

**MINUTES OF THE
WATERTOWN CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Tuesday, May 25, 2010**

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, May 25, 2010** 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, Steve Duske, Earline King, Rick Mann and Dan Geiger.

The following staff members were present: City Engineer David Martini of Bolton & Menk, Inc. and Acting Administrator/City Clerk-Treasurer and Finance Director Steven Wallner.

2. ADOPT AGENDA

Wallner asked to have Item 11-B-1 (Resolution 2010-05-25-1) added to the agenda.

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

3. REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Council Minutes for May 11, 2010 meeting
- B. Planning Commission Minutes for April 8, 2010 meeting
- C. Park Commission Minutes for April 8, 2010 meeting
- D. Gambling Permit for Immaculate Conception Church
- E. Pay request City Attorney – Melchert, Hubert, Sjodin, PLLP
- F. Pay request City Building Official – MNSPECT, Inc.
- G. Utility disconnections (To be presented)

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

4. OPEN FORUM

- A. Duske spoke for a resident who was unable to attend the meeting. He stated that she wanted the Council to be aware that people are not picking up their dog's feces while walking in Old Mill Park. Geiger stated that Senior Planner Crystal Foust has spoke to the Park Commission about this problem and they are looking into putting up signs. Other suggestions from other cities are also being explored.

5. CELEBRATE WATERTOWN

- A. McDonald stated that events are being finalized for the Rails to Trails Festival July 23-24. He also stated that the Farmers Market opened for the first time this season in a new location at Rick Johnson Park. He talked with the vendors and they seemed happy with the new location.

6. NEW/OLD BUSINESS

A. Discussion on a Feasibility Study of an underpass on County Road 20

Geiger opened the discussion on this item by stating that a feasibility report should be assembled to allow the Council to determine if an underpass is the best solution for aiding people to cross County Road 20. Duske stated that Geiger's idea of a feasibility study was good, but wished it had been presented earlier. Duske stated that the study would be for naught at this time and didn't favor doing a study now. Mann stated that he didn't believe an underpass should be built near the roundabout but be farther east. He stated that the feasibility study would indicate where an underpass should be located but he didn't think the school would be in any position to spend thousands of dollars for an underpass. He did not favor a feasibility study at this time. McDonald stated that he didn't see a need for an underpass or overpass because something different may have to be done in the future depending on the growth in Forest Hills. He stated that an overpass would be the best route, but now is not the time. He stated that there would more taxpayers to contribute toward the cost in the future. When asked about the timing of a feasibility study, Martini stated that the area around Paul Avenue and Co. Rd. 20 is not part of the first phase and there would be some time before construction is scheduled in July in that area.

7. **COMMITTEE REPORT**

A. McDonald reported that groundbreaking had taken place on the new recycling center that is going to be built in the Industrial Park.

8. **CONSULTANTS' REPORTS**

A. City Engineer

1. Award contract for County Road 20 Reconstruction Project

Martini presented the Council with the six bids for the County Road 20 project. The bids ranged from \$2.5 million to \$2.9 million. Low bidder was Chard Tiling & Excavating of Belle Plaine at \$2,521,006.96. Martini stated that the city's share of the construction costs is \$370,663.46. The estimated city project cost is \$698,391.60. Martini stated that even though the bids were significantly low for the project, the soft costs for the county went down because they had agreed to 18% in the joint powers agreement. As a result, the city's share went up. The bids for the project included the costs for three alternate items: Underpass at Paul Avenue, Sanitary Sewer crossing at Newton Avenue and Paul Avenue paving.

DUSKE MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO AWARD THE COUNTY ROAD 20 RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT TO CHARD TILING & EXCAVATING OF BELLE PLAINE, MN. AT \$2,521,006.96 AND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO WORK WITH TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS TO NEGOTIATE THE REAPPORTIONMENT OF SOFT COSTS WITH CARVER COUNTY. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

Duske made a motion to eliminate the underpass, sewer crossing and Paul Avenue paving from the County Road 20 project. The motion failed for a lack of a second.

a. Underpass Culvert

The Council discussed the option of removing or leaving in the project the pedestrian underpass at Paul Avenue. The estimated cost would be \$63,197.98.

GEIGER MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO ELIMINATE THE PEDESTRIAN UNDERPASS AT PAUL AVENUE FROM THE COUNTY ROAD 20 PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

b. Sanitary Sewer

The Council discussed the option of removing or leaving in the project the sanitary sewer crossing at Newton Avenue. Duske stated that this can be located in the future if a developer purchases the property. Mann stated that the sewer has no benefit to the city at this time and doesn't favor putting it in. The cost is estimated at \$56,568.27.

DUSKE MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO ELIMINATE THE SANITARY SEWER CROSSING AT NEWTON AVENUE FROM THE COUNTY ROAD 20 PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

c. Paul Avenue Paving

The Council discussed the option of removing or leaving in the project the Paul Avenue paving. Duske made the motion below, seconded by Mann. Discussion followed. Duske stated that the paving should have been completed in 2007 when Hartman Communities, LLC had an agreement with the Watertown-Mayer School District to do the project. Duske stated that the city doesn't own the property on the west side of Paul Avenue and cannot assess the township for its share of what is left to pave. Wallner stated that the city could assess the township, but it would be deferred until the property was annexed into the city. Duske stated that there should have been an escrow account to pay for the final portion of the paving (wear course). He stated that by removing this item, it gives the city time to negotiate with the school district. McDonald stated that the final paving must be done now and the city can still negotiate with the school district. Mann stated that the paving should be done. Geiger also stated that the paving should be completed now but agreed that it should have been done sooner. Martini stated that the integrity of Paul Avenue is not adequate, but he is more concerned about damage to the curb and gutter. Wallner suggested that the Council leave this item in the project and negotiate with the school district. If negotiations are not satisfactory, the item could still be pulled from the project. McDonald and King agreed that this would be the best solution. The estimated cost of this item would be \$47,505.61.

DUSKE MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO ELIMINATE THE PAUL AVENUE PAVING FROM THE COUNTY ROAD 20 PROJECT. MOTION FAILED 4-1 (DUSKE VOTED AYE).

Mann and Geiger will serve on a subcommittee with Wallner to negotiate with Carver County and Watertown-Mayer School District. They also will consult with Duske before their negotiations.

d. Xcel Energy Electric Lines

The Council discussed the options for re-routing the Xcel line around the roundabout at the “Y” intersection. Geiger talked with Sheri Stovern of Xcel. At present, a main feeder line is proposed with a single pole in the middle of the roundabout. The Council would like to have the pole/line relocated. Geiger stated that putting the line underground would be very costly. The options were (1) Leave the line in the same location but eliminate any service lines from it and only have a single pole in the roundabout. There is no cost for this option. (2) Reroute the line along Carter Street which has a three-phase line that can be utilized. A new section would need to be built along Mill Avenue between Carter and Territorial streets. Estimated cost is \$30,000. (3) Bury the line between Hope Avenue and east of the roundabout. This is estimated at \$50,000. Geiger favors using Option Two. It was suggested to work with Carver County on sharing the cost.

GEIGER MOVED, KING SECONDED A MOTION TO OBTAIN A QUOTE FROM XCEL FOR REROUTING THE POWER LINE FROM THE PROPOSED ROUNDABOUT AT THE “Y” INTERSECTION TO CARTER STREET NORTHEAST WITH A NEW SECTION ALONG MILL AVENUE BETWEEN CARTER STREET AND TERRITORIAL STREET. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

2. Progress Report

3. Pay Request

GEIGER MOVED, MANN SECONDED TO APPROVE THE PAY REQUEST FROM BOLTON & MENK, INC. FOR \$47,634.48. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

9. MAYOR’S REPORT

McDonald informed the Council about the Memorial Day Service Monday, May 31 presented by the Watertown American Legion Post 121. It is McDonald’s 50th year as master of ceremonies for the event. He read the names of residents of Watertown who have died in the past wars. McDonald also read Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address.

10. COUNCIL MEMBERS’ REPORT

King reported that she attended the Commission on Aging meeting and gave a report.

11. STAFF REPORTS

A. Administrator’s Report

1. Discussion on administrator interview process

Wallner stated that Mann had suggested to him that a group of teams be used to interview the candidates for city administrator. Wallner suggested three teams be used including members of city staff, council and community. He stated that Dave Unmacht of Springsted had suggested a first round interview with council and staff only and a second round with council, staff and community. Wallner has invited Unmacht to the next council meeting to further discuss the interview process.

B. Senior Planner

1. Resolution for Comprehensive Plan Amendment

Wallner presented the information for this item which relates to a motion approved by the Council April 27, 2010. The motion approved a Comprehensive Plan Amendment for property at 204 Newton Ave NE. The amendment changes the land use for .65 acres from commercial to industrial.

DUSKE MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 2010-05-25-1 APPROVING THE AMENDMENT TO THE 2030 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR THE PROPERTY LOCATED AT 204 NEWTON AVENUE NORTHEAST AS RECOMMENDED BY THE WATERTOWN PLANNING COMMISSION. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

D. Finance Director

1. Request for approval of voucher list/claims roster

KING MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE VOUCHER LIST/CLAIMS ROSTER TOTALING \$102,954.21. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 8:29 PM.

ATTEST:

Steven Wallner
Clerk-Treasurer

K.J. McDonald
Mayor