsson provided a brief presentation. Long-range fiscal planning is a marrying between financial forecasting and strategy. The plan is from 2020-2024. She talked about capital projects and the timeline, revenues, debt impact, TID revenues, and more. Some things have changed since the workshop including a decrease in the levy from 4.3% to 3%. Karlsson said funding a new fire station was not included in the fiscal plan. TID revenues will be paying for a Police Department. It does not include a subsidy for EMS. It will be self-sustaining. Karlsson showed a slide on the TIDs and provided further detail. The Mayor thanked Karlsson and Finance Department, Assistant City Administrator Bergstrom, and City Administrator Simpson for creating the TIDs and making the Council look good. He appreciated it. **MS Odeen/Page move to approve the resolution.** Downing felt the City needed to look at getting a new pool in the future. **With no other comments, the motion to approve the resolution passed unanimously.**

REPORTS:

Administrator's Report

Simpson provided information on upcoming events.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Mayor recognized and thanked members of American Legion Post 121 who were in the audience. He provided information about the centennial event and read the proclamation.

MSC Bjerstedt/Downing move to adjourn at 6:56 p.m. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan, Deputy Clerk