

**MINUTES OF THE
WATERTOWN CITY COUNCIL
Special Meeting Tuesday, December 22, 2009**

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a special meeting of the Watertown City Council was called to order, on **Tuesday, December 22, 2009** 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, Rick Mann, Steve Duske, Earline King and Dan Geiger.

The following staff member was present: Acting Administrator/City Clerk-Treasurer and Finance Director Steven Wallner.

Also present was: Laurie Mann, Ken Grotbo, Rob Berg and Dave Stengas.

2. COUNTY ROAD 20 PROJECT

Mann stated that he had concerns about the project and didn't feel confident enough to support the current Co. Rd. 20 project. He read from a list of notes he had prepared about the project. He stated that he was in favor of the roundabout but not in its present state. He stated that the project should be kept simple in design and others should be able to provide comment. He was concerned that Bremer Bank would not be enhanced properly by the project. He stated that the design needs to be user friendly for the fire department and garbage removal vehicles to access the roundabout in a timely and proper manner. He stated that the roundabout has to happen but it should be done to enhance the gateway to the community.

Duske stated that discussion on the project should be discontinued since the project was approved earlier by a 5-0 vote of the Council. His motion to this affect did not receive a second.

Geiger stated that he and Mann had attended meetings with Carver County representatives and Bolton & Menk, Inc. He agreed with Duske to move ahead with the project. He stated that in his personal opinion the city engineer is doing a good job working with the county for the benefit of the city. He agreed with Mann that the project may not be perfect, but the Council must rely on the county and city engineer to correctly design the project. He stated that the roundabout was the best solution for the intersection at the "Y".

King wondered if the design of the roundabout was large enough to accommodate the fire department vehicles and large trucks. She stated that she had not seen any designs, but she agreed with Geiger that the Council must rely on the expert advice of the county and city engineer. Duske stated that he had suggested widening the lanes of the roundabout but this was rejected. He asked if the project could be reduced by only going from Paul Avenue to the fire station. Geiger responded by saying the county has a timetable and money has already been approved for the project by the county.

McDonald stated that safety is his number one concern. He stated that the only way the Council can change the project at this point is by amending what has already been approved. He stated that the project must either go forward or be put on hold and he didn't see how the

project could be stopped. He stated that change orders could alleviate any issues with the project.

Other issues were brought up related to the project such as developing land adjacent to the roundabout. Geiger stated that the roundabout will help toward developing the area and the city needs to work with the county about doing away with the county shed. Mann stated that parking could be a problem with any development in the area.

Dave Stengas from the audience spoke to the Council with a suggestion to put pressure on the county to have them donate the county shed property to the city.

3. VOUCHER LIST/CLAIMS ROSTER

DUSKE MOVED, KING SECONDED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE VOUCHER LIST/CLAIMS ROSTER. MOTION CARRIED 5-0.

4. CLOSED SESSION

McDonald closed the council meeting in order to discuss a personnel item. Following discussion the council meeting was reopened.

5. ADJOURNMENT

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 7:16 PM.

ATTEST:

Steven Wallner
Clerk-Treasurer

K.J. McDonald
Mayor