

**MINUTES OF THE
WATERTOWN CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Tuesday, January 23, 2007**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, the regular meeting of the Watertown City Council was called to order, on **Tuesday, January 23, 2007** by Mayor K. J. McDonald at 6:30 PM in the Watertown City Hall Council Chambers.

Upon roll call the following Council Members were present: McDonald, Dan Geiger, Rick Mann, Steven Duske and Earline King.

The following staff members were present: City Administrator David Mandt; City Attorney Dave Hubert; City Planner Crystal Foust, Interim Community Development Director Mark Kaltsas; City Engineer David Martini of Bolton & Menk, Inc.; Finance Director Steven Wallner.

Others present were: Jerome Johnson

STATE OF CITY ADDRESS

McDonald gave a State of the City address. He reviewed projects completed by the city in the past year with particular reference to park plans, boardwalk, revitalized downtown, flat tax rate and the number (44) of new homes built.

2. ADOPT AGENDA

Staff asked that the following items be added to the agenda: (3J) Fishing pier grant application. Staff asked that item 6A, Update of Jan. 5 main lift station back up, be pulled from the agenda. Staff asked that Items 3D and 3H be corrected to read "deny letter of credit reduction" instead of "approve letter of credit reduction."

DUSKE MOVED, KING SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

3. REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Council minutes for January 9, 2007
- B. Pay request from City Attorney
- C. Pay Request from City Engineer
- D. Recommendation to deny Forest Hills Letter of Credit reduction
- E. Recommendation to adopt Resolution 2007-01-23-01 for the American Legion to sell pull tabs
- F. Recommendation to approve the Lions Club application for 3.2% liquor licenses
- G. Recommendation to approve Forest Hills over sizing reimbursement
- H. Recommendation to deny Mill Avenue Letter of Credit reduction
- I. Claims Roster

J. Recommendation to approve fishing pier grant application

Duske asked to pull Item 3C for discussion.

4. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

DUSKE MOVED, GEIGER SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

5. OPEN FORUM

A. Jerome Johnson questioned the extra charges for sewer and electricity. He said in the future, such charges should be applied by the amount of usage rather than a flat rate charge.

6. CELEBRATE WATERTOWN

A. Luce Line Lodge opening soon at 305 Lewis Ave. S.

7. NEW/OLD BUSINESS

A. Review of 2007 First Quarter meeting schedule. Mandt reviewed the schedule with council members. He stated that the schedule would be on future agendas.

B. Review of 2007 Community Center remodel project list. Mandt reviewed the list with the Council. No numbers have been associated with any of the projects. Staff will bring recommendations to the Council at a future meeting. Council members were asked to make suggestions.

8. CITY STAFF REPORTS

A. Mandt showed the Council a potential vendor list that could be established for future projects relating to the remodeling of City Hall.

B. Mandt presented to the Council a list of attributes and amenities to help market the city to people and business owners who may be interested in relocating here. Developer Arnie Esterbrooks has indicated that he would be willing to help finance a plan to hire a marketing firm. Duske suggested that the city may want to work with Watertown Township on the marketing plan to include the area along Hwy. 7.

9. COMMITTEE REPORT

A. Recommendation to add County Road 24 to Trail Plan and to direct staff to submit grant application for the Safe Routes to School Program. The trail on Paul Avenue will run from the new elementary school to Co. Rd. 24. The problem is getting the children safely across Co. Rd. 24 from Wildflower. The Watertown Planning Commission agreed to have Mandt submit a grant to SRTS, which was created by the Federal Surface Transportation Act to work with local groups to identify improvements that will make biking and walking to and from school a safe experience. The next solicitation will start in late August. SRTS projects may

include engineering and must include education, enforcement, encouragement and evaluation.

DUSKE MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO ADD COUNTY ROAD 24 TO THE TRAIL PLAN AND DIRECT STAFF TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PROGRAM. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

10. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

- A. Hubert stated that he would probably have an agreement with the cellular company to bring to the Council in February.

11. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- A. Project Update. Martini presented the Council with a list of city projects that Bolton & Menk has been authorized to work on for the City of Watertown.

12. MAYOR'S REPORT

- A. McDonald stated that he hoped to have a city historian chosen soon.
- B. McDonald has been visiting the high school to encourage students to serve on the new Youth Commission.
- C. McDonald stated that he was troubled by the lack of interest in the federal legislators to come up with a plan for victory in Iraq. He stated that it was a shame that Minnesota National Guard members such as former mayor Stephen Sarvi have to serve extra time in Iraq. He encouraged residents to call their legislators.

13. COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT

- A. Set date for February goal setting workshop with council and staff. After discussion, it was agreed to have this workshop on Saturday, Feb. 24.
- B. Set date for March goal setting workshop with council, staff and commissions. After discussion, it was agreed to have this workshop on Saturday, March 31.

14. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A. DNR grant process for 2007. Mandt
- B. Request for direction on Community Center cleaning. Mandt stated that staff will be seeking quotes for someone to clean the Community Center. Ken Anderson is presently contracted to clean the floors and rugs in City Hall. The city staff is seeking quotes for cleaning and dusting the bathrooms, kitchen and Community Center rooms. Mandt received only one proposal the last time he sought quotes. Geiger suggested that whoever is hired should be a person who does this work professionally.

15. FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT

16. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT

- A. Overview of 2007 Comprehensive Plan organizational meeting. Foust stated that she would like to seek volunteers from the Senior Commission, School District, Watertown Township, Park Commission, EDA and youth to serve on the Comp Plan Task Force. Members already on the Task Force are Council members Geiger and Duske; Planning Commission members James Rivord, Kay Thul and Andrew Gillett; and business owner Chad Hoppke.

DUSKE MOVED, KING SECONDED A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE FOUST TO SEEK OUT VOLUNTEERS FOR THE COMP PLAN TASK FORCE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

- B. Projects Update. Foust presented the Council with a list of projects and the stages at which they are progressing.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

ATTEST:

Steven Wallner
Clerk-Treasurer

K.J. McDonald
Mayor