



PROCEEDINGS OF THE BELOIT CITY COUNCIL
100 State Street, Beloit WI 53511
City Hall Forum – 7:00 p.m.
Monday, May 2, 2016

Presiding: David F. Luebke
Present: Sheila De Forest, Regina Dunkin, Regina Hendrix, Kevin Leavy, Mark Preuschl, Marilyn Sloniker
Absent: None

1. President Luebke called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Forum at Beloit City Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a. Vice President Leavy presented to Fire Chief Brad Liggett, a proclamation declaring May 15-21, 2016 as **Emergency Medical Services Week**. File 7148
 - b. Vice President Leavy presented to Chief of Police David Zibolski a proclamation declaring May 15-21, 2016 as **National Police Week**. File 7148
 - c. Vice President Leavy presented to Visit Beloit Executive Director Celestino Ruffini a proclamation declaring May 1-7, 2016 as **National Travel and Tourism Week**. File 7148
4. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None
5. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION – No Citizens addressed the Council.
6. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilors Preuschl and Dunkin made a motion to adopt the consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

- a. The Minutes of the **Special Meeting** of April 14, 2016 and the **Regular Meeting** of April 18 and the **Organizational meeting** of April 19, 2016, 2016 were approved.
 - b. The Applications for Renewal of Alcohol Beverages Licenses for License Period July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017 were referred to the Alcohol Beverage License Control Committee. File 8721
7. ORDINANCES – None
 8. APPOINTMENTS

President Luebke presented the following **City Council Committee/Board/Commission Appointments**:

- Alcohol Beverage License Control Committee –Councilor Dunkin
- Appointment Review Committee – President Luebke and Vice President Leavy
- Business Improvement District (Downtown Beloit Association) – Councilor De Forest
- Community Action, Inc. of Rock and Walworth Counties – Councilor Hendrix
- Community Development Authority – Councilors Preuschl and Hendrix
- Convention and Visitors Bureau Board of Directors – Councilor De Forest
- Equal Opportunities Commission – Councilor Dunkin
- Landmarks Commission – Councilor Sloniker
- Metropolitan Planning Organization – Councilor Luebke

- Park, Recreation & Conservation Advisory Commission – Councilor Sloniker
 - Plan Commission – Councilor Leavy
 - Traffic Review Committee - Councilor Preuschl
- Councilors De Forest and Hendrix made a motion to accept the appointments as presented. Motion Carried.

9. COUNCILOR ACTIVITIES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- Councilor De Forest attended the Community Action Transportation Graduation; Beloit 20/20 meeting; Earth Day at Big Hill Center; the swearing in of Chief Zibolski; the tour of the Turtle Creek bath house; a crime stoppers meeting; the YWCA Stand Against Racism event; Cinco de Mayo; and the Knights Academy. She thanked Brett Hebert for his service to the City of Beloit and congratulated him on his new endeavor.
- Councilor Sloniker attended the swearing in of Chief Zibolski; a crime stoppers meeting; the open house of retiring Judge Henderson; and the Arbor Day celebration.
- Councilor Dunkin said she is honored to be a new councilor and looks forward to serving. She attended new councilor orientation; a meeting at the Public Library; Beloit 20/20 meeting; Community Conversations at Rotary River Center; the Arbor Day celebration and the open house of retiring Judge Henderson.
- Councilor Hendrix attended the YWCA Stand Against Racism event; Community Conversations; Rhythm of the Night (Nightengales); and she announced that May is national burger month and several restaurants are offering specials and a discount when you show your library card.
- Councilor Leavy also stated he's glad to be back on Council and looks forward to serving the citizens of Beloit and working with his fellow councilors. He reminded people that there remain vacancies on many committees, commissions and boards and encouraged citizens to participate. He was the moderator of a recent Youth 2 Youth panel that focused on teen drinking and drug use as prom season approaches and encouraged all to be safe and responsible. He also attended new councilor orientation.
- Councilor Preuschl said he was happy to be a City Council member. He attended the swearing in of Chief Zibolski; a stop the Violence meeting; and a Beloit 20/20 meeting. He announced that this Saturday is the first farmer's market downtown and encouraged people to come out. He also reminded people that the Parks & Leisure Services guide for summer is out.
- President Luebke stated he was looking forward to the upcoming Farmer's Market season. He attended the Youth 2 Youth panel and the 4th Street presentation at the Library. He acknowledged that the past year has been a stressful one for the Council but is looking forward to the work that this council will pave ahead in working with the City Manager, the City Staff and the Citizens of Beloit.

10. CITY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION

- a. Teri Downing introduced the Duffy Intern, Deonte Horton, who presented on **Creative Programming for Youth**. Mr. Horton is a Political Science Major student at Beloit College participating in an internship. The focus of his internship was designed to encourage youth to get involved in the arts in order to reduce the potential for engaging in negative behaviors that could be detrimental to their future. He presented data by gender, race, ethnicity and age as it pertained to arrests in Beloit in these categories. The top three crimes in these areas were disorderly conduct, larceny (not motor) and run-away. Mr. Horton explained that there were several art programs in the area that were no cost or low cost where students could gain exposure to the arts and develop life skills. He mentioned Visions by Viviana Nadowski (Photography); Friends of Riverfront's Dancing at Harry's Place; Kids fun and Drama; Wisconsin Regional Art Program; and Doodles art classes. These art outlets allows kids to express themselves and provides a sense of belonging for those not involved in sports.

11. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND CITY OFFICERS

- a. Community Development Director, Julie Christensen, presented resolution authorizing the **Sale of 715 W Grand Avenue** to the Community Development Authority of the City of Beloit. The City of Beloit acquired the properties located at 715 W Grand and 349 Euclid in October 2015 for \$1.00. The property at 715 W. Grand is a blighted building that needs to be demolished. The remaining lot will be restored to grass and possibly sold to the neighboring property owner. The Beloit City Council

approved the purchase of 715 W Grand on October 5, 2016, with the intention of demolishing the building. This property is eligible under the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP1) to be demolished with those grant funds. The Community Development Authority of the City of Beloit (CDA) is responsible for the implementation and oversight of activities and expenditures under the NSP1 grant program, therefore the CDA must own the property in order to utilize those funds. The CDA is proposing to purchase the property for \$1.00. If approved by City Council, the CDA will take action on the purchase of the property and award of demolition bids at its meeting on May 4, 2016. Councilors De Forest and Dunkin made a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion Carried. File 6667

- b. Fire Chief, Brad Liggett presented a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a **Memorandum of Understanding** with the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for Mutual Aid and Fire Suppression Services. He explained that the fire department has been a mutual aid partner for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources for many years. The MOU for this partnership expired December 31, 2015. This resolution renews the commitment of the City of Beloit to provide for mutual aid services to the DNR and to set terms for reimbursement should a deployment occur. This MOU also makes us eligible for grant funding through the DNR Forest Fire Protection Program. The Department has benefitted from this agreement in the past. In the history of this partnership the City has not been deployed, however, we have received specialized firefighting equipment and protective clothing building our forestry and wild land firefighting capacity. The department has the means, training and equipment to comply with this MOU. There is no budget impact with this MOU except when our resources would be deployed on a fire. These expenses are reimbursable under this agreement. Councilors Sloniker and Preuschl made a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion Carried. File 8126
- c. Fire Chief, Brad Liggett presented a resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for **Forest Fire Protection Grant program** and to amend the 2016 General Fund Operating Budget for Expenditures under this program. He explained that the fire department is a mutual aid partner for the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. As a mutual aid partner we are able to apply for and receive an equipment grant through the Forest Fire Protection Grant Program. The department intends to augment its capacity to fight urban forestry and vegetation fires with the purchase of a new firefighting Skid. The Skid has a fire pump and water tank and can be deployed in the bed of a pick up or our department UTV. This grant requires a 50% match, funding is available in our department budget for this match. This is an annual grant and the department has purchased hose, wild land firefighting clothing, a portable fire pump for boat fires on the river and rural water supply from creeks, and back pack water pumps for field fires. This equipment grant will allow us to more rapidly to deploy larger amounts of water in remote areas for these types of fires. Councilors De Forest and Dunkin made a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion Carried. File 8126/8695
- d. Executive Director of the Downtown Beloit Association, Shauna El-Amin, presented a resolution authorizing the City Manager to apply for **USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program Grant**. She explained that The Downtown Beloit Association (DBA) has successfully operated the Beloit Farmers' Market for many years, and the market itself is now celebrating its 51st year. The customer traffic has been increasing over time and in the last several years has been awarded as the second largest in the State of Wisconsin. Most recently, in 2015 the market has seen an average of 5,500 people each week. We would like to build our market by focusing on customers who are recipients of the Wisconsin and Illinois Food Stamp Programs known as SNAP and LINK respectively. Our market provides the freshest produce to consumers. We would focus the grant funds on marketing outreach, print materials, giveaway items, coupons and enhancement of our Information Booth, among other things. The eligible project category is capacity building. This is intended to assist in development, improvement, and expansion of the market and is a thirty-six month grant cycle. Utilizing our resources, we plan to partner with many of the area organizations who have clients that receive the SNAP and LINK benefits, allowing people with fewer resources the opportunity to purchase fresh foods. The minimum award per grant for this type of program is \$50,000 and the maximum is \$250,000. The grant application must be received by USDA no later than May 12, 2016 to be considered for funding. Funding will be available for use beginning September 30, 2016. Councilors Sloniker and Preuschl made a motion to adopt the resolution. Motion Carried. Councilor De Forest abstained from voting on this item. File 8479

12. Councilors Dunkin and Sloniker made a motion adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m. Motion carried.



Lorena Rae Stottler, City Clerk

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Date approved by City Council: May 16, 2016