

**MINUTES OF THE  
WATERTOWN CITY COUNCIL  
Regular Meeting Tuesday, Sept. 23, 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, Sept. 23, 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, Earline King, Steven Duske and Rick Mann.

The following staff members were present: City Attorney David Hubert, City Administrator David Mandt, City Engineer David Martini, Finance Director Steven Wallner, Planning Consultant Mark Kaltsas and Public Works Superintendent Doug Kammerer.

Also present were: Wade Stock, Dick Connell, Fire Chief Hubie Widmer, Charla Masica, Randy Masica, Lori Searcy, Kristen Searcy, Jeff Schultz Jr., Tiffany Jessen, Ned Schroeder, Mark and Susan Gould, Mike Hagerty, John Collins.

**2. ADOPT AGENDA**

City Staff asked to move Item 3C to Open Forum and add Items 3H (Public Works Superintendent annual review), 8A (Follow up on Mill Avenue and Forest Hills paving) and 8B (Stake Your Claim web site) to the Agenda. Duske asked to have Item 3G (Claims Roster) moved to 15A under Finance Director's Report.

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

**3. REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Minutes for Sept. 10, 2008 meeting
- B. Recommendation to approve donation policy and donations from the American Legion Post 121
- D. Pay Request from Melchert, Hubert and Sjodin
- E. Pay Request from M K Land
- F. Pay Request from MNSPECT, city building official
- H. Public Works Superintendent Review

**4. CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL**

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

**5. OPEN FORUM**

- A. Request to have Community Center rental fee waived for family benefits  
Lori Searcy, Kristen Searcy, Tiffany Jessen and Jeff Schultz Jr. requested that the Community Center rental fees be waived for a benefits being held Oct. 18 and Oct. 26 for the families of Luke Schultz, Aaron Kelzer and Brett Hansen-Begg. Schultz and Kelzer died in auto accidents and Hansen-Begg is recovering from an auto accident. The Watertown Area Youth Ministry group will be involving in the Oct. 26 benefit.

**DUSKE MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO WAIVE THE COMMUNITY CENTER RENTAL FEES FOR THE FAMILY BENEFITS BEING HELD OCTOBER 18 AND OCTOBER 26, 2008. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

- B. Randy Masica asked the Council for a letter of support to submit to Carver County objecting to the positioning of the proposed river crossing south of Watertown that would align with County Road 122. Masica had approached the Council this spring about this topic. Masica stated that the county wouldn't put in a bridge if the city objected to its position. He stated that he had a petition with approximately 150 names on it in support of a less evasive position for the river crossing. He stated about one-third of the signatures are from the Riverpointe subdivision and other signatures are from various locations. Masica asked if the Council had received the petition. Mandt stated that the petition was received after the agenda was prepared for the Council. McDonald read the regulations pertaining to the Council accepting petitions. Masica stated that he was told the public only has until December to voice their opinion on the county's comprehensive plan. McDonald stated that the city has no jurisdiction over the project and the county is not planning on seriously looking at this for several years. McDonald stated that there would be public hearings held on this topic before any final decision was made.

John Collins stated that he had talked to Craig Anderstrom, chair of the Watertown Planning Commission. Collins said Anderstrom agreed that the proposed river crossing was not in the right location. Collins stated that the majority of the planning commission is not in favor of the location.

Mandt stated that the county, city and township have spent eight years in discussing possible locations. He stated that Anderstrom may not have been around when the discussions began on this topic. He stated that this is definitely a project for the future. Mandt stated that 70 to 80% of the funds for a project like this would come from the federal government and they are at least five years away from any funding.

**6. CELEBRATE WATERTOWN**

- A. Mandt stated that the new river trail on the west side of the Crow River is being used by many people since it was opened last week. Construction of the trail on the east side of the Crow River will begin next week.
- B. McDonald stated that the Farmers Market has been successful and will have its final sale on Friday.

**7. NEW/OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Fire Advisory Board recommendation to approve purchase of new heavy rescue vehicle. Wallner gave an overview of the bids received by the 3 p.m. Sept. 16, 2008 deadline. Bids received were: Crimson Fire, \$376,488 with \$5,000 trade-in allowance for a net bid of \$371,488 and Custom Fire, \$392,980 with a \$19,000 trade-in allowance for a net bid of \$373,980. Wallner stated that the Fire Department Equipment Committee noted several differences including two major departures from the specifications by Crimson. Crimson uses 14 gauge stainless steel while the specifications required 12 gauge and Crimson bid a Class 4 hitch with 750 lb. tongue weight while the specifications required a Class 5 hitch with 1000 lb. tongue weight. The two departures were sufficient to disqualify the Crimson bid. The Fire Advisory Board met Sept. 18, 2008 to consider the bids. They authorized the Fire Department to advertise the current vehicle, pending Council approval, for sale with a goal of achieving a sale exceeding the \$19,000 trade-in option. The Fire Department Capital Equipment Fund will have sufficient funds to cover the purchase without bonding. The Fire Department also has applied for an \$80,000 grant to purchase the vehicle. The Fire Advisory Board recommended accepting the bid from Custom Fire in the amount of \$392,980 with a \$19,000 trade-in allowance option and approves the Fire Department advertising the current rescue vehicle for sale.

**DUSKE MOVED, MANN SECONDED A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE BID FROM CUSTOM FIRE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$392,980 WITH A \$19,000 TRADE-IN ALLOWANCE OPTION AND AUTHORIZE THE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO ADVERTISE FOR SALE THE CURRENT RESCUE VEHICLE. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

- B. Territorial Street Sidewalk and Storm Water Repairs. The City Council Sept. 10, 2008 directed staff to prepare a funding recommendation for the repair of the storm water drainage issues and sidewalk on south side of Territorial Street from Lewis Avenue to the alley. The project is estimated to cost approximately \$25,000. Staff recommended that the storm water drainage portion (\$20,000) be funded through the Storm Water Operating Fund and the sidewalk repairs (\$5,000) be funded from the Downtown Redevelopment Fund. The funding proposal was discussed at the Finance Committee meeting September 22, 2008.

**MCDONALD MOVED, GEIGER SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE REPAIR OF THE STORM WATER DRAINAGE AND SIDEWALK ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF TERRITORIAL STREET FROM LEWIS AVENUE TO THE ALLEY WITH FUNDING FROM THE STORM WATER OPERATING FUND AND DOWNTOWN REDEVELOPMENT FUND. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

- C. Recommendation to award low bid for pergola. Kaltsas presented the information to the Council. The Trails Committee received quotes from Epple Exteriors of Montrose for \$6,000 and Picture Perfect Carpentry of Waconia for \$8,430. Kaltsas stated that there were differences in the quotes as far as length of warranty and decorative cut on the overhang. Kaltsas stated that the Trails Committee recommended Picture Perfect because they offered more detail in their design which was closer to what the Council wanted and they offered a longer warranty. Duske asked to be part of the negotiation that the Trails Committee would be involved with the contractor.

**GEIGER MOVED, KING SECONDED A MOTION TO AWARD THE PROJECT TO PICTURE PERFECT CARPENTRY OF WACONIA AND ALLOW THE TRAILS COMMITTEE TO NEGOTIATE THE CONTRACT DETAILS. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

**8. CITY STAFF REPORTS**

- A. Mill Avenue and Forest Hills Paving. A committee of McDonald and Geiger was selected to meet with the contractor and city staff about the issues involved with the project.
- B. Stake Your Claim web site. Mandt stated that it would cost \$19 per year to maintain the web site. Duske stated that he would rather drop the web site since the city is heading in a different direction with its marketing.

**DUSKE MOVED, MCDONALD SECONDED A MOTION TO TABLE THE ISSUE. MOTION FAILED 4-1 (DUSKE VOTED AYE).**

**MCDONALD MOVED, GEIGER SECONDED A MOTION TO RENEW THE STAKE YOUR CLAIM WEB SITE FOR \$19 PER YEAR. MOTION CARRIED 4-1 (DUSKE VOTED NAY).**

**9. COMMITTEE REPORT**

**10. ATTORNEY'S REPORT**

**11. ENGINEER'S REPORT**

- A. Project Update presented by Martini.
- B. Pay request from Bolton & Menk, Inc.

**MANN MOVED, GEIGER SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE PAY REQUEST FROM BOLTON & MENK, INC. FOR \$12,372.50. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

**12. MAYOR'S REPORT**

**13. COUNCIL MEMBER'S REPORT**

**14. ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

- A. Mandt stated that the Watertown Chamber of Commerce will be holding a political forum for city council and mayor candidates in October.

**15. FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

- A. Claims Roster.

**MCDONALD MOVED, MANN SECONDED TO APPROVE THE CLAIMS ROSTER. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.**

**16. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

A. Kaltsas stated that there would be a special comprehensive plan task force meeting at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, October 2, 2008.

**17. ADJOURNMENT**

**THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:53 PM.**

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Steven Wallner  
Clerk-Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
K.J. McDonald  
Mayor