



PROCEEDINGS OF THE BELOIT CITY COUNCIL
100 State Street, Beloit WI 53511
Monday, April 15, 2013

Presiding: Charles M. Haynes
Present: Sheila De Forest, Kevin D. Leavy, Mark Spreitzer, and James E. Van De Bogart
Absent: Chuck Kincaid and David F. Luebke

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Forum at Beloit City Hall.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. SPECIAL ORDERS OF THE DAY/ANNOUNCEMENTS
 - a. Community and Housing Services Director Teri Downing and Equal Opportunities and Human Relations Committee Chairman Rick Valdez recognized the winners of the **Fair Housing Poster Contest**. They presented the 2nd place award to Nashaun Moore from Merrill Elementary School, and they presented the 1st place award to Olivia Burakowski from Todd Elementary School.
 - b. Vice President Spreitzer presented a Proclamation recognizing the **Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)** 40th Anniversary to RSVP Executive Director Robert Harlow. Mr. Harlow thanked the Council for the proclamation on behalf of the Board of Directors, volunteers, and staff of RSVP. File 7148
 - c. Vice President Spreitzer presented a Proclamation supporting the YWCA's **Stand Against Racism** to Beth Tallon, YWCA Rock County Public Relations Director, and Jane McCauley, YWCA Rock County Racial Justice Coordinator. Ms. Tallon thanked the Council for the proclamation on behalf of the YWCA's clients, staff, and volunteers and encouraged people to stand against racism every day. Ms. McCauley invited the public to participate in upcoming YWCA events including a workshop on May 17th in Janesville and a Race against Racism on June 22nd. File 7148
 - d. Vice President Spreitzer presented a Proclamation recognizing **National Library Week**, April 14-20, 2013, to Interim Beloit Public Library Directors Jennifer Laatz and Jeni Schomber. Ms. Schomber thanked the City Council for the recognition of National Library Week on behalf of the Board of Trustees and staff. File 7148
 - e. Vice President Spreitzer presented a Proclamation declaring April 26, 2013, as **Arbor Day** to Public Works Director Gregory Boysen. File 7148
4. PUBLIC HEARINGS
 - a. Community Development Director Julie Christensen presented a proposed ordinance amending the **Zoning District Map** of the City of Beloit to change the zoning district classification of the properties located at 1035 and 1041 Udell Drive from temporary R-1A, Single-family Residential District, to permanent R-1A, Single-family Residential District. It was noted that the Plan Commission recommended approval 6-0. Ms. Christensen stated that this ordinance would provide a permanent zoning classification for these two properties, which were annexed earlier in 2013. Council President Haynes opened and closed the public hearing without participation. Councilor Van De Bogart made a motion to suspend the rules and offer a second reading of the ordinance. Councilor Leavy seconded, and the motion carried 5-0. Councilor De Forest made a motion to enact the ordinance based on its merits, and Councilor Leavy seconded. The motion carried 5-0. Ordinance 3484 File 7103
 - b. Ms. Christensen presented a proposed ordinance amending the **Zoning District Map** of the City of Beloit to change the zoning district classification of the properties located at 545 and 549 West Grand Avenue; 615, 619, 625, and 629 Eighth Street; and 548 Locust Street from C-2, Neighborhood Commercial District, and R-1B, Single-family Residential District, to PLI, Public Lands and Institutions District. It was noted that the Plan Commission recommended approval 6-0. Ms. Christensen said that this zoning district map amendment is part of the Hackett School

renovation project. Councilor Haynes opened and closed the public hearing without participation. Councilor Leavy made a motion to suspend the rules and offer a second reading of the ordinance. Councilor Spreitzer seconded, and the motion carried 5-0. Councilor Van De Bogart made a motion to enact the ordinance based on its merits, and Councilor Leavy seconded. The motion carried 5-0. Ordinance 3485 File 8544

- c. Ms. Christensen presented a proposed ordinance amending the City of Beloit **Comprehensive Plan** for the properties located at 1528 and 1532 Forest Avenue and 1533 W. Grand Avenue. It was noted that the Plan Commission recommended for approval 5-0. Ms. Christensen said that this comprehensive plan amendment is part of the Gaston School renovation project. Councilor Haynes opened and closed the public hearing without participation. Councilor Spreitzer made a motion to suspend the rules and offer a second reading of the ordinance. Councilor De Forest seconded, and the motion carried 5-0. Councilor De Forest made a motion to enact the ordinance based on its merits, and Councilor Spreitzer seconded. The motion carried 5-0. Ordinance 3486 File 8586
- d. Ms. Christensen presented a proposed ordinance amending the **Zoning District Map** of the City of Beloit to change the zoning district classification of the property located at 501 Prospect Street from PLI, Public Lands and Institutions District, to CBD-1, Central Business District – Core. It was noted that the Plan Commission recommended approval 6-0. Ms. Christensen stated that this zoning map amendment is to accommodate the Castle project. She said that the Landmarks Commission issued a Statement of Support for this project, as the building is a historic landmark. Ms. Christensen also stated that nearby property owners were notified of the proposed zoning change and that a representative from the Scoville Apartment building attended the Plan Commission meeting to express concerns about parking. She said the applicant met with the representative and came to an agreement and that the First Baptist Church Council also voted to support the project. Councilor Haynes opened the public hearing.
- Rick McGrath, 1747 Sherwood Drive, spoke in support of the rezoning and the Castle project on behalf of the Landmarks Commission. He said that Beloit has done a great job supporting the re-use of its big old buildings and that the proposed programming at the building will be great for the community.

Councilor Haynes closed the public hearing. Councilor Spreitzer made a motion to suspend the rules and offer a second reading of the ordinance. Councilor Leavy seconded, and the motion carried 5-0. Councilor De Forest made a motion to enact the ordinance based on its merits, and Councilor Leavy seconded the motion. Councilor Van De Bogart said that the methodology of including stakeholders in the process and coming to an understanding before the Council acts has shown to be very effective. Councilor De Forest said that she was excited to see the stakeholders involved early in the process and that she appreciates the applicants' efforts to include the community in the project. Councilor Haynes said that the applicants deserve credit for saving the building and bringing a new project to the City of Beloit. He called the question, and the ordinance was enacted 5-0. Ordinance 3487 File 8247

- e. Ms. Christensen presented a proposed Resolution authorizing a **Conditional Use Permit** to allow a Community Service Use in a CBD-1, Central Business District-Core, for the property located at 501 Prospect Street. It was noted that the Plan Commission recommended approval 6-0. Ms. Christensen said that the conditional use permit is required for the proposed community service use of the Youth Unite program on the first floor of the building. Councilor Haynes opened and closed the public hearing without participation. Councilor De Forest made a motion to adopt the resolution, and Councilor Spreitzer seconded it. Councilor De Forest said that she was happy to see the condition regarding the physical separation of the proposed alcohol use and the other uses. The motion carried 5-0. File 8247

5. CITIZENS PARTICIPATION

- Rick Barder, 2560 Blarney Stone Drive, said that he is an avid bicyclist and supports the resolution to apply for the DNR grant for the Goose Creek Bridge at Big Hill Park. He thanked the City Manager for including a path through the park in the project because the ultimate goal is to connect the bike path between Afton and Beloit.
- Janet Piraino, 125 North Hamilton Street, Madison, WI, District Director for Congressman Mark Pocan, said that she supports the lease between the City and the Congressman for office space at City Hall. She said that it is important for the Congressman to have a presence in Beloit and

that City Attorney Tom Casper, City Manager Larry Arft, and Community Development Director Julie Christensen were very helpful throughout the process.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor De Forest requested that item 6.d. be removed from the Consent Agenda. Councilor Leavy made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda, which consists of items 6.a. through 6.c. and item 6.e. Councilor De Forest seconded, and the motion carried that the Consent Agenda, consisting of items 6.a. through 6.c. and item 6.e. be accepted, approved, adopted, or referred and acted upon as required by state and local codes by a vote of 5-0.

- a. The **Minutes** of the Regular Meeting of April 1, 2013 were approved.
- b. The report of **Municipal Board of Canvassers** from the April 2, 2013 Election was accepted. File 6384
- c. The resolution awarding **Public Works Contract C13-01**, Bayliss Avenue Rehabilitation, was adopted. File 8589
- e. The application for a **Zoning Map Amendment** to change the zoning district classification of the properties located at 1528 and 1532 Forest Avenue and 1533 W. Grand Avenue from R-1A, Single-family Residential District, to PLI, Public Lands and Institutions District, to facilitate the Gaston School renovation project was referred to the Plan Commission. File 8586
- d. City Manager Larry Arft presented a resolution authorizing the City Manager to participate in the **State of Wisconsin Energy Office** New Grant Program Forwarding Wisconsin's Fuel Choice. Mr. Arft said that the first phase in the project is an energy audit of the City's fleet to determine if there are any additional non-traditional efforts to increase fuel efficiency. Councilor De Forest said that she is excited about the grant but wanted to know the cost-sharing responsibility of the City. Mr. Arft stated that this is a new grant and that the amount is currently unknown. He said that staff time will be included as the part of the City's match of the grant but that the number of man-hours is unknown at this time. Councilor Van De Bogart asked if compressed natural gas could be included in this study, and Mr. Arft said that could be an option but that the fleet is large and varied so they will be looking at many different options. Councilor Leavy made a motion to adopt the resolution, and Councilor De Forest seconded. The motion carried 5-0. File 5303

7. ORDINANCES

- a. City Engineer Mike Flesch presented a proposed Ordinance to **Remove 1-Hour Parking Restrictions** on Pleasant Street between East Grand Avenue and Public Avenue. It was noted that the Traffic Review Committee recommended for approval 5-1. Mr. Flesch said that Rivals Bar and Grill requested the change from 1-hour parking restrictions to unlimited parking. Councilor Leavy made a motion to suspend the rules and offer a second reading of the ordinance. Councilor De Forest seconded, and the motion carried 5-0. Councilor Leavy made a motion to enact the ordinance based on its merits, and Councilor Spreitzer seconded. Councilor Spreitzer asked about the one vote in opposition at the Traffic Review Committee meeting, and Mr. Flesch stated that the Police Department recommended against the change because the frequent changes may be confusing to people. Councilor De Forest asked about how the downtown businesses were notified of this proposed change, and Mr. Flesch said that the Downtown Beloit Association sent out an email to its membership. Councilor De Forest asked if tenants of the Phoenix building would be able to park in these spaces, and Mr. Flesch said that parking is still prohibited from 3:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. Councilor Leavy said that he is concerned that the Police Department's concerns about enforcement and suggested that the City look at a long-range plan for parking downtown. Mr. Arft said that Beloit College is not part of the Phoenix project so that parking will be less of a problem. He also said that downtown residents may park overnight in municipal lots with a permit and that the Public Works Department will be sure to change the signage quickly if the ordinance is enacted. The motion carried, and the ordinance was enacted by a vote of 5-0. Ordinance 3488 File 7791
- b. Mr. Flesch presented a proposed Ordinance to **Remove 1-Hour Parking Restrictions** for several stalls along Grand Avenue between State Street and Third Street. It was noted that the Traffic Review Committee recommended approval 5-1. Mr. Flesch noted that this request was made on behalf of Fat Wallet. Councilor Spreitzer made a motion to suspend the rules and offer a second reading of the ordinance. Councilor Leavy seconded, and the motion carried 5-0.

Councilor Van De Bogart made a motion to enact the ordinance based on its merits. Councilor Leavy seconded, and the motion carried 5-0. Ordinance 3489 File 7791

8. APPOINTMENTS

Councilor Haynes announced the openings and submitted the following appointments to the City Committees, Boards, and Commissions for approval. The appointments were approved on a motion by Councilor De Forest and a second by Councilor Spreitzer. The motion carried 5-0.

- a. **Plan Commission:** Thomas J. Nee for a term ending April 30, 2016. File 6064
- b. **Police and Fire Commission:** Timmy Link for a term ending April 30, 2018. File 6114

9. COUNCILOR ACTIVITIES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- Councilor De Forest thanked the Leadership Development Academy for their efforts to building a bridge over Goose Creek in Big Hill Park, and she reminded the public that there is a fundraiser scheduled for April 20th at the Afton Pub. She also announced that her son has been diagnosed with Leukemia and is undergoing chemotherapy, and she thanked the public for their prayers and support.
- Councilor Van De Bogart said that he was shocked by horrible events in Boston and said that our thoughts and prayers are with the victims. He announced that he and his grandson enjoyed the honor of tossing out the first pitch at the Snappers home opener.
- Councilor Spreitzer said that he attended the Beloit College Duffy Spring Colloquia and that it was great to meet students participating in the program. He said that he also attend an Earth Day Conference in Madison.

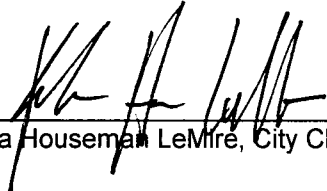
10. CITY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION – none

11. REPORTS FROM BOARD AND CITY OFFICERS

- a. Assistant to the City Manager Beth Jacobsen presented a resolution authorizing the Submittal of a **Grant Application** to the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources to Assist in Funding the Goose Creek Bridge and Path Project in Big Hill Park. Ms. Jacobsen said that the Parks, Recreation, and Conservation Advisory Commission voted unanimously to recommend approval of this project. She said that the grant requires a 50 percent match and that the matching funds will be donated through her Leadership Development Academy small group project. Ms. Jacobsen also thanked the Council for restoring the training budget in her department, which allowed her to participate in LDA and bring a project back to the City of Beloit. Councilor De Forest made a motion to adopt the resolution, and Councilor Leavy seconded. The motion carried 5-0. File 8587
- b. Finance and Administrative Services Director Paul York presented a resolution adopting the **Classification and Compensation Plan** for non-represented City employees and authorizing its implementation. Mr. York stated that there was a Council workshop the previous Tuesday where the consultant thoroughly presented the study and the Plan, which is needed because the City's pay plan is out-of-date and needs to reflect the changes required by WI Act 10. Councilor Leavy made a motion to adopt the resolution, and Councilor Spreitzer seconded. Councilor De Forest said that she is aware of concerns of employees regarding the merit program. She requested the inclusion of evaluation training for managers and that information about the process be provided to all employees before implementation. Councilor Van De Bogart said that it is important to have a proper pay plan and treat employees fairly. He said that goal must be balanced with the goal of looking out for taxpayers. Councilor Spreitzer echoed those comments and said that the consultant's recommendations are sound. Councilor Haynes said that a market-based approach to the pay plan is a good way to get the best employees and that the new Plan does not have meaningful cost changes. The motion carried 5-0. File 8566
- c. Mr. Arft presented a resolution approving **Lease of Office Space** to Congressman Mark Pocan and authorizing City Manager's Execution. He indicated that, after the fall election, Congressman Pocan contacted the City to determine if any office space was available at City Hall to maintain a presence in Beloit. Mr. Arft said that because the Housing Authority was planning to move, there was space available on the third floor. Councilor Spreitzer made a motion to adopt the resolution, and Councilor Van De Bogart seconded. Councilor Van De Bogart said that city government is

non-partisan and that he wants the public to understand that this lease does not remove that non-partisan label. Mr. Arft stated that federal laws prohibit the use of this office for any political purposes and that the office will be used for service for constituents. Councilor De Forest expressed concern about the possible perception of partisanship, and Mr. Arft said that there are other communities who rent space to in their municipal buildings to elected officials. The motion carried 5-0. File 8588

12. At 8:22 p.m., Councilor Leavy made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Councilor De Forest seconded. The motion carried 5-0.



Rebecca Houseman LeMire, City Clerk

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Date approved by Council: May 6, 2013.