



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

August 27, 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, and Michael Page

Members Absent: Hal Watson

Staff Present: City Administrator Scot Simpson; City Attorney Dan Gustafson; Police Chief Gordon Young; Utility Director Kevin Westhuis; Assistant City Administrator Julie Bergstrom; City Engineer Crystal Raleigh; EMS Director Jason Stroud; Assistant to the City Administrator Brandt Johnson; Economic Development Specialist Keri Schreiner; Human Resources Director Karen Bergstrom; Fire Chief Scott Nelson; Development Services Director Amy Peterson

Others Present: William Hanson, Mark Sams, Jim Miller, Benjamin Fochs, Dick Rinehart, Michelle Maher, others

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

The Mayor noted that a week ago, the American Legion Post 121 celebrated its 100th anniversary. In honor of the anniversary, the Legion came to do a flag-folding ceremony for the Council and explain its meaning. The Mayor asked everyone to welcome the American Legion members.

Legion members folded the American flag while Adjutant Jim Miller said there were 13 folds in the flag. He provided an explanation of each fold. When the flag was folded, it was presented to the Mayor.

The Mayor encouraged any veteran, who was not a member of the American Legion, to be come a member and be a part of the great work they do.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

August 13, 2019, Regular Meeting and Workshop Minutes

MSC Morrissette/Odeen approve minutes. Unanimous.

APPROVAL OF BILLS:

Bills \$583,437.33

MSC Morrissette/Downing move to approve bills subject to the comptroller. Unanimous.

PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

William Hansen, N8723 1025th St., Town of River Falls – he talked about energy produced by burning coal and its byproducts. He talked about sourcing renewable energy and encouraged expansion of the City’s purchase of clean, renewable energy.

Ben Fochs, 2529 Powell Ave. – wanted to talk about Ordinance 2019-09 which rezones and amends the future land map. He talked about the City’s initiatives. He felt the traffic was an issue in that location and should be reviewed before rezoning. Fochs doesn’t feel the site is well-suited for the proposed development.

Report from the Police and Fire Commission

Mark Sams, Chair of the Commission, provided a report. He recognized the 2019 new officers and the 2018 Firefighter of the Year, Justin Wilson. Sams acknowledged fellow board members: Grant Hanson, Richard Rinehart. Randy Zimmermann and Jon Longsdorf. The commission consists of five citizens with terms of five years. Sams reviewed the powers and duties which include: appointment of the Police and Fire Chiefs, appointment of subordinates, and addressing any disciplinary matters. The commission meets as needed. Sams provided some scenarios to illustrate the commission's duties. There were no questions from the Council.

PUBLIC HEARING:

Request for a Combination "Class B" Liquor and Class "B" Beer License – Michelle Maher dba Falls Theatre, 105 S. Main Street

At 6:50 p.m., the Mayor recessed into a Public Hearing. With no questions or comments, the Mayor moved back into Open Session for disposition. MS Morrisette/Page move to approve request. Morrisette noted that Maher was already an agent and has answered the three questions he asks agents. **The Mayor asked for a vote. All voted in favor of approving the request.**

CONSENT AGENDA:

Acknowledgment of the following minutes:

EMS Advisory Board – 6/3/19; Park and Recreation Advisory Board – 7/17/19; Plan Commission – 5/7/19; 6/18/19; 7/16/19; Historic Preservation Commission – 7/10/19; Utility Advisory Board – 7/15/19; West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility Commission – 6/20/19

Resolution No. 6393 - Approving Application for Exemption from County Library Tax

Resolution Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with Kinni Corridor Collaborative, Inc. →→pulled by Downing

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

Resolution No. 6394 - Approving a Memorandum of Understanding with Kinni Corridor Collaborative, Inc.

Alderson Downing asked about consistency with the City's resolution and asked City Administrator Simpson to speak about it.

Simpson said Resolution No. 6234 which was passed by the City Council in February 2018 is the basis of a number of the phrasing and performances within the MOU. The resolution is a foundation to the architecture of the MOU as well as the mission and the goals of the Kinni Corridor Plan. The MOU is a 10-year agreement with some renewals available by the parties. Simpson felt it was very consistent with the resolution passed by the Council.

Downing asked if it met the expectations of the Kinni Corridor Committee. Simpson said yes. He provided further detail. Downing asked if it was a phasing plan. Simpson said this was a pathway to put the plan in action. He talked further about what it included. Downing liked the way it was going. **MS Downing/Morrisette moved to approve resolution.**

Alderson Bjerstedt asked about the MOU in the packet on page 40, item 8, "Co-Leader - our responsibility as co-leader for third-party funding and fiscal agent". He asked what the City was agreeing to do. Simpson said we are telling the Kinni Collaborative that they aren't the only ones who deal with third parties. The fiscal agent language will require the City to be the grant recipient.

Morrisette is troubled that the dam information is called out specifically in the language. The Kinni Corridor Collaborative is meant for the whole corridor and not just the dams. He wanted to make that statement and hold that task to the committee. Morrisette wants to make sure that we were keeping a broader focus and not just on dam removal.

Aldersperson Gagne asked about packet page 47, item d, which states, “if disagreements arise which cannot be settled by cooperative means and dialogue, this MOU may be terminated by either party within 60 days.” He continued, “KinniCC is not obligated to transfer its operating funds or assets to the City at MOU termination. If either party initiates a termination of MOU, obligation of donation and creditors will be resolved between the City and Kinni.” Gagne expects if obligations made in a LOA, that any creditors or debtors would be met with funds that were mutually agreed upon funds. Simpson said yes, that is how he understands it. He provided examples for further clarification. There was further discussion.

Upon the conclusion of discussion, the Mayor asked for a vote on the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:

Ordinance 2019-09 to Rezone and Amend Future Land Use Map for 1520-1570 Cemetery Road – First Reading
There were no comments.

Resolution No. 6395 - Approving the Final Plat for Highview Meadows 5th Addition

MS Morrissette/Page moved to approve resolution. Downing asked about water pressure problems and a final inspection for the buildings in the final plat.

Simpson said before any public improvements are accepted, they must be certified and inspected. Services to each of the buildings would need to follow the plumbing code. It doesn't guarantee a certain pressure, but in the main, there would be pressure testing. Simpson provided further details. He doesn't anticipate any pressure problems in Highview Meadows.

Morrissette asked about the letter of credit. City Engineer Raleigh anticipates that the letter of credit will be ready by week's end. **With no other comments/questions, the Mayor asked for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.**

REPORTS:

Administrator's Report

Simpson provided information on upcoming events including the beginning of the school year. He talked about the library tax certification and the Fire Department's Badging Ceremony. Morrissette said he had a conversation with the High School Principal who said there were 75 new students at the high school. He encouraged people to be welcoming to them.

Comptroller's Report for July 2019

General Fund revenues through the end of July were \$5,873,037 or 54 percent of revenues.

Revenues in the month July include \$410,208 in shared revenue (Wisconsin State Aid), \$171,884 in transportation aids, and \$148,907 in Lottery Credits. Expenditures for the same period were \$5,328,896 or 49 percent of expenses, for a net of revenues over expenditures of \$544,142.

CLOSED SESSION:

At 7:15 p.m., MS Downing/Bjerstedt move to recess into Closed Session 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: 716 N. Main Street.” **The roll call vote to recess into Closed Session was unanimous.**

RECONVENE INTO OPEN SESSION:

MSC Morrissette/Odeen move to return to Open Session at 7:35 p.m. Unanimous.

MSC Bjerstedt/Downing move to adjourn at 7:35 p.m. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan, Deputy Clerk