



PROCEEDINGS OF THE BELOIT CITY COUNCIL
100 State Street, Beloit WI 53511
City Hall Forum – 7:00 p.m.
Tuesday, February 15, 2016

Presiding: Charles M. Haynes
Present: Regina Hendrix, Sheila De Forest, Ana Kelly, Chuck Kincaid, David F. Luebke, Marilyn Sloniker
Absent: None

1. President Haynes 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 De Forest presented to BIFF President, Marty Densch a proclamation in recognition of **Beloit International Film Festival**. BIFF is entering its 11th year and runs from February 19-28, 2016. File 7148
4. PUBLIC HEARINGS
 - a. Community Development Director, Julie Christensen, presented a Proposed Ordinance amending the City of Beloit's **Zoning District Map** to change the zoning district classification of the property located at 736 Oak Street from R-1B, Single-Family Residential District to R-2, Two-Family Residential District for a first reading. The Plan Commission recommendation was for denial 6-0. President Haynes opened the hearing. Katherine Swain, 737 Elm, spoke in objection to this classification change. She requested it remain zoned single family and said they have lived next to the property for 43 years. She stated that the number of rental units in this area has reached a tipping point and believes allowing more will move the neighborhood in the wrong direction. No other citizens spoke. President Haynes closed the public hearing. Councilors De Forest and Luebke made a motion to lay over to the March 7 council meeting. Motion failed on a vote of 0-7. File 8709
5. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION
 - Executive Director Celestino Ruffini spoke on behalf of Visit Beloit. He explained that he will return to provide his annual report in a couple of months but wanted to share that to date, more than \$35,000 in community improvement grant dollars have been awarded through Stateline Community Foundation which includes monies for historic neighborhood signage. A new website www.visitbeloit.com has been launched and new Visit Beloit tourism guides. He said that new literature racks were recently delivered to local lodging properties and the lobby at 500 Public Avenue is refreshed. Two new videos for winter activities are out, one including the BIFF program. He said that they are working on strategic goals and feasibility studies. He said that 2015 did end in record growth and that announcement will come in the near future.
6. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Luebke and Kincaid made a motion to adopt the consent Agenda as presented. Motion carried.

 - a. The **Minutes** of the Regular Meeting of February 1, 2016 were approved.
 - b. A resolution approving **Change of Agent** for Casey's Marketing Company d/b/a Casey's General Store #3316, located at 2350 Cranston Road from Nancy Gollmer to Jeff Kimberly was approved. File 8688

7. ORDINANCES

- a. Interim Police Chief David Zibolski presented a proposed Ordinance to Amend Sections 25.04(4)(d) and 13.18 of the Code of General Ordinances of the City of Beloit pertaining to **Parking Enforcement**. In an effort to maximize city resources, staff is requesting the attached ordinance amendment which allows civilian city staff to assist law enforcement during times of snow emergencies. The proposed ordinance allows civilian staff in the Community Development Department and Fire Department to assist police operations during times of snow emergencies by issuing parking tickets. The current ordinance limits this authority to police officers.

The proposed ordinance also codifies the ability for community service officers to issue parking tickets. This is a second reading. Councilors Luebke and De Forest made a motion to approve as presented. Motion carried. File 7906 Ordinance 3566

- b. Community Development Director, Julie Christensen, presented an Ordinance to Amend Section 25.04(4)(d) of the Code of General Ordinances of the City of Beloit pertaining to Officials authorized to Issue Citations related to **Annual Rental Dwelling Permits**. Section 14.06 of the City's Code of General Ordinances requires property owners to obtain a rental permit before leasing any dwelling unit to another person. Chapter 25 of the City's Municipal Code identifies who can issue municipal citations for different sections of the code. For Section 14.06 (Annual Rental Permits) of the Code of General Ordinances, the employees currently authorized to issue municipal citations are the Director of Community and Housing Services, Inspection Official, and the Secretary to the Director of Community and Housing Services. We are proposing to amend this ordinance to allow the Administrative Assistant in the Planning and Building Services to also issue municipal citations under this code. This will allow the Community Development Department to more efficiently manage this program. This is second reading. Councilors Kincaid and Kelly made a motion to approve as presented. Motion carried. File 5130
- c. Community Development Director, Julie Christensen, presented a proposed Ordinance amending the City of Beloit's **Zoning District Map** to change the zoning classification of the property located at 2345 Prairie Avenue (River of Life UMC) from R-1A, Single-Family Residential District to PLI, Public Lands and Institutions District. Kevin Cook of JNB Signs, on behalf of River of Life United Methodist Church (RLUMC), has submitted an application for a Zoning Map Amendment to change the zoning district classification from R-1A, Single-Family Residential District to PLI, Public Lands and Institutions District, for the property located at 2345 Prairie Avenue. This is second reading. Councilors De Forest and Sloniker made a motion to approve as presented. Motion carried. File 8706

8. APPOINTMENTS – None

9. COUNCILOR ACTIVITIES AND UPCOMING EVENTS

- Councilor Hendrix thanked the community for their support of the Soulfood luncheon on behalf of the minority excellence organization. She announced the election on Tuesday, February 16th and reminded voters of the two polling locations and hours of voting.
- Councilor Sloniker announced an upcoming EOC meeting this Wednesday.
- Councilor Kelly has been very busy with BIFF planning and looks forward to seeing the community come out this week and next. She attended the Downtown Beloit annual dinner.
- Councilor Luebke welcomed council candidates present in the audience. He was happy to see the BPD officer highlighted in the Channel 27 news assisting an elderly citizen with her walkway.
- Councilor De Forest welcomed newly sworn firefighters. She's excited for BIFF and invited the public to attend a fundraiser for Project 16:49 where she will be lip syncing in a battle to raise funds for homeless youth.
- Councilors Kincaid and Haynes had nothing to add.

10. CITY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION

- a. Chairperson Alex Blazer presented the annual **Landmarks Commission Report for 2015**. This annual report is provided in accordance with Section 32.05(10) of the Historic Preservation Ordinance. This report documents the activities and accomplishments of the Landmarks Commission during 2015. The Commission currently consists of Chair Alex Blazer, Vice-Chair Ruth Vater, Donna Johnson, Ellen Joyce, Terri Kaye, Steve Truesdale, Steve Vollmer, and City Councilor Ana Kelly. The city staff representative is Alex Morganroth. The Commission currently monitors 115 properties in the Bluff Street Historic District, 156 properties in the College Park Historic District, 4 properties in the Merrill Street Historic District, and 46 individually listed Landmarks and Landmark Sites.

The Landmarks Commission met twelve times in 2015 to review Certificate of Appropriateness (COA) applications. Many of these applications included more than one item concerning repairs, replacements, additions, or demolitions. Planning Division staff also reviewed and approved COA applications. Of the **55** COA applications processed in 2015, **23** (42%) were approved by staff. The number and types of requests considered by the Commission and staff are as follows:

General Repair Projects:

Gutters/Fascia/Soffit - 6
Fence Installation - 9
Handrails and Porch Repair - 5
Ramps/Sidewalks/Pavement - 5
Roof Repair/Replacement - 12
Siding - 4
Signs - 3
Structural Repair - 6
Windows and Doors - 8

Special Projects:

422 Bluff St Demolition
251 Roosevelt Ave Demolition
Horace White Park Memorial Garden

The Landmarks Commission engaged in a number of projects in 2015 including an update to the Historic Intensive Survey, the creation of a Facebook page, and the revival of the process to install identification signage in Beloit's three historic districts. The Intensive Survey, funded by the Wisconsin State Historical Society and conducted by Legacy Architecture, is half-way completed and will be finished in August of 2016. The final document presented to the City and Commission will include analysis and recommendations for new historic districts. The Landmarks Commission Facebook page provides a new way for the Commission and Staff to engage with the community on preservation activities and issues. Lastly, a \$1000.00 donation from Fairbanks Morse and \$3,476.00 grant from Visit Beloit will allow the Commission to move forward with the design and production of various identification signs for the Bluff Street, Merrill Street, and College-Park Historic Districts. The goal is to have the first signs installed by fall of 2016. File 5860

11. REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND CITY OFFICERS

- a. Senior Center Coordinator Paula Schutt presented a resolution Authorizing **Application and Acceptance of a Community Grant** from the National Council on Aging for "The Aging Mastery Program" and amending the 2016 Grinnell Senior Center Operating Budget for this Grant Program.

She explained that in November, 2015 the City of Beloit completed an application to the National Council on Aging (NCOA) to consider Grinnell Hall as a site for implementing their Aging Mastery Program (AMP). Shortly after the first of the year, the City of Beloit was notified that they would receive one of only 13 Grants that will be awarded within the State of Wisconsin. The grant is for a maximum of \$12,000 to cover the cost of implementing the AMP. There are no matching funds required and funds will be distributed over the 2016-2017 time period.

Grantees will be required to:

- Provide at least three (3), 10-week courses (the AMP core program) involving a total of 80-90 people over 24 months; one or more courses in the spring of 2016, one or more courses in the fall of 2016, and one or more in the spring of 2017. NCOA will provide all of the materials as an in-kind contribution for each participant in each offered course.
- Offer ongoing AMP engagement activities for the period of the grant.
- Assuming the program is successful, work with state leads and NCOS to develop and implement sustainability strategies.

AMP is a comprehensive and fun approach to aging well that encourages people to take actions to enhance their health, financial well-being, social connectedness, and overall quality of life. Participants in AMP will go through a 10 week core program followed by optional elective classes and activities that will be offered at Grinnell Hall.

Councilors De Forest and Sloniker made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Motion carried 7-0. File 8711

- b. Councilors Luebke and Sloniker moved that the City Council convene into closed session at 7:37 p.m. pursuant to section 19.85(1) (g), Wis. Stats., for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved, specifically to consider the possible **settlement of Mark Johnson v. City of Beloit**, 13-CV-863. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilors Luebke and De Forest moved that the City Council reconvene into open session at 7:41 p.m. pursuant to section 19.85(2), Wis. Stats., for possible action on the matter discussed in closed session. Motion carried 7-0.

Councilors Luebke and Hendrix made a motion to approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into litigation settlement agreement. Motion carried 7-0. File 8712

12. Councilors Hendrix and Sloniker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Motion carried.



Lorena Rae Stottler, City Clerk

www.beloitwi.gov

Date approved by City Council: March 7, 2016