

**MINUTES OF THE  
WATERTOWN CITY COUNCIL  
Regular Meeting Tuesday, February 27, 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, February 27, 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, Steven Duske, Rick Mann 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 and Finance Director Steven Wallner.

Others present were: Neil and Susan Johnson, Joanne Radde, Jerome Johnson, Chris Johnson, Tom Griffith, Sara Griffith, Emmett Danielson, Judy Hoese, Rick Guetzkow, Laverne Hedlund, Bobbi Morehouse, Fred Clifford, Dr. Scott Jensen.

**2. ADOPT AGENDA**

Staff asked that the following items be pulled from the agenda: (3d) Recommendation from Watertown Fire Dept. to approve amendment to agreement for fire inspection services with Waldron and Associates and (7a) Tuscany Village building permit. Duske asked that the following items be pulled from the agenda: (7d) Recommendation to approve purchase and installation of Community Center doors; (7e) Recommendation to approve purchase and installation of Community Center flooring for kitchen and coat room; (7f) Recommendation to approve purchase and installation of City Hall counters/storage cabinets; (7g) Recommendation to approve purchase and installation of permanent wall for Finance Director's office.

Staff asked that the following items be added to the agenda; (3g) Application for DNR trail grant; (3h) Letter of support for active living in comprehensive planning; (8a) Proposal from Maureen Melgaard-Schneider to facilitate goal-setting workshop for city; (8b) Associated Bank proposal for personnel handbook revision

**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 February 13, 2007
- B. Pay request from City Attorney
- C. Pay request from City Engineer
- E. Request for approval of Race Route for May 12, 2007 Duathlon
- F. Claims Roster
- G. Application for DNR Grant

H. Letter of support that indicates active living in comprehensive planning  
Duske asked to have Item 3C pulled for discussion. He asked that claim of \$216 for backup at the lift station be pulled.

**4. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL**

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

**5. OPEN FORUM**

Neil Johnson, Tom Griffith and Rick Guetzkow spoke for a group of people who expressed displeasure with the way Wayne Jacobson of Jacobson Environmental, PLLC handled the project of clearing tree snags in the Crow River between Watertown and Mayer. Jacobson was at the February 13, 2007 council meeting to ask for \$1500 to help pay for the project. Jacobson had done a demonstration project Jan. 26 from the Luce Line Trail bridge to the Watertown Wastewater Treatment Plant. He was planning on another tree snag clearing project from the Luce Line Trail bridge to Mayer. Jacobson stated at the Feb. 13 meeting that the total cost of the project was \$7,500. Johnson stated that Jacobson told him he had authorization from the Council and DNR which Johnson said was not true. Johnson stated that Jacobson had used his office (as Watertown Park and Rec chair) to gain access to their property. Griffith stated that he had viewed the tape of the Feb. 13, 2007 council meeting and was surprised that Jacobson would do the work and then come to the cities of Mayer and Watertown for payment. Guetzkow stated that Jacobson had cut from an oak tree on his property that he had promised to someone else. Guetzkow stated that no one came to him to ask his permission. McDonald stated that Jacobson misrepresented the city and owes the property owners an apology. McDonald stated that the Council was under the assumption that Jacobson had contacted the property owners. McDonald stated that the property owners' arguments should be directed to Jacobson, Carver County and the DNR.

**6. CELEBRATE WATERTOWN**

McDonald congratulated the city public works department for doing a good job on the recent snowfall.

**7. NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

C. Review of Community Center Project List for 2007. City Staff presented a list of renovation projects for City Hall/Community Center. Staff encouraged council members to provide names of vendors and/or contractors to contact for the various projects. Staff recommended that the projects be financed with funds captured when the City Hall/Community Center was paid off early in 2006. Duske stated that he would like to have a committee prioritize the projects. He nominated Mann and volunteered himself to be on the committee. He stated that he would prefer that the remaining money be used for something other than the proposed projects, such as land acquisition for a new City Hall. McDonald stated that he believes the money should go back into the City Hall/Community Center but he is willing to listen to other proposals. He suggested that this list be discussed at a council workshop.

- H. Dr. Jensen requested that two 15-minute signs be placed in the area of the Library to allow for people to make short visits to the library particularly when parking is at a premium when the Luce Line Lodge is open at the same time as the library.

**8. CITY STAFF REPORTS**

- A. Mandt presented a proposal from Maureen Melgaard-Schneider of Schneider Consulting Associates, Inc. to facilitate the city's goal-setting workshop on Saturday, March 31. Her quote was \$85 per hour. Mandt mentioned that Don Salverda & Associates will also be submitting a quote. The consensus of the council was to hire Schneider Consulting Associates, Inc.
- B. Mandt presented a proposal from Associated Financial Group, the city's benefit provider, for \$750 to revise the city's personnel handbook.

**DUSKE MOVED, KING SECONDED A MOTION TO ALLOW THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE TO HIRE ASSOCIATED FINANCIAL GROUP FOR \$750 TO REVISE THE CITY'S PERSONNEL HANDBOOK. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

- C. Mandt updated the Council on the EDA meeting held February 26, 2007. He stated that Arnie Esterbrooks and Forest Hills are interested in helping with the marketing plan for the city. Mandt stated that James Rivord and Corey Mitteness were interested in being on the EDA. Rivord is presently on the Planning Commission, but agreed to serve on the EDA until someone else is appointed.

**DUSKE MOVED, KING SECONDED A MOTION TO APPOINT COREY MITTENESS AS A MEMBER OF THE WATERTOWN EDA AND JAMES RIVORD AS AN INTERIM MEMBER OF THE EDA. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

**9. COMMITTEE REPORT**

**10. ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

Hubert stated that the tower lease agreement with Crown Castle International had been completed and that the city received a check for \$368,546.74.

**11. ENGINEER'S REPORT**

Martini gave an update on several projects in Watertown. He stated that Rep. Paul Kohls is working on funding for another bridge over the Crow River between Hwy. 25 and Newton Avenue.

**12. MAYOR'S REPORT**

McDonald stated that Rep. Kohls is working on legislation to increase fees for liquor licenses.

**13. COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT**

Duske stated that the Watertown and Mayer senior commissions are working together on a dinner-dance for Saturday, April 21 in Mayer.

14. **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

15. **FINANCE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Wallner stated that the city received \$402 from FEMA for flood relief for 2001.

16. **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

Foust stated that the first meeting of the Comprehensive Plan Task Force would be Wednesday, February 28.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:48 PM.**

Respectfully Submitted,

**ATTEST:**

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Steven Wallner  
Clerk-Treasurer

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K.J. McDonald  
Mayor