

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MONDAY, MARCH 1, 2010 - 6:30PM
CITY HALL BUILDING, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Council President Marsala calls the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

Roll Call. Present: Alderman Krause, Roehrer, Mott, Marsala, Fesenmaier, Krohn, and Tolar.

Open Meetings Law Compliance Check

Tolar/Fesenmaier motion to approve Minutes from the February 1, 2010 Committee of the Whole Meeting as distributed. Unanimously carried.

Comments from the public as allowed by Wis. Stats. §19.84(2), except for public hearing items.
Comments will be limited to 5 minutes.

Spyro Condos, 1760 Hillcrest Drive, questioned why we are not rehabbing roads and alleys when we have money, why we need a tax increase when we have all this money coming into the City, and why the credit card and mismanagement of funds fiasco is not settled.

Ellyn Kehoe asked about the Edwards Boulevard contract, and asked how we are going to grow the community and increase tourists. She said that people in First District don't realize there are two alderman positions to vote for in First District in this election, the one-year term and the two-year term.

John Walker, 540 Franklin Street, commented on the inconvenience of not being able to launch his kayak at the West End and the high cost. He proposed three launching sites and lower fees to relieve congestion and encourage kayaking.

Bill Huntress, 1015 Pleasant Street, registered his complaint about the Regional News coverage of his comments at last month's meeting. He also was critical of Alderman Krause for not returning his phone call.

Todd Krause, 1112 Wisconsin Street, rebutted saying he can prove he did try to call Huntress and either Huntress gave him the wrong phone number or did not answer.

Thomas Spellman, 270 Country Club Drive #22, voiced his displeasure with the document concerning the alleged abuse of the committee by Ms. Fesenmaier and feels it is a fraud in how it is being presented.

Bill Cousino, 302 Maxwell Street, said there are still many questions unanswered and feels we still do not have accountability for the money that has been spent and from which fund it has been taken. He also commented on the Green Ribbon Ad Hoc Committee, performance reviews, lawsuits, insurance coverage, audits and spending.

Barbara Hartke, 705 S. Lakeshore Drive, read a statement on fiscal responsibility and a petition from the people demanding a freeze on spending. She also requested an objective audit be done after the April 6 election to assess the financial health of the City. She will present a petition from "We the People" at the first Council meeting after the election.

Andy Kerwin, 1719 Miller Court, applauded the City on installing kayak racks, but is concerned about limiting access to the lake and feels it will create more congestion. He wondered if the proposed fee is in balance with the use.

Dave Schuster, owner of Clearwater Outdoor downtown, said he has been working with Alderman Marsala trying to work this out. He feels there should be four launch sites, that kayakers are "ambassadors" to the lake and there are all kinds of peripheral benefits to kayaking.

Announcement regarding the upcoming 2010 Census questionnaire being sent to residents and the importance of their return.

Marsala emphasized the importance of the information that comes out of the census and how it affects our funding from the state. It is the law that this information cannot be passed on to any other government agencies.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS.

Finance, License & Regulation Committee, Alderman Krause

Alderman Krause said the 2008 audit was finished and we received our letter. He met with Peg Pollitt about the 2009 audit. There is no deadline for when an audit needs to be done; the target is that we will be completed at the end of March with all our City obligations in terms of getting the audit ready. Past practice has been that our auditor comes in April and May; it should be done by early May. He commented on how the budget process works. As Finance chair, he is the facilitator. The committee did a preliminary budget. Each alderman had two opportunities to go over each item line-item by line-item and to speak in a round table meeting regarding the budget. At the end of the day, all the aldermen agreed. When it went to Council, it was approved; it is a bare-bones budget. He also commented on the \$625,000 grant money. He said he asked the City Administrator if it has to be earmarked solely for road improvement. He recalled from that dialog there is a much broader take on that and it can include road maintenance. Secondly, most municipalities make this part of their operating budget; this has also been past practice.

Krause said he had asked the snow removal contractor to attend this meeting and the Committee could have him speak if they want.

Fesenmaier asked when to expect the management response to the 2008 audit; Krause said he would check into it.

Krohn asked about the street grants. Krause reiterated that it can be part of the operating budget.

Fesenmaier encouraged having public input at the beginning of the budget process in the future.

Fesenmaier/Mott to suspend the rules to allow Bob Carlson to speak. Unanimously carried. Carlson is the contractor approved to do the sidewalks for the 2009-2010 sidewalk snow removal season. He can see there are some things that need to be fine-tuned that would make it better for everybody. The contract needs to be brought out earlier so you can bring out your problems before the season starts. He would like it clarified as to who decides who clears the sidewalks and said there has to be consistency.

Personnel Committee, Alderman Marsala

Marsala said there is a meeting tentatively scheduled for this month. Last month they tried to address Alderman Fesenmaier's concerns about misappropriation of funds and handling of City funds and this will be on the coming meeting agenda. They are still in the midst of Labor negotiations; the unions are being very cooperative. Krause asked about the evaluation of the City Administrator; Marsala responded there has to be an ordinance change which Attorney Draper is working on. They are trying to create a new evaluation form. Krause said the evaluation form used three years ago would be acceptable and recommended using it since it has been three years. Marsala said they want to look at all of the evaluations forms and this will be addressed.

Public Works Committee, Alderman Tolar

Tolar said they discussed the rain barrels and compost bins, salt application rates, and the Riviera Project list and architectural proposals. They will send out to three local architectural firms for a bid. They talked about the sewer project; the City streets and the need for policies for use of City streets for different activities; and the need for repair of the garbage truck and

the beach groomer. Fesenmaier said Chris Register will be available for the April Committee of the Whole to answer questions about the rain barrels and compost bins. She also said the salt application issue will be addressed at the next Council meeting. Tolar said they also are pursuing the possibility of concrete intersections on Main Street and Broad Street and are getting proposals from Crispell Snyder. He added that there was a water leak by Cobb Park that eroded the street; the Utility Commission said if the City would consider doing the whole street, they would split the cost with the City. Mott encouraged the concrete intersections, but Krause cautioned about the time and expense it takes to put in the concrete.

Piers, Harbors, & Lakefront Committee, Alderman Marsala

Marsala said the kayak launching area and rack is a major issue right now. Citizens are concerned about traffic congestion the West End location might cause and asked the Committee to reconsider. Per the auditor's recommendation, they are looking into how to best handle the cash taken in at the Beach.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND BOARD REPORTS

Utility Commission, Alderman Roehrer & Tolar

Roehrer said the Utility Commission has been looking at turning the sludge they have right now into Class A sludge but that would cost over a million. They are looking at purchasing 40 to 80 acres of farmland to spread the sludge instead. They are also setting up automatic bill payment as an option. One of the last septic areas of the City on South Lakeshore Drive is going to be converted over to sewer.

Tree Board, Alderman Fesenmaier

No meeting. April 24, 2010 is the date that has been set for the Arbor Day Celebration.

Police & Fire Commission, Alderman Tolar

Tolar said the Police transferred \$13,500 from the 2009 budget to the 2010 budget so they could purchase the cameras for the squad cars. They have used some of the donations they have received for their physical fitness room. They reviewed a policy dealing with harassment discrimination. The Phoenix program will be in the cars by the end of April and they should have the new squad cars in another 60 days. They are working on the joint employment agreement between various communities for part time employees. They received a letter from the Sheriff's Department for their help with the hostage situation in Sharon. The Fire Department had one officer leave, received a report on a new ambulance, and discussed the union contracts. Krause mentioned two of our firemen with special training assisted in extricating a man from a grain silo and received high praise for it.

Planning Commission, Alderman Tolar

Tolar reported they held the Highway 12 hearing regarding rezoning of the property for Edwards Boulevard which had been sent to Council but it was taken off. It will be on the next one. They had a public hearing on the sign for Roddy's Wine and Spirits and the Baker House; both were recommended to Council. Roger Wolff said they are going to put a new brick face on what used to be Arnold's Drugstore and bring it back to what it was years ago. Fesenmaier asked for more information on the Edwards Boulevard parcel of land; Tolar explained that several of the parties involved had asked it to be removed from the Council agenda until they had time to read the documents but were in agreement with it. Fesenmaier asked for further explanation of the minutes regarding the consistency requirements. Tolar explained that Mr. Slavney gave an explanation and we are pretty much following this; it is still in the draft stage. Roehrer hopes Mr. Slavney will give this same presentation to the Council. Krause added that the talk right now is that the Edwards Boulevard extension is scheduled to be completed by November, as soon as this property issue is resolved.

Board of Park Commissioners, Alderman Fesenmaier

Fesenmaier reported that at the February meeting, a permit was approved for the Fourth Annual Alzheimer's Association Memory Walk in Library Park September 18, 2010. They had forwarded the information from the Criterion Bike Races to the last FLR & Council meetings so are waiting for that to be rescheduled on the Council meeting agenda. Marsala added there were several concerns by the Police Department. The Park Board will be entertaining any requests for memorials now that they have the Donation Memorial document in place. In March, there will be a joint meeting of Public Works; Piers, Harbors and Lakefront Board; Park Board; and Beautification Committee to look at the Flat Iron Park Master Plan, possibly on March 10.

Library Board, Mayor Chesen

No report.

Historic Preservation, Alderman Krohn

Krause/Roehrer motion to suspend the rules and allow Mr. Etten to speak. Unanimously carried.

Mr. Etten said he has asked City Hall to remove Alderman Krohn from the list as she has resigned from this Committee.

He reminded everyone that October 15 & 16, 2010, the Wisconsin State Historical Society will be holding their state conference at Grand Geneva. The new sign for Library Park was delivered today and will be installed at Wrigley and Main when weather permits. On May 2, 2010 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm, they will again be doing the Tales from Lake Geneva Program at Horticultural Hall and it is open to the public. The five individuals who have agreed to participate are Marcie Douglass, Tom Jacobs, Sturg Taggart, Birdell Brellenthin and Buddy Melgas. Krohn said the Pioneer Cemetery fence is beginning to rust in some places and Etten said it would be addressed.

Cemetery, Alderman Krohn

Krohn said they had a meeting February 24. They discussed the financial statements and budget; they also received a vehicle which was in the Police Department seizure program. They purchased it for \$600 dollars and it is just beautiful since they fixed it up. Sturg Taggart also gave a presentation of all the investments and transfer of some of the funds to Edward Jones.

Parking Commission, Alderman Marsala

No meeting, no report.

Communications Committee, Alderman Fesenmaier

Fesenmaier said they will meet on March 16, 2010 at 6:00 pm. Roehrer commented the website looks great and it is easy to download the packets. Krause wondered if a U-tube link of the meetings is possible; Fesenmaier said they had discussed it but it takes up a lot of memory. Mott encouraged residents to use the site to communicate with their aldermen.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES SERVING ON OTHER BOARDS AND COMMITTEES:

Chamber of Commerce, Alderman Krause

Krause complimented George Hennerley on the success of Winterfest; the weather was perfect. The merchants are looking at new ways to encourage visitors to Lake Geneva. They continue to have 8 to 15 new members per month.

Lake Geneva Museum, Alderman Roehrer

Roehrer explained the museum is getting ready to open. They will be open on weekends starting March 5. There will be a butterfly exhibit which will be sent on to a museum in

Houston, honoring the children who were victims of the Holocaust. The Museum's annual meeting will be held Sunday, March 21 at the Museum.

Geneva Lake Development Corporation, Aldermen Roehrer and Krause

Roehrer reported on their meeting last week; they talked about a few plots of land that are for sale. They have in their by-laws that they can buy back those plots from the current owners, so they may begin to do that. Krause added that they can buy at fair market value if they are vacant for more than a year.

Geneva Lake Environmental Agency, Alderman Fesenmaier

There is a workshop Saturday, March 20 at 10:00am at the Linn Township Hall sponsored by the GLEA and UW Stevens Point that is open to the public, focusing on ground water and water shed issues. The Classic Car Rally will be September 24, 25 and 26, 2010.

Geneva Lake Use Committee, Aldermen Krohn

No meeting, no report.

Tolar/Krause motion to adjourn. Unanimously carried.

Transcribed from audio tape.

/s/Artis M. Roenspies, Deputy Clerk