

Common Council Proceedings
City of Portage

Regular Meeting
Council Chambers
City Municipal Building

April 25, 2013
7:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Mayor Tierney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Ald. Dodd, Garetson, Hamre, Havlovic, Klapper, Maass, Miller, Oszman

Excused: Ald. Ebnetter

Also Present: Mayor Tierney, City Clerk Moe, City Administrator Murphy, City Attorney Spankowski, Fire Chief Simonson, Police Chief Manthey

Media Present: Craig Sauer from Portage Daily Register, Bill Welsh from Cable TV

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

4. Approval of Agenda

Deletion: Approval of the minutes.

Addition: Comments from Fire Chief Simonson on the high water.

5. Reports of Sub-Committees, Boards and Commissions

Library Board meeting of April 9, 2013

Airport Commission meeting of April 10, 2013

It was noted that the attachment was not included in the Airport Commission minutes. The above reports were accepted.

6. Consent Agenda

License Applications

Operator license applications for period ending June 30, 2013 for Rebecca L. Arent and Matthew J. Belmont.

Motion by Maass, second by Klapper to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll.

7. New Business

Resolutions

Resolution No. 13-012 relative to Signatures on Accounts was read and adopted unanimously on motion by Oszman, second by Miller and call of roll.

Appointment

Motion by Klapper, second by Oszman to approve the appointment of Richard Beebe to the Historic Preservation Commission. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll.

Mayor's Comments

Splash Pad

Mayor Tierney expressed his concerns over the splash pad, the completion of the project and what the city's financial commitment for the project is, as there are varying opinions. \$90,000 was placed in the budget for the pad for the building and the building housing the operations for the equipment; but there is no funding in the current budget for the shelter, road or parking area. The service organizations have indicated that their commitment was for the splash pad equipment; even though some of the council was of the understanding that the cost of the shelter was to be shared with the service organizations. Council members expressed their support of the project. Mayor Tierney informed the council that he is calling for a Committee of the Whole meeting, possibly next Thursday, with the service clubs so that both the city and service organizations know who is responsible for what.

Skateboard Park

The skateboard park organizers will also be included in the Committee of the Whole meeting as well to set forth the responsibilities of both the organizers and the city.

Portage Canal

Mayor Tierney will be re-establishing the AdHoc Canal Committee with Fred Galley as Chairperson to move forward one way or another with the Canal Project. Mayor Tierney and City Administrator Murphy will be meeting with DNR officials Monday to discuss the Canal.

City Administrator's Report

The advertisement for RFPs for the design build for the splash pad has been posted. Bids will be open May 16th, with consideration by Council May 23rd, and construction of the pad completed by June 28th.

The foundation for the Library project is in place. The Library will be closed at least one week at some point during the construction.

The water and sewer construction projects will begin next week.

The survey requirement for the Community Development Block Grant funds has been completed. The storm shelter project is moving forward with the design phase. Construction is scheduled for this fall.

Updating of the website to be more user friendly will be an on-going process.

The summer recreation programs are quickly filling.

Fire Chief Simonson informed the council of the planning and preparation for the predicted high water levels on the Wisconsin River. Fortunately, the levels did not rise to what was predicted.

Closed Session

Motion by Oszman, second by Klapper to go into closed session pursuant to Wisconsin State Statutes 19.85(1)(b) for the reconsideration of Operator Licenses for Nicole R. Krintz and Sean E. McLaughlin and pursuant to Wisconsin States Statutes 19.85(1)(e) to deliberate the purchase of properties on DeWitt and Cook Streets. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll at 7:33 p.m.

Motion by Oszman, second by Miller to uphold the denial of an Operator License for Nicole R. Krintz. Motion failed on call of roll with Dodd, Garetson, Havlovic and Klapper voting no, and Hamre abstaining. Motion by Klapper, second by Garetson to approve an Operator License for Nicole R. Krintz. Motion carried on call of roll with Maass, Miller and Oszman voting no, and Hamre abstaining.

Motion by Oszman, second by Maass to uphold the denial of an Operator License for Sean F. McLaughlin. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll.

8. Reconvene to open session for remainder of the meeting

Motion by Oszman, second by Klapper to reconvene to open session for the remainder of the meeting. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll at 8:42 p.m.

9. Consideration of purchase of property located at 310 DeWitt Street

Motion by Miller, second by Dodd to authorize the City Administrator to pursue the purchase of the property located at 310 DeWitt Street as directed by the council. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll.

10. Adjournment

Motion by Oszman, second by Klapper to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously on call of roll at 8:45 p.m.

Marie A. Moe, WCPC, MMC
City Clerk