

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2015 - 6:30 PM
CITY HALL BUILDING, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

Council President Kupsik called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Council President Kupsik.

Roll Call. Present: Aldermen Chappell, Wall, Hill, Kupsik, Kehoe, Lyon, and Hedlund. Also present: City Administrator Jordan and Mayor Connors. Excused: Alderman Kordus.

Wall/Hill motion for approval of Minutes from January 5, 2015 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.

Cheryl Ryan, 795 Curtis St., commented on the January 19, 2015 Plan Commission minutes regarding motion 5 and 6 relative to Mr. Basso's request for a zoning amendment on Curtis Street. Ms. Ryan was surprised when she was told the public will be unable to speak at the Feb 16th meeting. She did some research and would like to share her findings before the vote. Ms. Ryan stated there are a couple of ways the public comments section can be re-opened during the Plan Commission meetings. She stated that there are a lot of people coming to the Feb 16th meeting, and they would like the opportunity to voice their opinions.

Terry O'Neill, 954 George St., stated he feels there is a lack of transparency in Lake Geneva city government which causes distrust. Mr. O'Neill stated that last week at the FLR meeting Ordinance 15-02 was discussed which called to amend traffic and vehicle sections of our ordinances. He stated that Alderman Kupsik postponed the ordinance indefinitely. The item received a unanimous approval and the issue was tabled. Mr. O'Neill feels there were secret meetings held telling the Alderman how to vote which can meet the definition of a negative quorum or negative walking quorum. Mr. O'Neill wants to know what was wrong with the ordinance and why was it tabled indefinitely. Mr. O'Neill is curious of the motives. The tabling wasn't wrong but the reasoning could be.

Mary Jo Fesenmaier, 955 George St., thanked the newspaper for covering the changes that are proposed for Big Foot State Park. Ms. Fesenmaier stated that she is hoping when the DNR is considering the change that they would have a public hearing at Badger High School. She feels the public should be able to share their questions and comments on this issue and the proposed changes to Lake Shore Drive.

Ken Etten, 1109 Wisconsin St., spoke on behalf of the Friends of Geneva Theater regarding their goal of acquiring the old theater. Mr. Etten wanted to extend an invitation to everyone to an informational event on Tuesday, February 17 at the museum. The Friends of the Geneva Theater are looking for input and feedback regarding creating a community arts center. The event is open to the public. The group is hoping the City would allocate a number of the TIF funds to help the Friends of the Geneva Theater purchase the theater. Mr. Etten feels a community arts center would draw people into the downtown area year round and feels this project is for the long term benefit of Lake Geneva.

Ed Yaeger, 421 Water St., wanted to revisit a proposal from 7 years ago. Mr. Yaeger stated that the property we have where the engine service site is located on Sage Street is legal. It's a site that is documented and goes back to 1871. Mr. Yaeger is very unhappy with the current state of the property and urged others to take a look. He feels it deserves recognition and respect. He stated it currently contains broken trees and falling bushes. He feels it would be a nice tourist attraction if cleaned up as it is not currently up to the standards seen elsewhere in Lake Geneva.

Richard Malmin, N1991 South Lake Shore Dr., spoke regarding the plans to replace a portion of Lake Shore Drive and the proposed new beach at Big Foot Beach State Park. Mr. Malmin stated the beach at Big Foot Beach State Park used to be in good condition. There was a program proposed in 1996 by the DNR to preserve the beach, but unfortunately they didn't follow through. He spoke with the DNR and was told the beach was neglected due to the need of having to concentrate on bigger parks up north. He also stated that he was told the DNR was now ready to turn Big Foot Beach State Park into a top tier, high class park with an impressive and expansive beach as well as mentioned the plans to

replace a portion of Lake Shore Drive. Mr. Malmin feels that the DNR had a beach and let it die. He doesn't want millions of taxpayer dollars to be paid to create a new beach when the DNR didn't take care for the one we had. He also doesn't want the City to spend millions by rerouting Lake Shore Drive.

Presentation of "What's New at the Y" by Mike Kramp, YMCA

Mr. Kramp introduced himself as the Director and CEO of the YMCA in Lake Geneva. Mr. Kramp gave a history of the YMCA as well as discussed a number of their accomplishments over the last several years. He discussed a number of the programs that the YMCA offers. Alderman Hill asked if there are reduced rates for residents. Mr. Kramp stated that there are not. Ms. Hill questioned if the YMCA receives subsidies from other municipalities in the area. Mr. Kramp stated that they do not. Ms. Hill also asked about the scheduling at Veteran's Park and questioned who maintains it. Mr. Kramp stated they work closely with the Park Board. Mr. Kramp stated that they split the maintenance costs with the City. Alderman Kupsik asked about the percentage of members from the 53147 zip code. Mr. Kramp stated that it is 50%. Alderman Kehoe asked what the hours of operation are. Mr. Kramp explained that the facility is open during the week from 5:45a.m. to 9:00p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8:00p.m. on Friday. The front wellness area offers 24 access for members 18 and older.

Introduction of Tawsif Anam, Southwest Wisconsin Regional Director for Senator Ron Johnson

Mr. Anam introduced himself as the Southwest Wisconsin Regional Director for Senator Ron Johnson. He stated he can be a point of contact for any constituents in the area. He shared an update from the Senate. Alderman Hill questioned the affairs that Mr. Anam can assist the City with. He stated he would be happy to have a sit down conversation to discuss.

Standing Committee Reports given:

Finance, License & Regulation Committee, Alderman Lyon
Personnel Committee, Alderman Kupsik
Public Works Committee, Aldermen Kupsik/Hill
Piers, Harbors, & Lakefront Committee, Alderman Wall

Committee, Commission and Board Reports given:

Utility Commission, Aldermen Wall/Hedlund
Tree Board, Alderman Kupsik
Police & Fire Commission, Alderman Lyon
Planning Commission, Alderman Kupsik
Board of Park Commissioners, Alderman Kupsik
Library Board, Alderman Lyon
Historic Preservation, Alderman Kehoe
Cemetery Commission, City Administrator Jordan
Parking Commission, City Administrator Jordan
Communications Committee, City Administrator Jordan
Avian Committee, Alderman Wall

Other Boards and Committee Reports given:

Chamber of Commerce, Aldermen Kupsik/Hill
Geneva Lake Museum, Alderman Chappell
Lake Geneva Economic Development Corporation, Alderman Kupsik
Geneva Lake Environmental Agency, Alderman Chappell
Geneva Lakes Family YMCA, Alderman Kupsik
Geneva Lake Use Committee, Alderman Lyon

Hill/Wall motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Unanimously carried.

/s/ Stephanie Gunderson, Assistant City Clerk

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