



PROCEEDINGS OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE BELOIT CITY COUNCIL AND THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF BELOIT BOARD OF EDUCATION Beloit Public Library Community Room, 605 Eclipse Blvd., Beloit, WI 53511 Monday, February 24, 2014

Beloit City Council Present:

Sheila De Forest, Charles M. Haynes, Chuck Kincaid, David F.

Luebke, Mark Spreitzer, and James E. Van De Bogart

Beloit City Council Absent:

Kevin D. Leavy

Beloit Board of Education Present:

John Acomb, Nora Gard, Missy Henderson, Michael Ramsdail,

Mark Rand, Shannon Scharmer, and John Winkelmann

Beloit Board of Education Absent:

None

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by the Beloit City Council and the School District of Beloit Board of Education.
- 2. Board President Shannon Scharmer led the discussion of a proposal to expand the Beloit Hockey Team to include players from other high schools. City Manager Larry Arft said that the City did not find any formal agreement between the School District and the City regarding ice time at the Edwards Ice Arena, and Superintendent Steve McNeal produced a letter from 1982 stating that the Beloit High School team would have free ice time at the City's facility. Mr. Arft said that who is on the team is not as important as the team being from Beloit Memorial High School. Councilor Luebke stated that he sees this as an opportunity to collaborate with other schools and for more people to see Beloit's great facilities. He said that he would like to see some sort of a fee for students who are not from the district so that Beloit's taxpayers are not subsidizing their use of the facility. He also stated that he would like to see the team continue to be called the Beloit Purple Knights. Councilor De Forest asked if the majority of the team would be made up of Beloit students, and Board member Scharmer stated that the team would be a co-op between various schools and would prohibit cutting players. Councilor De Forest said that Beloit's great facilities are a reason for people to choose Beloit Schools and that this would allow those choosing other schools to benefit from our facilities. Councilor Van De Bogart asked if the ice time agreement includes the co-op women's hockey team. Board member Acomb said that the women's hockey co-op, which is based in Beloit, pays for its own ice time and has been very successful in bringing people to Beloit. Board member Winkelmann said that a co-op team would be good for the kids because it will allow them to play hockey even if there are not enough Beloit students to field a team in the future. Councilor Haynes said that the issue would need to be revisited if the team becomes a County-wide team. Councilor Spreitzer asked about the name of the team, and Mr. McNeal stated that some co-op teams include the names of all of the schools involved. Mr. McNeal also stated that the School Board would be discussing this issue at the meeting on February 25th. Board member Scharmer said that she is opposed to the idea of a co-op and asked if the City would support the inclusion of Illinois schools. Mr. Arft said that as long as the team remains the Beloit Purple Knights, the City would support the co-op.
- 3. Mr. McNeal provided an update on the renovations and construction of the school facilities, including discussion of traffic control issues. He stated that five of the six primary school renovations are complete and that he has enjoyed working with the City throughout the processes. Mr. McNeal said that the Natatorium is complete and that construction on the Fitness Center at the high school has begun. He said that the renovations to McNeel Middle School will begin in 2014, Aldrich Middle School will begin in 2015, and Memorial High School will begin in 2015 or 2016. Mr. McNeal stated that the other major project is the Fran Fruzen Intermediate School located on Milwaukee Road. Councilor De Forest said that she is concerned with how students from the Todd neighborhood will walk to the new intermediate school. Mr. McNeal said that there are crossing guards at the intersection of Lee Lane and Milwaukee Road and that they can observe the students

who walk to Morgan now to see how they cross Milwaukee Road. Mr. Arft said that the City has applied for grants to build a bike/pedestrian path along the south side of Milwaukee Road but that there is not a timeline for installation at this point.

4. At 7:30 p.m., Councilor Spreitzer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Board member Mark Rand seconded, and the motion carried.

Rebecca Houseman LeMire, City Clerk

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Date approved by Council: March 3, 2014