

February 9, 2015 CITY OF WASHBURN COMMON COUNCIL MEETING

Present: City Council Members: Richard M. Avol, Linda S. Barnes, Kristy M. Jensch, Christine M. Kelly, Mary McGrath, Mary C. Nowakowski, and Jeremy P. Oswald.

Municipal Personnel: Mayor Scott A. Griffiths, City Administrator Scott J. Kluver, Assistant City Administrator Kenneth Cammilleri, City Attorney David Siegler, Public Works Director Gayla Salmi, and Public Works Supervisor Ron Leino.

Absent: None.

Call to Order - Meeting called to order at 5:30PM by Mayor Griffiths. Roll call attendance depicted all seven members of the Common Council in attendance. Quorum of the Council recognized. **Pledge of Allegiance.**

Approval of Minutes – City Council Meeting – January 12, 2015 – Motion by Jensch, seconded by Nowakowski, to approve Records of Official Proceedings for the January 12th City Council Meeting with correction to clarify Councilor McGrath’s absence. Motion was unanimously carried.

Approval of Expenditures – A motion by Finance Committee Member Avol was made to approve the monthly expenditure vouchers, seconded by Finance Committee Member McGrath. Motion unanimously carried on roll call vote of all seven Councilors in attendance.

Public Comment –

Jeff Silbert – 502 E. 4th Street – Extend his thanks to the City’s emergency medical responders and police professionals for the services they provided his family. He also provided the Council a copy of the City of Ashland’s Resolution opposing concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs). He requested that the City work with the region to restrict this activity and to adopt a motion to this end. He also urged individual Councilors to also contract the County Board.

Mr. Silbert also suggested that the Councilors should visit farmsnotfactories.com for more information and attend the February 28th discussion on CAFOs at the Great Lakes Visitors Center.

Mike Mertes – 429 E Bayfield Street – Mr. Mertes spoke regarding his opposition to CAFOs locating in the region and to encourage the City take a stance to oppose the farm’s establishment.

Jim Nowakowski – 200 W. Bayfield St – Mr. Nowakowski addressed the Council to support the Washburn Iron Works and its request to purchase and expand onto City-owned property located in the Business Park. He urged the Council to support the Iron Works’ proposal and to reserve road access to properties to the east

from South 1st Avenue East.

Mayoral Announcements, Appointments, or Proclamations –

Mayor Griffiths reported to the Council that Marek Landscaping, LLC (Marek), the City's planning and design consultant for the West End Park Planning Project, will meet with City Hall and Public Works staff on Monday, February 16th and that the West End Park Ad Hoc Committee will be having a public meeting with them later that day at 6:00PM. The Mayor inquired if the Council would be interested in meeting directly with the consultants on that day. He noted that if this was the case, such meeting would need to be noticed. The Council elected not to have a special meeting with Marek and decided that interested individual members would attend the Committee meeting to voice their individual opinions.

Presentation by Dave Porterfield from Movin' Out on Potential Housing Development Options –

Mr. Porterfield of Movin' Out, Inc. explained his organization's mission and history. He also extended a request to the Council to consider supporting one of their developments in the City. Movin' Out, Inc. is a state-wide nonprofit operating out of Madison and has been around for 20 years. The organization's mission is to find and provide affordable housing for people with disabilities. If Movin' Out were to carry out such a project in Washburn, they would potentially look to the City for financing support, most likely through funds available from a tax incremental district. However, in order for Movin' Out to determine if the project is viable, they must first obtain rights to a property that is appropriate for locating their development. It was further noted that current City-owned property may be appropriate for such a development.

Mr. Porterfield answered questions from Council Members and the Mayor.

The City Council took no action on this item. Discussion and review of this proposal is on the next agenda for the Washburn Development Authority.

Report on Activities in the Department of Public Works -

Public Works Director Salmi addressed the Council regarding her report on department activities and answered questions from the Council. Supervisor Leino thanked the Council for the new equipment recently purchased for the department.

Discussion & Referral to Plan Commission for Conditional Use Permit Application for Tourist Rooming House at 1101 Washington Ave., Kristen Bobb, Petitioner - Motion by McGrath, seconded by Avol, to refer the Conditional Use Permit Application for a touring rooming house at 1101 N. Washington Avenue to Plan Commission. Motion carried unanimously.

Request to Purchase City Lot #31, Property Inventory List – Taylor Pearson, Washburn Iron Works – Taylor Pearson addressed the Council regarding the Iron Works' expansion plans. He indicated that he would not be opposed to reserving an access road to the East from 1st Avenue East. Mr. Pearson stated that the Iron Works is most concerned about the sewer main crossing to the south of their building and acquiring the City's adjacent land to the south. He stated that the Iron Works was not looking for an immediate decision but hoped that decisions would be made in the coming months. He indicated that

development plans are at a standstill until they have secure property rights and the sewer issue is addressed. He noted that the sewer issue should be addressed before a purchase decision would be made. The City Council took no action on this item.

Discussion & Action Ordinance 15-001 For the Purpose of Clarifying Utility Connection Requirements for Existing Structures, and to Unify Penalty Provisions for Failure to Connect, by Amending Sections 9-2-12, 9-5-7(b) and Creating New Sections 9-5-7(d) and 9-5-7 (e). –

Administrator Kluver and Attorney Siegler prepared this Ordinance to clear up some confusing provisions and to address language issues currently in the Ordinance. Motion by Avol, seconded by Jensch, to approve Ordinance 15-001 for the purpose of clarifying utility connection requirements for existing structures, and to unify penalty provisions for failure to connect, by amending Sections 9-2-12 and 9-5-7(b) and Creating New Sections 9-5-7(d) and 9-5-7 (e). Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Agreement with Northwest Regional Planning Commission (NWRPC) to Administer the City's Housing Revolving Loan Fund –

NWRPC has provided the administration for the City's Housing Revolving Loan Fund for many years. The program offers qualifying low- and moderate-income households with financial assistance for housing rehabilitation, homebuyer assistance, and funds towards handicapped accessibility modifications. The City has currently 59 active loans and \$31,000 available in the fund. Regional funds are also available to residents when this funding is exhausted. Motion by McGrath, seconded by Barnes, to approve the agreement with the Northwest Regional Planning Commission for the Administration of the City's Housing Revolving Loan Fund. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Resolution 15-002 for Combining Voting Location for Various Wards into a Single Polling Place – Motion by Nowakowski, seconded by McGrath, to approve Resolution 15-002 for the Combining of Voting Location for Various Wards into a Single Polling Place; City Hall. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Special Event Request for West End Park Pavilion and Surrounding Area for Washburn - Board Across the Bay July 24-26th, 2015 – Motion by Barnes, seconded by Kelly, to approve Washburn Area Chamber of Commerce's special event request and a request to use the park pavilion for the Board Across the Bay event on July 24, 2015 through July 26, 2015 at Thompson's West End Park. Motion carried unanimously.

Alcohol Licensing Matters

Bartender License Applications – 56-16 - Motion by Nowakowski, seconded by Barnes, to approve Operator's License 56-16. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion & Action on Agreement with SEH, Inc. to Study Options for Sewer Main Traversing Iron Works Property - The Council discussed options on how to proceed with addressing the sewer main located just south of the Washburn Iron Works Building. Based on a recent evaluation by engineering firm SEH, Inc., the 14 inch sewer main will need to be relined or replaced in the coming years. Also, as noted earlier, the Iron Works' has identified this issue as an obstacle to its expansion plans. Motion by Avol, seconded by Nowakowski, to hire SEH, Inc. to evaluate the feasibility and costs for rerouting the sewer main located in the vacated righted right-of-way of East

Omaha Street between South 1st Avenue East and South 2nd Avenue East to an alternate location for an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00. Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session Items –

Request to Purchase City Lot #31, Property Inventory List – Taylor Pearson, Washburn Iron Works –

Agenda item skipped for lack of a motion.

Adjourn – Motion to adjourn meeting at 7:03PM by Avol, seconded by Barnes. Motion carried unanimously.

Kenneth J. Cammilleri

Assistant City Administrator

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING 4:30PM

Committee Members Richard Avol, Mary McGrath and Mary Nowakowski reviewed monthly expenditure vouchers.