

**MINUTES OF THE
WATERTOWN CITY COUNCIL
Regular Meeting Tuesday, July 22, 2008**

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, July 22, 2008** 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, Steve Duske and Rick Mann. Council Member Earline King was absent.

The following staff members were present: City Attorney David Hubert, City Administrator David Mandt, City Planner Crystal Foust, City Finance Director/Clerk Steven Wallner, City Engineer David Martini and Planning Consultant Mark Kaltsas.

Also present were: Gary Harding of Watertown Lions and Mike Neisen.

2. ADOPT AGENDA

City Staff asked to have Items 3E (Summer Theater request for fees to be waived if they use the Community Center), 8B (City/School Easement Agreement) and 14A (Tuscany Village update) to be pulled from the Agenda. Staff asked to have Item 6A (Watertown Lions Rails to Trails report) added to the Agenda. Staff asked to have Item 3G (Luce Line Lodge request to have street dance/road closure Aug. 31) pulled from the Consent Agenda and moved to 7D.

DUSKE MOVED, GEIGER SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

3. REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes for July 8, 2008 meeting
- B. Pay request from Melchert, Hubert and Sjodin
- C. Pay Request No. 2 for Kuechle Underground for Industrial Park Utilities
- D. Change Order for Hockey Rink Warming House
- F. Park and Recreation Commission recommendation to create park furniture donation program
- H. Clarification of Area Charges
- I. Moratorium on Licensing Adult Use Establishments
- J. Claims Roster

Duske asked to have Item 3D pulled for discussion. Duske questioned the extra cost for digging. Mandt explained that the cost was increased due to having to go deeper for suitable soil to support the footings.

4. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

DUSKE MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA AS AMENDED WITH ITEM 3G BEING PULLED AND MOVED TO 7D. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

5. **OPEN FORUM**

6. **CELEBRATE WATERTOWN**

- A. Gary Harding of the Watertown Lions Club gave the Council a report of the Rails to Trails Festival and BBQ Challenge held July 18-19. He read a letter that will be sent to all contributors. He also requested use of Highland Park for the 2009 Festival and Challenge for July 16-19, 2008. The Festival and Challenge will be July 17-18.

McDonald stated that he had heard from people that they would prefer to see the Festival and Challenge downtown as it was for the first 10 years. Harding stated that he understands the nostalgia of having the event downtown, but that with the size of the Festival and Challenge today, it would not be possible. He also stated that businesses would not like it if the street had to be closed for four days for setting up, running the event and disassembling. McDonald asked about events no longer being offered, such as the duck race. Harding stated that the duck race was cancelled due to lack of people to run it. He stated that the Lions are always willing to look at other events, but the problem is manpower. Duske asked about having a circus at the same time as the Festival and Challenge. He also stated that it would be good to get more events for the teenage population. Harding stated that having a circus at the same time would be fine, but again it would require more people to help. He stated that in the past two years the Lions have discussed how to incorporate more events for teens. He stated that any ideas were welcome. Duske stated that he would like to challenge the Park and Recreation Commission to come up with a list of activities. Mann stated that the community needs to become more involved to make the event a success.

DUSKE MOVED, MCDONALD SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REQUEST OF THE WATERTOWN LIONS TO USE HIGHLAND PARK JULY 16, 17, 18, 19, 2009 FOR THE RAILS TO TRAILS FESTIVAL AND BARBEQUE CHALLENGE. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

17. **FINANCE DIRECTOR**

Wallner requested that he give his report earlier in the meeting because he was not feeling well. McDonald granted his request.

- A. Property Insurance Renewal. Wallner stated that each year the City must elect to waive the statutory maximum liability limit. The waiver increases the City's insurance premium three percent or approximately \$1,375 for the 2007 renewal and \$1,443 for the 2008 renewal.

GEIGER MOVED, DUSKE SECONDED A MOTION TO NOT WAIVE THE STATUTORY LIABILITY COVERAGE FOR THE 2008-2009 PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURANCE RENEWAL. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

7. **NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Neisen Building Update. Mandt told the Council about the progress Neisen was making on his building since the last Council meeting. Lewis Avenue in front of his building will have to be dug up to fix the sewer problem. Neisen stated that he would like to do the work himself. He stated that he has done similar work for the state on Hwy. 284 and believes he can handle this project. Duske stated that he would like to see the City Engineer have a person inspecting the project and an escrow be set up by Neisen for the expenses for the City Engineer. Geiger stated that the street also needs to be resurfaced according to the Manual of Standards. Neisen stated that he wants to bring in a two-inch line for future expansion. McDonald stated that he would agree to Neisen doing the project himself provided Neisen puts the items stated by Duske and Geiger into a letter and submit it to the City. Mandt stated that a timeline needs to be established.

DUSKE MOVED, GEIGER SECONDED A MOTION TO ALLOW MIKE NEISEN TO REPAIR THE SEWER SYSTEM FROM HIS BUILDING PROVIDED HE SUBMIT IN WRITING TO THE CITY THAT HE WILL SET UP AN ESCROW ACCOUNT TO PAY FOR THE CITY ENGINEERING FIRM TO PROVIDE CONSTRUCTION OBSERVATION FOR THE PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

MANN MOVED, MCDONALD SECONDED A MOTION TO WAIVE ANY WATER OR SEWER HOOK UP CHARGES. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

- B. River Trails bid review and recommendation for award of low bid to Wm. Mueller and Sons of Hamburg. Mandt stated that the City received seven bids for the project with Wm. Mueller & Sons, Inc. being the apparent low bidder at \$156,719.70. Mann stated that he was not in favor of the walking bridge over the drainage area on the west side of Mill Avenue. He preferred to have a parallel trail and culvert. He objected to the composite decking recommended for the bridge. Duske stated that he wanted city staff to check into a warranty for the bridge.

DUSKE MOVED, GEIGER SECONDED A MOTION TO AWARD WM. MUELLER & SONS, INC. THE CONTRACT FOR THE 2008 TRAIL CONSTRUCTION PROJECT WITH A LOW BID OF \$156,719.70. MOTION CARRIED 3-1 (MANN VOTED NAY).

- C. Park and Recreation Commission recommendation for River Plaza. The Park and Recreation Commission reviewed the proposed River Plaza adjacent to Mill Avenue. The Commission recommended that the City install a pergola. The Commission did like a gazebo but thought a better location for a gazebo would be City Center Park or along the Lewis Avenue side of the river. Cost estimates were given to the Council by city staff of the Plaza, including pergola, lighting, landscaping and benches. City staff will solicit quotes to bring back to the Council.

GEIGER MOVED, DUSKE SECONDED A MOTION TO FOLLOW THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION TO INSTALL A PERGOLA AT THE RIVER PLAZA ADJACENT TO MILL AVENUE

AND THAT THE CITY STAFF BE AUTHORIZED TO SOLICIT QUOTES FOR THE PROJECT. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

McDonald recessed the Council meeting for a five-minute break.

- D. Luce Line Lodge request to have street dance/road closure Sunday, Aug. 31, 2008. Geiger stated that he did not favor allowing the street dance due to the noise for nearby neighbors. Other Council Members stated that they did not have any complaints. Mann stated that he did not see any problem with the Lodge having these events on the holidays.

MANN MOVED, DUSKE SECONDED A MOTION TO ALLOW LUCE LINE LODGE TO CLOSE LEWIS AVENUE IN FRONT OF THEIR BUSINESS FOR A STREET DANCE SUNDAY, AUGUST 1, 2008. MOTION CARRIED 3-1 (GEIGER VOTED NAY).

8. CITY STAFF REPORTS

- A. Community Center edging update. Mandt stated that the City received four quotes for the edging at City Hall. The lowest quote came from Curb-It for \$1,808.60. Duske will work with the contractor to determine the pattern of the curbing which will be in a neutral color.

DUSKE MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO AWARD THE CONTRACT FOR THE CURBING AT CITY HALL TO CURB-IT FOR \$1,808.60 BASED ON 295 LINEAR FEET OF CURBING. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

9. COMMITTEE REPORT

- A. Park and Recreation Commission recommendation to pursue disc golf course. Alan Hansen-Begg presented the concept of a disc golf course at a Park and Recreation Commission meeting. Hansen-Begg who has been a disc golfer for five years, volunteered to look for potential locations. After reviewing several sites, Hansen-Begg recommended the property north of the W-M High School. City staff has been in contact with School District representatives who are willing to look at the concept. Foust stated that some of the equipment for the golf course could be built by W-M students as part of their curriculum. McDonald stated that he was skeptical at first, but he became enthusiastic about the project after hearing from Hansen-Begg. Duske stated that he suggested a disc golf course four years ago and believes this is a great addition for the park system. Geiger stated that he has played disc golf and recommended that the course be in an area by itself, not mixed with other activities because of the danger of people being struck by the heavier special made discs. The consensus of the Council was to authorize city staff to continue pursuing the project with funding options and partnerships with the W-M School District.
- B. Park and Recreation Commission recommendation to pursue options for expansion of the skate board park. The City has received a petition from four young adults requesting that improvements be made to the existing skate park in Evergreen Park. Two young men stated this at the Park and Recreation Commission meeting in June. The Park and Recreation Commission have expressed their dissatisfaction in the quality of the park on several occasions. City staff looked into the possible expansion of the skate park and came up with some estimates. Staff recommended

receiving input from skate park users and Park and Recreation Commission, defining the scope of the project, going out for quotes and reviewing them with the Park and Recreation Commission before making a recommendation to the Council.

Duske suggested moving the basketball court for the hockey rink to Evergreen Park and allowing the skate park to be used on the hockey rink. Foust stated that the basketball hoops have already been installed at the hockey rink and if the skate park were placed on the hockey rink, it would have to be removed each winter and set up again in the spring. Mandt stated that the skate park equipment would sink into the asphalt in the hockey rink area. Duske stated that he would like to see a revised capital improvement project and budget for projects recommended by the Park and Recreation Commission. He is concerned that the Park Fund will be tapped for money if the funds for the trail project are exhausted. McDonald suggested requesting funds from the charitable organizations in the city that have pull tab money. Mandt stated that this is one option since the city used pull tab money from the Watertown Lions to purchase picnic tables for city parks. The consensus of the Council was to authorize the city staff to proceed with identifying the cost and potential improvements that can be completed this year.

10. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

11. ENGINEER'S REPORT

- A. Projects update.
- B. Pay request.

DUSKE MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PAY REQUEST FROM BOLTON & MENK, INC. FOR \$22,129. MOTION CARRIED 4-0.

12. MAYOR'S REPORT

- A. McDonald stated that the Farmers Market appeared to be doing well and he looked forward to it being even better with the garden products later this summer.

13. COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT

- A. Duske asked the public and those at the Council meeting to remember the families of the three community people who had died this past week.

14. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- A. Mandt stated that the project report for County Road 20 should be ready to present to the Council in August.
- B. Mandt stated that city staff is working on contract requests for consultants and waste haulers.

16. PLANNER REPORT

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:03 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

ATTEST:

Steven Wallner
Clerk-Treasurer

K.J. McDonald
Mayor