
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
October 17, 2011
CITY OF ELKHORN
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 9 S. BROAD ST., ELKHORN, WI 53121

The Common Council meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Roll Call.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Howie Reynolds, Aldermen Julie Taylor, Gary Payson, Sr., Kim DeHaan, Scott McClory, Jerry Anderson

Absent: Aldermen Ronald Dunwiddie

Others present: Administrator Tapson, Attorney Ward Phillips, City Clerk Darlene Igl, Police Chief Joel Christensen, Finance Director Mary Hinske, DPW Director Terry Weter, Electric Utility Director Art Schmitz, Fire Chief Rod Smith, Nancy Jacobson – Elkhorn Independent, Thomas Windler.

CONSENT AGENDA

Motion (Payson/DeHaan) to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2011 Common Council meeting, a temporary Class “B” license for Elkhorn Rotary Club for November 20, 2011 and a bartender operator’s license for Sean M. Goodman. Motion carried.

BILLS PAYABLE

Motion (Taylor/Anderson) to approve the City and Utility Bills in the amount of \$3,086,811.03 (check number 84582-84890). Roll call vote: Taylor, yes; Payson yes; DeHaan, yes; McClory, yes; Anderson, yes. Motion carried.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Reynolds stated that there had been a good turnout for Oktoberfest and that having the Smage brothers perform at the event honored them for their participation in the America’s Got Talent competition.

Mayor Reynolds announced that Ronald Dunwiddie had filed a Notification of Non-Candidacy form as he will not be seeking reelection to the Aldermanic District 3 seat.

Administrator’s Report

Administrator Tapson presented the recommended 2012 Operating and Capital Budget. He stated that the 2012 budget meets five basic objectives which were identified in the financial management planning process. Administrator Tapson stated that budget preparation included dealing with several challenges including the impact of Act 32 and Act 10, State revenue reductions, restructuring of levy limits and a need to maximize the effect of the closing of TID 2. As presented, the budget will yield a levy of \$6.75 per \$1,000 of assessed value. A home valued at \$175,000 would see an property tax increase of approximately \$40.00. Many homeowners will likely see a decrease in their tax bill due to lowered assessed valuations.

There will be a budget workshop on October 24th and the Public Hearing was set for November 14.

BOARDS/COMMISSION REPORTS

Plan Commission

Alderman Taylor stated that the Plan Commission had reviewed a request for detachment. The request will be discussed at the next Plan Commission at which time consideration to rezone the property to “Agricultural Holding District” will take place.

Alderman Taylor stated that the Plan Commission had reviewed and recommended approval of a land division of the Mary French property at W3699 STH 11 in the Town of Lafayette. Motion (Taylor/Anderson) to approve ETP CSM E11.09.013 as recommended. Motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS

Historic Preservation – none

Fire Advisory Board – meeting scheduled for October 27

Library Board – none

Chamber – Oktoberfest successful

Elkhorn Downtown Partnership – none

Police & Fire Commission – none

Recreation Advisory Board – none

Sunset Pool Ad Hoc – first meeting was held to begin considering options

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance No. 11-12: An Ordinance Providing for Direct Annexation by Unanimous Consent of Electors and Property Owners of Territory Located in the Town of Lafayette, Walworth County, Wisconsin, to the City of Elkhorn, Walworth County, Wisconsin

Motion (Payson/Anderson) to waive the second reading of Ordinance No. 11-12. Motion carried. Motion (Taylor/McClory) to adopt Ordinance No. 11-12. Roll call vote: Taylor, yes; Payson yes; DeHaan, yes; McClory, yes; Anderson, yes. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 11-11: An Ordinance to Amend the City of Elkhorn Municipal Code at Section 12.10 Events

Motion (Taylor/DeHaan) to adopt Ordinance No. 11-11. Motion carried.

Licensing Agreement for Communications Attachments to Utility Poles Between City of Elkhorn and Windstream KDL, Inc.

Electric Utility Director Schmitz stated that the proposed agreement was similar to other agreements that are in place with TDS. After discussion, motion (McClory/Anderson) to approve the agreement with Windstream KDL, Inc. subject to review by the City Attorney. Roll call vote: Taylor, yes; Payson yes; DeHaan, yes; McClory, yes; Anderson, yes. Motion carried.

Personal Property Auction Contract

An agreement for the sale of City surplus property was considered. The auction is set for November 3, 2011. Motion (DeHaan/Taylor) to approve the personal property auction contract with Dale Folkers, Auctions with Action. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alderman Kim DeHaan voiced concerns regarding the structure of the Park and Recreation Department. She stated that she felt that the Director position could be seasonal with limited hours from April through September and that the department needs more hands on supervision. This topic will be discussed at the Budget Workshop.

Thomas Windler raised concerns about an area in the crosswalk near West Side school stating that water accumulates on the sidewalk forcing the crossing guard to walk children further than necessary. This item was referred to the Municipal Services & Utilities Committee.

ADJOURN INTO CLOSED SESSION

Motion (McClory/Anderson) to adjourn into Closed Session per State Statute 19.85 (1)(g) by roll call vote “Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

a. 201 Centralia Property

Roll call vote – Taylor, yes; Payson, yes; DeHaan, yes; McClory, yes; Anderson, yes. Motion carried. Adjourned into Closed Session at 7:00 p.m.

RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Reconvened in open session at 7:20 p.m.

ADJOURN

Motion (McClory/Anderson) to adjourn at 7:20 p.m.

Darlene Igl
City Clerk