

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2012 - 6:30PM
CITY HALL BUILDING, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Council Vice President Marsala calls the meeting to order at 6:37pm.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Alderman Kehoe.

Roll Call. Present: Aldermen Hartz, Mott, Marsala, Kehoe, Kupsik, Krohn and O'Neill. Absent: Alderman Krause, excused. Also present: City Administrator Jordan.

Hartz/Kupsik motion for approval of Minutes from December 5, 2011 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.

Mark Stinebrink, Owner and operator of the Piggly Wiggly in town, requested that the Council go along with the new state Bill AB63 allowing packaged goods to be sold from 6:00am to 9:00pm.

Discussion/recommendation on closing hours for alcohol beverage retailers.

Administrator Jordan said this was on the agenda so it could be discussed. If there is momentum to go ahead with it, the City Attorney will prepare the proper document ordinance. The consensus was to go ahead with it.

Discussion/recommendation on "sidewalk café" ordinance (Aldermen Hartz and Krause)

Alderman Hartz gave a brief presentation with pictures to show what can be accomplished with the ordinance. Tenets of our Master Plan talk about helping existing businesses generate more business and bringing more life to downtown. This would strictly be food service. Discussion followed on how to regulate this, whether to charge a flat rate or one based on capacity for this type of permit, the height and depth of awnings, how to separate tables from pedestrians, what restrictions to place and how to keep things equitable. This would need to be approved by Finance and the Council.

Finance, License & Regulation Committee, Alderman Krause

Alderman Marsala said Alderman Krause had nothing to be reported in his absence.

Personnel Committee, Alderman Hartz

Alderman Hartz reported they are finishing evaluations and those who have been reviewed will come in for meetings.

Public Works Committee, Alderman Mott

Alderman Mott reported they discussed museum parking on the north side of the building, the north Broad Street lighting replacements, street lighting on Edwards Boulevard, Public Works policies, striping on westbound Main Street at Peller Road, and hand dryers in city restrooms.

Piers, Harbors, & Lakefront Committee, Alderman Marsala

No meeting, no report.

Utility Commission, Aldermen Marsala and Hartz

Alderman Hartz reported they discussed mainly equipment maintenance. Alderman O'Neill asked about the capacities for handling sludge. Mayor Connors informed the committee that one of the three air compressors was down; they are purchasing new ones and comparing the horse powers of different models. Alderman Marsala commented they renewed the five-year contract with their auditor, Pat Romenesko.

Tree Board, Alderman Mott

No meeting, no report. Alderman Kupsik asked if the \$14,000 allotted for tree planting would be spent according to the Tree Board's recommendation of trees to be planted. Alderman Mott said it would, but they would also welcome tree recommendations by anyone in the community.

Police & Fire Commission, Alderman Krause

Alderman Marsala reported that Alderman Krause had nothing specific to report in his absence.

Planning Commission, Alderman Hartz

Alderman Hartz reported that they recommended approval of the Southland Farms Senior Living Center, located at the old race track property. It is for 110 units, including units for independent living, assisted living and memory care. They will have daily bus service to the downtown area.

Board of Park Commissioners, Alderman Kupsik

No meeting, no report.

Library Board, Alderman Krause

Alderman Marsala said there was nothing specific to report.

Historic Preservation, Alderman Kehoe

Alderman Kehoe reported they are pretty much working on the Geneva Theater project, and had a fund raiser which made quite a bit of money. She reiterated that Rick Bernstein will be here in May for a conference on historic cemeteries.

Cemetery, Alderman Krohn

Alderman Krohn reported new officers were elected at their last meeting; Clarence Read is President, Sam Fredrickson is Treasurer and Bob Flemming is Secretary. They are switching their investment company agent to someone locally.

Parking Commission, Alderman Marsala

No meeting, no report. They are going to try to make better use of the remote parking shuttle service for the upcoming Winterfest and other events.

Communications Committee, Alderman O'Neill

No meeting, no report.

Avian Committee, Alderman Marsala

No meeting, no report.

Chamber of Commerce, Alderman Krause

No report.

Lake Geneva Museum, Alderman Mott

Alderman Mott reported they had another lively meeting. Normally they close during the winter; but this year, they will continue to have meetings during the winter because they are doing a lot of refurbishing of, changing of and adding to the current exhibits. In 2011, they had a total of 3,497 patrons and 23 tours, class visits and special events totaling 846 persons. There were 34 states and nine countries represented. They are considering having the Grand Re-opening for May 18 and 19.

Lake Geneva Economic Development Corporation, Aldermen Hartz & Kupsik

Alderman Hartz reported the fourth and final meeting of the year in the Breakfast and Learn Series was held. The average attendance for the year was about 25 at each session. They were aimed at existing businesses; the program will be continued next year. There will also be a column in the Regional News every four to six weeks talking about the economic development within Lake Geneva and specifically within the business park. Unemployment in Walworth County is at nine per cent and 60% of the students within the Lake

Geneva Public School system qualify for assisted meals, which is an unacceptable number. The group is looking at things longer term, at education, at space availability, at business types and at business diversity within the community.

Geneva Lake Environmental Agency, Alderman O’Neill

Alderman O’Neill reported they were able to make a correlation on the lake level between the old method and the newer, electronic method that is being done; the value is that it makes a lot of the previous data still valid. A follow-up letter was sent out on the well -testing that was done to cover the small number of wells that had high arsenic levels. They had a discussion about trying to improve the beach testing turnaround time; most things would cost a lot to do, but one aspect that would improve it would be to have them immediately notify us by email if there is some problem. Alderman Hartz said he received a quarterly report from the group, and was surprised to learn Lake Geneva is fourth on the boat count list. There was discussion on weeds in the lake, increase of more personal watercrafts on the lake and zebra mussels. Alderman Marsala mentioned that the GLEA had a program last year wherein they went to all the launch sites on the lake and trained all the launch attendants in watching for invasive species.

Kupsik/Mott motion to adjourn at 7:47pm. Unanimously carried.

Transcribed from audio tape.

/s/ Artis Roenspies, Deputy Clerk