

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING JULY 11, 2016 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, Montello, Zajkowski , Volkert. Student Representative Jesse Stenske

Members Absent: Student Representative Victoria Johnson

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

**Public Comment**

Donna Burger introduced herself and explained that she is running for St. Croix County District Attorney.

**Consent Agenda**

1. Approval of the Minutes from the Previous Regular Council Meeting, June 13, 2016 and Special Council Meeting, June 27, 2016
2. Application for License to Serve from Gerald Klasen, New Richmond; Lee A. Bostrom, New Richmond; Sara A. Krugen, New Richmond; Caleb R. Tate, New Richmond; Kayla M. Bair, New Richmond; Thomas H. Holland, New Richmond; Michelle R. Holland, New Richmond; Mary L. Bair, New Richmond; Joyce M. Torkelson, New Richmond; Sadie L. Krabbenhoft, Emerald; LaRae A. Gustafson, New Richmond; Robert J. Rice, New Richmond; Shannon R. Luthe, New Richmond; and John T. Wright, New Richmond
3. An Application for Amplification Permit and Exemption from Sec. 50-87 Loud & Unnecessary Noise from Faith Community Church for August 4-6, 2016 from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and on August 7, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
4. Skate Park Donations from the following:  
RMF Auto Service: \$100  
St. Croix Harley Davidson: \$200  
St. Croix Power Sports: \$500  
David Cramer: \$229.95  
Fusion Metal Products: \$1,000  
Family Fresh: \$500  
TNT Metals: \$5,200  
New Richmond Golf Club: \$100  
Total Commitments to date: \$127,405.99
5. Payment of VO#59481 through VO#59579 totaling \$557,821.09 plus electronic fund transfers of \$685,329.27 for a grand total of \$1,243,150.36  
General Fund \$ 773,588.75

Impact Fees Fund	51,731.10
Cemetery Fund	4,505.33
CDBG – Housing	243.75
Debt Service Fund	35,395.92
Capital Projects	159,517.32
Capital Replacement Fund	84,281.88
Landfill Cleanup Fund	7,646.44
TIF District #6	36,055.52
Storm Water Utility	88,110.60
Park Land Trust Fund	2,073.75

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

### **Department Reports**

Administration – Mike Darrow thanked the public works staff for their help with fun fest as well as the police and emergency responders, Jeremiah Wendt for being the City representative on the chamber board, and the Mayor and City Council members that were involved in Fun Fest. Also, a thank you to Library staff for their hard work this summer including the Mayor’s reading challenge.

Community Development – Beth Thompson stated that ALDI had their ground breaking on June 24, 2016 and Senator Harsdorf spoke at the event. Backyard Paradise and Goodwill had ribbon cuttings on June 24 and June 25 respectively. Goodwill had over 50 people waiting at the door to get in. Backyard Paradise has a beautiful building. Markfortography is not new to town, but is new to photography and is located on Knowles Avenue and had a ribbon cutting on July 1, 2016. The developer R3 Sons will be building a retail building on the southeast corner of East Richmond Way and Dorset Lane. Taco Bell will be starting construction the end of July. Tomorrow is a WHEDA listening session in the Council Chambers of the Civic Center.

Public Works – Jeremiah Wendt explained that pavement markings are complete on Knowles Avenue, crack filling is complete and staff has been working on transplanting trees from the Farm to Table site to Freedom Park, North Side Park and Hatfield campground. The WI Department of Safety and Professional Services will be here tomorrow at 10:30 a.m. to discuss our role in the Highway 64 coalition and how mitigation funds are being spent. Preliminary concepts have been received from the DOT for options for the Jug Handle interchange. An open house will be held on Wednesday from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. to discuss the preliminary concepts.

Police – Craig Yehlik, Police Chief, explained that he met with a group in Polk County about meth and opium use and how the government can help with this. Fun Fest went really well from a law enforcement standpoint. There were very few parade issues. Testing for the detective position has been completed and interviews will be held next week. The announcement is scheduled for August 1, 2016 for the person hired. There will be a meeting on Thursday at the high school about a sex offender who is moving into the area. A representative from the Department of Corrections will be present to answer questions. The Department of Corrections suggested having a public meeting, so the police department is following that suggestion. Craig presented the active shooter training for community members on June 28, 2016 and more people have requested this training. Craig thanked Noah for his help in submitting paperwork for the COPS grant. Craig commented that over the weekend the officers received many thank you’s for their work, most likely due to recent events with police officers.

Fire - Jim VanderWyst attended training with Xcel Energy at the Riverdale hydro dam. The new rescue truck is here and in service. The ladder truck had a catastrophic failure and Jim is waiting to hear whether insurance will cover the repairs. The new firefighters are on board and lots of training is planned for July. They are also looking forward to National Night Out.

Airport - Mike Demulling has received DOT approval for the farm-to-table project. Mike is working on the lease which will be given to the school board for their approval on June 20, 2016. There will be a fly in this Saturday with a mini open house at the airport. The Wisconsin DOT secretary is bringing his staff to the airport on Tuesday, July 12, 2016 and the focus of the visit will be on the farm-to-table project and EPS.

**2015 City Financial Review**

Kim Schult, from Baker Tilly, gave a review of the 2015 financial review.

**Resolution #071601 – Awarding the Sale of \$4,640,000 General Obligation Corporate Purpose Bonds**

Sean Lentz, with Ehlers & Associates, explained the bond sale report for this bond issue. Discussion followed. Alderman Montello offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION #071601  
RESOLUTION AWARDING THE SALE OF  
\$4,565,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION CORPORATE  
PURPOSE BONDS, SERIES 2016A  
(Complete copy on file in the Clerk's Office)

Motion was seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

**Resolution #071602 – Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of \$3,260,000 Water and Sewer Utility Revenue Bonds**

Sean Lentz, with Ehlers & Associates, explained the bond sale report for this bond issue. Discussion followed. Alderman Montello offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION #071602  
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF  
\$3,260,000 WATER AND SEWER UTILITY REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2016B  
(Complete copy on file in the Clerk's Office)

Motion was seconded by Alderman Zajkowski and carried.

**Hearings – Noxious Weeds/Nuisance**

Mayor Horne stated that Mike Darrow and Jeremiah Wendt will meet with the owners of 766, 754, and 748 Brigetta Drive and discuss this issue prior to the Council hearing. Alderman Ard moved to table this item, seconded by Alderman Montello and carried.

**Pollinator Pledge Presentation & Resolution #071603**

Student Representative, Jesse Stenske, gave a presentation on pollinators and the need to support the declining population of pollinators including butterflies, bees and some birds and insects. Alderman Ard offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

RESOLUTION # 071603  
POLLINATOR PLEDGE

The undersigned recognize the critical importance of pollinator habitat both restored and maintained on public and private lands, particularly found within the St. Croix River Watershed and adjacent counties within Minnesota and Wisconsin. Through collaboration and outreach resulting from this resolution, an interconnected mosaic of pollinator habitat with large core areas will be developed to stabilize and/or increase populations of pollinator species throughout this project area.

WHEREAS, Pollinators include butterflies, bees, some birds, bats, and other insects that play a crucial role in flowering plant reproduction and given the breadth, severity, and persistence of pollinator losses, it is critical to expand efforts to take new steps to reverse pollinator losses and help restore populations to healthy levels;

WHEREAS, Monarch butterfly populations declined to the lowest recorded level in 2013-14, and there is an imminent risk of failed migration.

WHEREAS, three-Fourths of the world's flowering plants and about 35 percent of the world's food crops depend on animal pollination to reproduce.

WHEREAS, the endangered Karner Blue Butterfly population blinked out in eastern Minnesota and Canada, and the western edge of the national population is currently anchored within the St. Croix River Watershed.

WHEREAS, for migratory pollinators, such as bats, hummingbirds, and the monarch butterfly, we recognize the importance of identification and protection of our nectar corridor;

THEREFORE, we declare that it is our goal to collaboratively and strategically protect and enhance pollinator species and their habitat on public and private lands throughout the St. Croix River Watershed and adjacent counties within northwest Wisconsin and northeastern Minnesota by:

- Increase and Improve Pollinator Habitat: Identify existing pockets of pollinator habitat, and then develop a network of habitat on public and private lands to develop a nectar corridor for migratory and non-migratory pollinator species.
- Public-Private Partnerships: Develop strategic partnerships to improve or create habitat for pollinators as well as provide educational opportunities within the scope of the resolution.
- Education: Encouraging voluntary, collaborative, and locally-led conservation that has proven to be effective in maintaining and enhancing working landscapes, this may include but is not limited to planting pollinator gardens, building bee blocks, and avoiding or limiting pesticide use.
- Education: Provide educational opportunities (both government and non-government) to those interested in enhancing pollinators and pollinator habitat opportunities.
- Research: Develop and/or promote citizen science opportunities for tracking key populations of pollinator species and habitat.

Motion was seconded by Alderman Montello and carried

#### **Resolution #071604 Highway 64 Corridor Trail Committee**

Noah Wiedenfeld explained that this resolution was originally presented at the work session in June. As part of the St. Croix Bridge crossing, there will be a loop trail. The Highway 64 Corridor Trail Committee is citizen advisory group with the purpose of connecting the loop trail in Stillwater to New Richmond. If the resolution is approved, Mayor Horne can appoint a member in August. Alderman Montello offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

Resolution #071604

Highway 64 Corridor Trail Committee

#### **Purpose**

The Highway 64 Corridor Trail Committee (Committee) is hereby created by the St. Croix Bike and Pedestrian Trail Coalition (Coalition) to research and provide information to the Coalition regarding the following matter:

Collaboration between and among the Highway 64 corridor communities - specifically the Towns of Richmond, St. Joseph, Somerset and Star Prairie, the Village of Somerset and the City of New Richmond (Corridor Communities) - regarding trail connections along the Highway 64 corridor that ensure trails will ultimately connect from the Loop Trail being constructed as a part of the St. Croix River Crossing Project into the City of New Richmond.

#### **Organization**

The Committee shall be organized as follows:

1. The duration of the Committee shall be ongoing either as deemed necessary by the Board of Directors or until the trail connections are complete, and

2. The Committee shall meet at least semi-annually, and
3. Meetings may be called by the Chairperson of the Committee or a majority of the Coalition's Board of Directors (Directors), and
4. The Committee shall be an advisory body to the Directors. Actions taken by the Committee shall be at the request of the Directors only, and
5. Membership shall consist of at least one member appointed by each Corridor Community, a member of the Pathways organization, a member of the Coalition and not more than six members-at-large who must be either a resident of or merchant in one of the Corridor Communities. Membership on the Committee shall not exceed fourteen members, and
6. The Chairperson of the Committee may be either a Director or a member of the Coalition, and
7. A quorum shall be a majority of the membership, and
8. Meetings may be held at times and in public locations the committee may determine, coordinating with the Coalition Secretary, and
9. *Roberts Rules* shall be the basis for the Committee's rules of procedure with more specific rules being adopted by the Committee as deemed necessary, and
10. Agendas for meetings shall be sent to the Coalition Secretary at least 10 days prior to the meeting for publication and distribution to members, and
11. Minutes from the meetings shall be sent to the Coalition Secretary at most 10 days following the meeting for publication and distribution to members, and
12. The Committee shall coordinate with the Coalition secretary regarding any further records required, and
13. A report shall be given to the Directors at each meeting in which the Committee met following the last Directors meeting, and
14. A written report shall be given to the Directors at least yearly before the annual meeting, anytime a significant action is requested or taken and whenever requested by the Directors. The report shall provide specific details needed for the Board to take action. These reports shall become a part of the public records of the Coalition.

#### Goals

The Committee should accomplish the following tasks as requested by the Coalition:

1. Designate an agreed upon, connected trail system along the Highway 64 corridor from the Loop Trail to New Richmond.
2. Assure Corridor Communities' trail plans are incorporated into St. Croix County's updated Bike & Pedestrian Plan. This task must be accomplished before the county's updated plan is finalized, optimally by September 2016.
3. Keep Committee members current with changes occurring in Corridor Communities' trail plans.
4. Research funding method (s) for designing, engineering and constructing the connected route through the Corridor Communities.
5. Set yearly construction and/or other priorities as deemed necessary for the Corridor Communities.
6. Provide united support for each community's planned design, engineering, and construction along the Hwy 64 Corridor as may be requested by the Corridor Communities for a variety of purposes.

Motion was seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

#### **Resolution #071605 Just Fix It**

There was considerable discussion regarding this resolution. Alderman Montello moved to approve the resolution removing the paragraph referring to vehicle fees and removing the reference to the focus of the solution that references the gas tax and tollways. The correct resolution is listed below.

Resolution#071605  
#JustFixItWI Transportation Funding Resolution  
City of New Richmond, WI

WHEREAS, local government in Wisconsin is responsible for about 90% of the road miles in the state; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's diverse economy is dependent upon county and town roads as well as city and village streets and transit systems across the state; and

WHEREAS, high quality and fast transit systems are critical to attracting businesses and people to the state, yet state funding for transit is less today than it was five years ago; and

WHEREAS, levy limits do not allow local government to make up for the deterioration of state funding; and

WHEREAS, Wisconsin's over-reliance on borrowing eats away at the state's segregated funding sources – the state gas tax and vehicle registration fees – which increasingly pay debt service rather than fund transportation needs; and

WHEREAS, the City of New Richmond Common Council recognizes that our state highway and interstate system is the backbone of our surface transportation system and plays a vital role in the economy of Wisconsin. Both local *and* state roads need to be properly maintained in order for our economy to grow; and

WHEREAS, the Transportation Finance and Policy Commission, appointed by the Governor and Legislature clearly found that if Wisconsin does not address the situation, the condition of our state and local roads as well as local transit systems will deteriorate significantly over the next decade.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the New Richmond City Council urges the Governor and Legislature to #JustFixItWI and agree upon a sustainable solution. Furthermore, the City Council directs the Clerk to send a copy of this resolution to our State Legislators, Governor Scott Walker and the League of Wisconsin Municipalities.

Motion was seconded by Alderman Zajkowski. After considerable discussion Alderman Montello called for the question. Motion carried with Alderman Volkert voting no.

#### **Resolution # 071606 Amending Fee Schedule**

Jeremiah Wendt explained that the natural lawn permit in our ordinances does not have a fee associated with it. No permits have been issued in the past, but a resident has requested information on this process. The permit is for two years and all properties within 300 feet need to be notified to give the opportunity for them to comment on the application. Staff recommends a fee of \$50.00 per lot. Alderman Montello offered the following resolution and moved for its adoption:

#### RESOLUTION #071606

#### RESOLUTION AMENDING THE SCHEDULE OF FEES

WHEREAS, the City of New Richmond hereby adopts the following Amendment to the Schedule of Fees:

Section	License/Fee Type	Fee
90-2	Natural Lawn Permit	\$50.00

Motion was seconded by Alderman Kittel and carried.

#### **Freedom Park Irrigation Phase 2 Bids**

Jeremiah Wendt received the following bids for this project:

Northway Irrigation	\$39,842
Irrigation By Design	\$48,900

Alderman Zajkowski moved to accept the low bid from Northway Irrigation with the money to come from park funds, seconded by Alderman Ard and carried.

#### **Update on 2016 Street & Utility Projects**

Jeremiah Wendt gave an update on the 2016 Street & Utility projects. All of the underground work on Paperjack Drive is complete. Curb and gutter will start this week and sidewalk will start next week. This project will be completed in August. North Starr Avenue is on schedule to have the underground work finished in two to three weeks. North Shore Drive just began today. The first step was to mill out the old asphalt and turn it into a gravel road. There is some underground work

on this street which will be complete before the August Council meeting and be ready for pavement again. We are on budget for the street projects as the change orders have been minimal.

### **North Shore Trail Easement**

Jeremiah Wendt explained that there was some property along North Shore Drive that was shown on the County website as being owned by the City. Dan Casey thought he owned it, so we had a title search done and it turns out that Dan does in fact own the property. He is in favor of the trail going on the property. An agreement was drawn up for an easement to allow the trail. Conditions of the agreement follow:

- 1) Mr. Casey provides to the City a 30 foot wide trail easement across his property
- 2) Mr. Casey provides a deed to the City for the parcel on the corner of Hidden Lane and North Shore Drive
- 3) City provides 25 foot extension of water and sewer to two parcels owned by Mr. Casey at 775 and 811 North Shore Drive
- 4) City removes brush from upland areas on the parcel surrounding the trail.

Alderman Montello moved to approve the easement with the conditions listed above, seconded by Alderman Kittel and carried.

### **Rotary Lights Project –Memorandum of Understanding**

The Rotary Club presented a concept plan for placing Christmas lights in the trees at Mary Park. They will provide all of the lights, labor and equipment storage. They will also collect food donations for Five Loaves food shelf or cash donations at the entrance to the park. The public will be able to walk or drive through the park to see the lights. The City will plow the snow and pay for the electric use up to \$350. Alderman Ard expressed concern regarding the lack of language addressing site restoration if there is damage to any trees. This language will be added to the MOU. Discussion followed. Alderman Ard moved to approve the agreement with the addition of language addressing site restoration if trees are damaged, seconded by Alderman Kittel and carried.

### **No Work Session in July**

#### **Communications and Miscellaneous**

Construction on the skateboard park will begin next week. State officials will be in New Richmond tomorrow for several meetings:

Safety & Professional 10:30 a.m.

WHEDA at 11:00 a.m.

Airport 11:15 a.m.

#### **Closed Session**

Alderman Ard moved to go into Closed Session per State Statute 19.85 (1)(e) to discuss TIF #6, seconded by Alderman Montello and carried.

#### **Open Session**

No action was taken

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

Meeting adjourned at 9:19 p.m.

Tanya Reigel  
City Clerk