

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING JANUARY 12, 2015 7:00 P.M.

The meeting was opened by announcing that this was an open meeting of the Common Council. Notice of this meeting was given to the public at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting by forwarding the complete agenda to the official City newspaper, The New Richmond News, and to all news media who have requested the same as well as posting. Copies of the complete agenda were available for inspection at the City Clerk's office. Anyone desiring information as to forthcoming meetings should contact the City Clerk's office.

Roll call was taken.

Members Present: Mayor Horne, Alderman Kittel, Ard, Jackson, Hansen, Volkert, Zajkowski, and Student Representatives Elliot Smallidge and Victoria Johnson

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Horne introduced Nick Vivian, from Eckberg Lammers, who is our new City Attorney.

Alderman Zajkowski moved to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Alderman Hansen and carried.

Public Comment

There was none.

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Regular Council Meeting, December 8, 2014 and Special Council Meeting, December 16, 2014
2. Payment of VO#57316 through VO#57531 totaling \$2,057,294.37 plus electronic fund transfers of \$2,750,445.75 for a grand total of \$4,807,740.12

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| General Fund | 2,699,060.33 |
| Impact Fees Fund | 855.00 |
| CDBG – Housing | 110.25 |
| Debt Service Fund | 340,804.72 |
| Capital Projects | 20,578.30 |
| Landfill Cleanup Fund | 9,869.47 |
| TIF District #10 | 30.00 |
| TIF District #6 | 2,775.82 |
| TIF District #8 | 30.00 |
| Storm Water Utility | 14,384.67 |
| Park Land Trust Fund | 86.61 |
| Library Trust Fund | 10,237.49 |
| Tax Agency Fund | 1,708,917.46 |

Alderman Kittel moved to approve the consent agenda items, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

Department Reports

Fire Department - None

Finance – Nancy Petersen reported that the auditors were here last week for preliminary audit work. They will be back the week of March 23, 2013 to complete the audit. The P-cards are here and Nancy and Bev are working on finalizing the policies, staff letters for those who are issued a card, and letters to vendors for the use of these cards. They will be conducting training sessions beginning tomorrow for these cards. Nancy has completed a Finance Team Management report which outlines the accomplishments of the Finance Team in 2014 and goals for 2015 and will report on this in February. Utility budgets including a 5 year capital savings and purchasing plan will be presented for approval to the Utility Commission at their meeting on January 21, 2015. Bev and Nancy will be working on finalizing the LRF which will also incorporate the CIP that is on the agenda to discuss at the Council Work Session on January 26, 2015.

Police Department - Nothing

Administration – Mike Darrow reported that there will be a Public Safety Committee meeting and training. A guest speaker will be discussing the solar garden project. Mike will be providing updates in the coming months. There will be a sub-committee meeting of the Fire Board next week to work on CIP projects.

Community Development – Beth Thompson stated that the new website will be going live tomorrow afternoon. Be sure to take a look at it. By staying with GovOffice and doing the work in-house, we saved between \$10,000 and \$15,000. We also recently did a bulk ordering of janitorial supplies. Marie and Valerie did a lot of work on this. RFP's were sent out and the low bid was from Variety Office. They were able to match the price we could get on Amazon and will deliver items to the different buildings. Marie did a great job on that project. The Community Development Team met today to talk about what we did in 2014 and goals for 2015.

Public Works - Jeremiah Wendt stated that the Public Works Department has been working with Verizon on their telecommunications projects. They will need to complete some finishing touches in the spring. A company from Minnesota came out to our compost site and ground up all of the brush and branches and hauled it away. This will be used for fuel in St. Paul. Snow removal is important this time of year and Jeremiah wanted to remind residents that they need to clear their sidewalks within 24 hours after a snow event. If it is not cleared, the City will notify you and then clear it and bill you. There have been several complaints regarding people not clearing sidewalks. Please keep up with this.

Library - Kim Hennings explained that tomorrow morning the public computers will be down, but will be back up in the afternoon. There is a family camp-in this week, and preschool activities as well. Mary Sather will be hosting a History of New Richmond series starting on Friday at 1:00 p.m. Jim Zajkowski asked if this could be videotaped and broadcast on cable. Kim will look into this.

Jane Hansen thanked staff for their hard work in 2014 with the Year of the Plan and for thinking outside the box.

WPPI Presentation

Dan Ebert, from WPPI, gave a presentation on the partnership with New Richmond and other member utilities. The City has been in partnership with them for 34 years.

Resolution #011501 – Designation of Depository – Misc Accounts

Alderman Zajkowski offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION#011501

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING PUBLIC DEPOSITORY FOR MISCELLANEOUS
ACCOUNTS AND AUTHORIZING WITHDRAWAL OF CITY MONEYS

(a complete copy is on file in the Clerk's office)

Motion was seconded by Alderman Hansen and carried.

Resolution #011502 – Designation of Depository

Alderman Hansen offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION #011502

RESOLUTION DESIGNATING DEPOSITORY AND AUTHORIZING WITHDRAWAL OF
COUNTY, CITY, VILLAGE, TOWN OR SCHOOL DISTRICT MONEYS

(a complete copy is on file in the Clerk's office)

Motion was seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

Plan Commission Recommendation – Extra-Territorial CSM from Gary Cook

The Plan Commission recommended approving the Extra-Territorial CSM from Gary & Nancy Cook on the condition that a driveway easement is to be recorded on Lot 3 and Lot 4 requiring shared use of a single driveway access to TH 64, subject to St. Croix County approval.

Considerable discussion followed. Alderman Kittel moved to approve the Plan Commission's recommendation, but the motion failed for lack of a second. Alderman Ard moved to table this item, seconded by Alderman Hansen and carried.

Wisconsin Tourism Reimbursement Grant

Alderman Ard explained that there is a one-time, one-of-a-kind, reimbursable event grant from the Wisconsin Department of Tourism that can be used for media expenses up to \$28,250. The VFW is requesting financial support from the City upon the award of the grant to cover media expenses associated with the Vietnam Veterans Moving Wall. The application will be submitted by February 2, 2015 and grants will be awarded in April of 2015. The VFW is asking if they receive the grant, if the City would be willing to pay the media expenses until the grant is received. Alderman Ard moved to approve gap funding with the approval of the grant, seconded by Alderman Hansen and carried.

Leo A Daly Proposal

The Finance Committee recommended proceeding with Task 1 in the amount of \$4,900 in order to continue with the project needs and cost identification including a facility audit of existing conditions and an opinion of probable costs. The total cost of this is \$9,800 and the New Richmond School District will split this cost. Alderman Zajkowski moved to accept the Finance Committee recommendation, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

Westfields Hospital and Clinic PILOT

This item was tabled in Finance Committee.

New Richmond Area Ambulance Service Request to Change By-Laws

The New Richmond Area Ambulance Service would like to amend their by-laws to separate the secretary/treasurer position on the executive board to two positions. Alderman Hansen moved to approve this change, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

Council Work Session

There will be a Council work session on January 26, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

Communications and Miscellaneous

Mayor Horne stated that Brady's Brewhouse had a sprinkler head break on Sunday, and will be back open by Wednesday or Thursday this week.

Closed Session

Alderman Hansen moved to go into Closed Session per State Statute 19.85 (1)(g) to discuss Dionisopoulos Litigation, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

Open Session

No action was taken

Alderman Ard moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Hansen and carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Tanya Reigel
City Clerk