

CITY OF ELKHORN
Finance & Judicial Committee
(Aldermen Howie Reynolds, Chair; Julie Taylor; Scott McClory)

Lower Conference Room, 9 S. Broad Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin

February 26, 2007

Chairman Howie Reynolds called the Finance and Judicial Committee to order at 5:00 p.m. followed by roll call.

ROLL CALL

Present: Aldermen Howie Reynolds, Julie Taylor, Scott McClory

Also present: City Administrator Sam Tapson, City Clerk Nancy Jacobson, Alderman Charles Van Dyke

DEHAAN ENTERPRISE LEASE AGREEMENT

Motion (McClory/Taylor) authorizing City Administrator Tapson to sent a letter to Richard DeHaan stating that the City cannot waive the code provision concerning the requirement for a hard surface parking area. Motion carried by the majority present.

“EAST ELKHORN” ANALYSIS: CONSULTING SERVICES CONTRACTS

Committee discussed the request by Plan Commission for several studies on the impact and acceptability of the proposed annexation/development of the “East Elkhorn” Neighborhood project. Tapson said the studies would include a Transportation/Traffic Impact Analysis, Water System Analysis, Sewer System Analysis, Fiscal Impact, Land Use and Market Analysis. The developer would be responsible for the cost through the standard cost recovery agreement. Tapson said the developer is agreeable to a posting of cash in an escrow account. Certain studies would be useful in creating a model to use later which the City may take some responsibility for cost. Consensus of the Committee was to continue with this approach as long as it looks at the entire project to include the impact on schools, City staff and services.

WCEDA MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Motion (Reynolds/Taylor) to recommend to Council approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Walworth County Economic Development Alliance (WCEDA) agreeing to an annualized cost of \$1.00 per capita at \$8,820 plus out of pocket costs not to exceed \$500. Motion carried by the majority present.

In discussion, the agreement brings a clear understanding of services provided by WCEDA.

CAPITAL SPENDING REFERENDUM ORDINANCE

Committee discussed the possibility of a Capital Spending Referendum Ordinance. City Administrator Tapson brought to the attention of the Committee that other municipalities have ordinances on the books that set a threshold on all borrowing that requires a referendum placing constraints on the municipalities issuing of debt. Tapson asked if the Committee would consider pursuing an ordinance that establishes a capital spending/referendum policy. Among the considerations for the ordinance or possibly resolution, Committee would have to discuss types of projects that would fit in the referendum category whether they affect health, safety and welfare, individual projects or aggregate, and state or federal mandated projects. Tapson said that the City’s bond counsel will assist in crafting an ordinance or resolution, which ever is the right approach. Tapson said the ordinance would be a best practice to capital borrowing and tax practices. Committee was unanimous in its recommendation to pursue the concept further.

DEFERRED ASSESSMENTS FOR OLD PROJECTS

Committee reviewed a number of old deferred assessments presented by the City Clerk. Many of the assessments were deferred for over 20 years. Committee considered waiving the assessments that have

not been collected for over the 20 years. The majority of the assessments were deferred until connection or sale of land. The Clerk told Committee that some of the properties are out of the City limits and a resolution from their respective town did not exist making the assessments uncollectible. Project 93-02 which involved the Water Booster Station and Watermain in the County Complex on NN required more research before determining what type of action should be taken. Staff will come back with a recommendation for placing liens or waiving the assessments on these properties.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion (Taylor/Reynolds) to adjourn at 6:40 p.m. Motion carried by the majority present.

Nancy B. Jacobson
City Clerk