

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING FEBRUARY 9, 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 Representative Victoria Johnson

Members Absent: Student Representative Elliot Smallidge

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

**Public Comment**

There was none.

**Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Regular Council Meeting, January 12, 2015 and Special Council Meeting, January 26, 2015
2. Application for Temporary Class B Beer License from Knights of Columbus for February 15, 22, 27, March 1, 8, 15, 20, 22, 27, 29, April 12, 19, 24, 26, May 3, 10, 17, July 10, 11, 2015
3. Request for Extension of Premise, Permit for Use of Amplification Devices and Exemption from Sec. 50-87 Loud and Unnecessary Noise from Gibby's Lanes on June 19, 2015
4. Application for License to Serve – Megan Walters, New Richmond; Debra A. Hebert, New Richmond; and Stephen L. Valencour, New Richmond
5. Application for Parade Permit for the St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 17, 2015 at 4:00 p.m.
6. Payment of VO#57532 through VO#57676 totaling \$305,823.25 plus electronic fund transfers of \$3,989,601.61 for a grand total of \$4,295,424.86

General Fund	\$4,256,440.54
Impact Fees Fund	2,835.00
CDBG – Housing	459.90
Debt Service Fund	2,063.47
Capital Projects	19,838.50
Landfill Cleanup Fund	5,990.08
TIF District #6	2,065.87
Storm Water Utility	3,182.52

Park Land Trust Fund	86.92
Tax Agency Fund	2,462.06

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

### **Department Reports**

Fire Department - Nothing

Finance – Nancy Petersen reported that she and Bev are working on year-end financial audit information in preparation for the auditors.

Police Department - Nothing

Administration – Mike Darrow reported that Gary and Nancy Cook are not required to gain approval from the City for the proposed division of their land. Rather they are required to obtain approval from the county and the town. We have sent the information to the county and they will be in touch with the applicant.

Community Development – Beth Thompson stated that the Clerk’s office has finished collecting taxes. Any future payments need to be made to St. Croix County. Barley John’s has temporary heat in their building. They are installing windows. Phillips Medisize has their exterior footings and foundation walls and their under-slab electrical conduit is being installed. They have about a mile of pipe left to install. 45<sup>th</sup> Parallel has the steel structure up with the insulation going in. Croft Apartments have some backfilling and compacting done but they haven’t started on their building. St. Croix Powersports is working on the interior of their building, mudding and taping right now and electrical work. The City’s new phone system should be up and running the end of next week.

Public Works - Jeremiah Wendt stated that the Hwy 64 Stormwater and Wastewater Coalition has been meeting and recently passed their phase I planning. The group has formed a technical advisory group, which Jeremiah is part of, to review the phase I findings and prioritize next steps. Items include: potentially updating our wastewater facility plan and beginning some urban stormwater planning. The City has received a grant for this and the coalition has approved providing the matching funds for this grant. The County had a public meeting on the mill and overlay project for County Road A from West Fourth Street to the railroad tracks where County Road A crosses HWY 64. This project will be done mid to late summer. The City will work with the County on detours.

Library - Kim Hennings explained that the Library is doing a “Library loves our community week” so if you present your library card at Elements Café this month, you get 20% off a drink purchase. Workforce Resource is coming in tomorrow to help people who are looking for work. Westfield’s Hospital is coming in on Wednesday to do a program called “Are you controlled by brownies?” which is about being gluten free. The Library will be closed on Friday so everyone can attend the all staff meeting.

### **Retirement Announcement**

Mike Darrow announced that Dennis Holtz is retiring at the end of the month. He has been with the City for 14 years. He has been in wastewater treatment for over forty years and has been a huge asset. He has been a great leader and team member, just an amazing employee. We wish him all the best as he begins his retirement. He truly is cared about and we will miss him. Jeremiah Wendt stated that Dennis has been a huge asset to the utility and to the community and also one of the big reasons that he came to the City of New Richmond. Dennis has a positive attitude and is a great mentor and will definitely be missed. Mayor Horne also wished Dennis the best.

### **Resolution #021501 – Supporting the St. Croix River Crossing Loop Trail**

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

RESOLUTION #021501

CITY OF NEW RICHMOND

SUPPORTING A LINK FROM THE ST CROIX RIVER CROSSING LOOP TRAIL  
ON TO THE HWY 35 BRIDGE OVER THE NEW HWY 64

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Department of Transportation is planning to build a bike and pedestrian trail in Wisconsin, currently referred to as the Loop Trail, as part of the St. Croix River Crossing Project; and

WHEREAS, the Loop Trail connects Minnesota and Wisconsin across both the Stillwater Lift Bridge and the new St. Croix River Crossing Bridge; and

WHEREAS, the Loop Trail, as currently configured, has no provision for an exit at the southern end of the Loop Trail in Wisconsin as it crosses the new St. Croix River Bridge between Minnesota and Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, there has been a decades old desire to connect the Stillwater Lift Bridge and the Interstate 94 Bridge via a safe and accessible trail between the two bridges; and

WHEREAS, the Interstate 94 Bridge currently has a trail accommodation between Minnesota and Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, a connection to the Hwy 35 bridge on the southern end of the Loop Trail would create a number of trail connection possibilities as follows:

1. A short trail south on Hwy 35 to St. Croix County Road V which would allow an efficient connection to Willow River State Park; and
2. A connection to the Village of North Hudson, its existing and proposed trails and parks, businesses and attractions, and access to the St. Croix River; and
3. A connection to the City of Hudson, its existing and proposed trails and parks, historic downtown, businesses and attractions, and access to the St. Croix River; and
4. A connection between the cities of Hudson and Stillwater and their respective historic downtowns; and
5. A connection to the Interstate 94 Bridge that crosses into Minnesota; and

WHEREAS, without Loop Trail access on to the Hwy 35 bridge, an alternate route to the attractions referenced above would be a trail between Houlton and the Hwy 35 bridge - a much longer, duplicative and likely more costly connection also requiring an accommodation on the Hwy 35 bridge;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City of New Richmond officially supports action by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation as the Loop Trail is designed in 2015 to create a trail accommodation from the Loop Trail on to the Hwy 35 Bridge that crosses over the newly constructed Hwy 64, a part of the St. Croix River Crossing Project.

Motion was seconded by Alderman Ard, and carried.

**EDC Recommendation for Regional Business Fund Member**

The Economic Development Commission recommended appointing Scott Jones to the Regional Business Fund. Mayor Horne appointed Scott Jones to the Regional Business Fund. Alderman Zajkowski moved to confirm this appointment, seconded by Alderman Hansen and carried.

**Bids – Centrifugal Pump**

Jeremiah Wendt stated that the City had a portable centrifugal pump that it was no longer using. We placed an ad in the paper and received three bids. The highest bid was for \$1,050. Alderman Kittel moved to accept this bid, seconded by Alderman Jackson and carried.

**Bids – Rosco Vibrastat Roller**

Jeremiah Wendt stated that we put this item out for bids at the same time as the pump, but did not receive any bids. The Street department recently got the roller running. Jeremiah would like one more try to sell the roller. Alderman Ard has contact information for a company that sells larger equipment like this.

**Renaming Wall Street to 32<sup>nd</sup> Division Avenue**

The Public Works Committee had recommended changing the name of a portion of Wall Street to 32<sup>nd</sup> Division Avenue. Jeremiah showed a map of the area in question. Considerable discussion followed. Alderman Kittel moved to table this item, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

**City Attorney Contract**

Mike Darrow explained that the Finance Committee discussed this contract. After the first year, Nick Vivian would go through a review with the Finance Committee and a formal recommendation would be made to the council for an additional two years. Alderman Hansen moved to approve the contract, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

**Westfield's PILOT Agreement**

Mike Darrow worked with Steve Massey, from Westfield's Hospital, to come up with this agreement and has been reviewed by the Finance Committee. In 2015, the payment would go directly to the general fund. In September of 2015, Westfield's will meet with the City to discuss possible projects to put this money toward for the next calendar year. These projects would need to be in line with Westfield's mission statement and be approved by the City. Alderman Ard moved to approve the PILOT agreement, seconded by Alderman Zajkowski and carried.

**Council Work Session**

There will be a Council work session on February 23, 2015 at 5:00 p.m.

**Closed Session**

Alderman Ard moved to go into Closed Session per State Statute 19.85 (1)(c)(e)(g) to discuss: 1) Staffing Update; 2) Dionisopoulos Litigation; 3) TID #6, seconded by Alderman Kittel and carried.

**Open Session**

Alderman Hansen moved to proceed with the management analyst position and salary increase as discussed in closed session, seconded by Alderman Zajkowski and carried.

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Tanya Reigel  
City Clerk