

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2011 - 6:30PM
CITY HALL BUILDING, COUNCIL CHAMBERS

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by Alderman Hartz.

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

Marsala/Hartz motion for approval of Minutes from September 6, 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.
None.

Finance, License & Regulation Committee, Alderman Krause

Alderman Krause reported they started today with the budget process, meeting from ten to noon, and heard from the Police Department, Fire Department, DPW and Library. Tomorrow they have the rest of the departments, from ten o'clock until noon. Thursday, from six to eight o'clock, they will continue the budget process. The League of Municipalities has a workshop this month, October 19 - 21; if any of the aldermen would like to attend, they should notify the City Administrator or City Clerk. Administrator Jordan explained that in the past there has sometimes been good attendance by our Council people; they have an economic development panel discussion, as well as discussions about open meeting laws, Robert's rules of order, along with other helpful presentations. At Alderman Krause's request, he read off the schedule of subjects to be covered.

Personnel Committee, Alderman Hartz

Alderman Hartz reported that pending is the Council approval of the contract for the City Clerk. Administrator Jordan added that, under the new Act 10 & Act 32, communities are expected to come up with a new grievance procedure because what the governor did ends union contracts for certain unions. We hesitate a little because we have union contracts going until December 31, 2013 and most of the other staff have contracts. These would include discipline and termination issues, but the legislature put a third component on for safety violations. Because of that, we need to do all three of those, the termination process, discipline process and safety violation process, customizing it to our city and our employees. It will be brought to the next Finance Committee meeting with what we have so far. Alderman Hartz agree that it should go to Finance first and then to Personnel if needed.

Public Works Committee, Alderman Mott

Alderman Mott reported that current discussions include a possible museum parking lot, north Broad Street lighting replacements, private drives, shoveling of sidewalks, and Veteran's Park benches and scoreboards. Alderman Krause read an email from Cheryl Ryan requesting that several trash containers be left out in the winter, specifically by the two trails on Curtis Street. In addition, she asked that the trails past Aerial Adventures be kept clear during the winter, as she was told this was designed as a cross-country skiing area; it is only a sixth of a mile section and connects Townline Road to South Street, which are usually plowed. She also asked for plowing of the Townline Trails heading east past the vet's clinic, as those walking are forced to walk on Townline Road if they are trying to walk to Southwind Prairie Homes. Alderman Marsala commented that the five scoreboards at Vet's Park cost only

\$2500 each to replace and perhaps local organizations or individuals would be interested in contributing or sponsoring a board.

Piers, Harbors, & Lakefront Committee, Alderman Marsala

Alderman Marsala updated the Committee on the numbers for the season. Total receipts from the beach were \$326,237, our highest year ever. The launch brought in \$27,825, down about 13%. So far this year the catering receipts for the Riviera are at \$30,700. We have had 51 bookings at the Riviera this year so far, which is an increase of 24%. Mr. Gray has done a superb job of marketing and the remodeling has helped a lot, making the Riviera a lot more desirable now than it was a couple of years ago. The total receipts for the 32 years that the beach has been under city control is 4.5 million dollars. Joe Clifford and George Steffen have been the same two people running the beach since the city took it over and they have been doing a very good job. At the next meeting, they will be talking about relocation of the kayak racks, the possibility of providing paddle board racks, and bathroom closing times at the west end of Library Park. Police Chief Rasmussen said it is not closed exactly at 9:30pm; they kind of play the traffic and the weather. He didn't feel closing them at a set time would be a smart thing to do for security issues. Alderman Krause asked about bathrooms being open for the winter; discussion followed as to which bathrooms are heated and whether they were open for Winterfest. Alderman Hartz questioned whether the Police Chief is the right person to make the public relations decision on when the bathrooms are open. Alderman Marsala explained that the Police are the ones who lock and secure the bathrooms and the Chief's concern is about vandalism and trouble down at the dark end of the park. The longest-open bathroom is at the library. The Police Chief also felt giving specific hours would increase vandalism and people hanging around. Alderman Kehoe brought up the possibility that people may also be using it for a shelter. A discussion followed on what bathrooms are heated, expense of keeping heated ones open in the winter, extending summer hours of bathrooms being open, and the possibility of portable bathrooms in the winter.

Utility Commission, Aldermen Marsala and Hartz

Alderman Hartz reported that two items will be coming in front of the Council. The first is the Utility Commission contemplating renting out space to a company that wants to put up a cell phone tower and the second is cross-connections plumbing inspections that the State is requiring in all homes and businesses. There is an ordinance that needs to be written in addition to a determination of the cost and who bears the cost for these inspections. Alderman Marsala noted that this will also require a certified inspector which we do not have on staff at this time. Alderman Kupsik added that a licensed, certified plumbing contractor can do the inspection.

Tree Board, Alderman Mott

Alderman Mott reported that Arborist John Foster was in attendance and said five trees were approved for removal. During discussion of the tree replacement budget, mention was made that 300 city terrace ash trees and possibly 3,000 private trees within the City limits will be lost; there will be removal of at least 50 trees a year due to disease and hazard. If we don't continue to replant, we are going to really notice the loss. \$15,000 has covered the replanting for the past five years, but nothing has been done for the past three of those five years. They also are letting the community know there are treatments for EAB and we need to get information out to the public. Alderman Krause added that the budget for the last few years has not had any funding for trees outside of TIF. Alderman Krohn commented that trees have been planted on Center Street within the last month and wondered where the money came from for those. Alderman Mott suggested those might be donations. Administrator Jordan noted that sometimes when trees were purchased for the TIF, there were other trees added gratis because of the time of the year; we used those in other areas and really appreciated the

extra trees. Alderman Marsala said that DPW Director Winkler asked for an additional \$15,000 in his budget for planting trees outside of the TIF district because we haven't planted many trees in the past five years.

Police & Fire Commission, Alderman Krause

Alderman Krause gave an update on the Fire Inspection Fee ordinance. The Council denied the concept of having the fee added to the tax bill and PFC is still trying to find a way to cover the \$10,000 increase. We are trying to find the most efficient way to cover these fire inspection fees. There was discussion on the billing procedure the company uses now, on-site billing, possibly changing companies, software that allows on-site billing and pre-paid billing.

Planning Commission, Alderman Hartz

Alderman Hartz reported they acted on all the items at a previous meeting, so there is nothing to report.

Board of Park Commissioners, Alderman Kupsik

Alderman Kupsik reported that the skate board park location has been approved so there will be a continuing discussion on that. There was ongoing discussion regarding the dog park. Mr. Winkler has set up a date for the Eagle Scout Project at Veteran's Park. They have continuing discussion on new signage for Library Park and Flat Iron Park next summer. The sign in Donian park is in need of repair. Administrator Jordan commented that Four Seasons Park is really in good shape. Alderman Mott asked why the dog park is not moving along. Alderman Kupsik responded that they are still deciding on the exact location, size and whether it should be divided. Alderman Mott also inquired about the washrooms and concession stand building at Vet's Park; those facilities are somewhat limited and in need of remodeling. Alderman Krause wondered what would happen to the dog park if that property is developed. Alderman Kupsik said they want the dog park to be temporarily permanent so if the property is developed, they would just have to take the fence down and remove posts. Mayor Connors mentioned that the people who have the concession stand requested a two-year lease; they have been well received and no one has heard any complaints about them.

Library Board, Alderman Krause

Alderman Krause reported most of the meeting was dealing with the budget. They have the window from the Lake Geneva Motel installed as a semi-permanent display. They checked out over 16,000 items in the month of August. They had an interesting conversation on technology, how electronic media might affect libraries in the future and whether there would still be a need for expansion. Both Alderman Krause and Alderman Mott expressed nothing but praise for the Lake Geneva Library and how well it is run.

Historic Preservation, Alderman Kehoe

Alderman Kehoe reported that she will be discussing the budget tomorrow. Some of the requests they propose will have to come out of the general fund or they will have to cut back on some things. They are trying to preserve the theater and are having their first fundraiser soon.

Cemetery, Alderman Krohn

No meeting, no report.

Parking Commission, Alderman Marsala

Alderman Marsala reported there was on-going discussion about the new parking system. One of the concerns expressed by Karri Johnson was that if the kiosks are all solar, what would happen when thick ice accumulates on them, as opposed to the hard-wires which have

heaters in them. There will need to be some ordinance changes put in place once the system becomes functional. The hand-helds are capable of reading bar codes so it might be something that could be incorporated when it is time for new parking stickers. They discussed possibly picking up six parking spaces in front of the theater, now that it is closed, but a question came up as to whether there is a fire code related to that space being open. Alderman Marsala talked to Fire Chief Connelly and he said there is, in fact, a code so no decision can be made on that until we know how that space will be utilized. The library wants to give up one of their 12-minute spots and make it another handicapped. The Commission will be reviewing all the handicapped parking in the city to determine if there are any that should be added, changed or relocated. The landscaping for the parking lots is going out to bid; they were very unhappy with the company that did it this year. Shuttle service for Oktoberfest is set up; it will be well-publicized and was very popular last year. Alderman Kehoe suggested that a special meeting on parking be held in Council Chambers for the community before the final public hearing on the budget; there are many ideas that need to be discussed. Alderman Marsala said the Parking Commission is working on a questionnaire that would go out to residents, employers, and employees as to what they feel the parking needs are; they want to try to come up with a plan that accommodates everyone. Alderman Hartz calmed the heated discussion by explaining that the issue raised in the letter they received really was the about the parking ticket and being ten minutes late to the meter; the new kiosk system will address that in a way that makes it a much friendlier system. He added that the kiosk system is not designed nor was it requested as an answer to the issues of parking. The form that Alderman Kehoe referred to was presented at the last meeting and was generated by a couple of businesses downtown, not by the City. They were just offering their support for the kiosk system. He reiterated that his understanding of the questionnaire that will be going out is based on the overall issue of parking; it doesn't have anything to do specifically with the kiosk system we are purchasing. Discussion followed on feeding the 12-minute meters, community input at the next parking commission meeting and handicapped parking. Mayor Connors noted that the primary purpose of meters of any type is to insure turnover at the parking stalls; the fact that it generates revenue is just an added bonus. If parking were free, someone could park in a stall and stay there all day, which would do no good for the businesses.

Communications Committee, Alderman O'Neill

Alderman O'Neill explained they did not have a quorum. They had an informative discussion, but no action was taken. Alderman Hartz opined that it would be great if the public could be completely informed, instructed on how to use the new kiosks and be shown the benefits. The Communications Committee is supposed to function as a conduit for cable TV, contracts and that kind of thing. There is a provision where they can provide facilities and equipment needs necessary for video electronic digital information distribution to the staff and to the public, but it would be nice if the ordinance was changed so they could go beyond just electronic media and get to printed media that would allow the Communications Committee to participate in the public relations effort on behalf of the parking kiosks. We have a real opportunity to do this well and have the public on board, but that requires an awful lot of communication with the public. Alderman O'Neill added that we need to figure out how it is going to work before we try to explain all the detail behind it. Administrator Jordan said it was mentioned at a staff meeting and every department said they would be more than willing to go out and help door-to-door downtown to help explain the system.

Avian Committee, Alderman Marsala

No meeting, no report. They need two more citizens to volunteer to be on the committee so they can meet. Certain criteria need to be met before the end of the year for us to maintain our status.

Chamber of Commerce, Alderman Krause

Alderman Krause reported that Oktoberfest is this Saturday and Sunday. They had a follow-up discussion about the annual meeting. They added six new members this month. Gentlemen from both the Abbey and Grand Geneva spoke, forecasting their thoughts on the up-coming 18 months; their bookings are really up. Alderman Hartz said he suggested to Kevin Fleming about using the Chamber website for job postings for member organizations and would like to see that on the agenda.

Lake Geneva Museum, Alderman Mott

Alderman Mott reported that they wanted him to mention they are going to be asking for \$18,000 from the City for their budget. They will be distributing Halloween bags to children at their Halloween Costume Parade on Sunday, October 30. There are plans to have an event this fall to acknowledge the completion of the Ceylon Court framework. They had 451 patrons in August. They have a volunteer named Doug Schadewald who has been retyping the Annals of Lake Geneva. They now have a clawfoot bathtub, a B.G. O'Rielly display, and a diorama of the train station donated by Ed Yaeger. They are working on the lawyer display area. A staff appreciation event is scheduled for October 16 at Ryan Braun's. Alderman Krause suggested a calendar that lists all the events in the city would be nice, but was not sure who would best be able to do that. Alderman Kupsik reminded everyone that the City website has links to many of these. Mayor Connors suggested the Chamber may be more in tune with some of the events that we are not aware of and the City could have a link to their calendar that would pick up all those events.

Lake Geneva Economic Development Corporation, Aldermen Hartz & Kupsik

Alderman Kupsik reported they discussed their normal business operations; there was continuing discussion regarding marketing and putting their business park land and other available land for sale. One of their breakfast classes is coming up; the City Administrator will find out when it is.

Geneva Lake Environmental Agency, Alderman O'Neill

Alderman O'Neill reported that the first portion of the meeting was on the car rally which has already occurred. The other big item they covered was the results of the well testing. They tested 53 wells around the lake and only one had e-coli present but seven had arsenic levels that exceeded the drinking standard. These people are informed of it and some of the things they can do to take care of that. One of the better things considering the concern over nitrates coming in from the farmland was that none of the test samples exceeded the drinking standards. One thing they noticed regarding the arsenic is that the deeper the well goes, the more apt they are to find arsenic. He further explained that the arsenic is in the ground itself, not from outside sources.

Marsala/Kupsik motion to adjourn at 8:17pm. Unanimously carried.

Transcribed from audio tape.

/s/ Artis Roenspies, Deputy Clerk