

COMMON COUNCIL MINUTES

Wednesday, April 1, 2020 - 7:00 p.m.

The Common Council of the City of Neenah, Winnebago County, Wisconsin, met in regular session at 7:00 p.m., April 1, 2020 held at a virtual location accessed by video conference call. Council members and the public used the following call-in information: join the meeting from a personal computer, tablet or smartphone from the following link:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/132474093>

Or dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(872\) 240-3412](tel:+18722403412)

Access Code: 132-474-093.

Mayor Kaufert in the chair.

Present: Alderpersons Boyette, Bates, Lang, Lendrum, Erickson, Spellman, Steele, Kunz & Stevenson, Director of Finance Easker, Director of Community Development & Assessment Haese, Director of Public Works Kaiser, & City Attorney Godlewski.

Also present, Deputy City Attorney Adam VandenHeuvel and Deputy Director of Community Development & Assessment Schmidt

In the absence of the City Clerk, and Deputy City Clerk, the City Attorney took the minutes of the meeting.

Mayor Kaufert called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

I. Roll Call and Pledge.

City Attorney called a voice roll call which showed that all alderpersons were present. The Mayor led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance. Due to the virtual meeting style, Roll Call Pro voting system was not used.

II. Introduction and Confirmation of Mayor's Appointments

None.

III. Proceedings

None.

IV. Public Hearing

None.

V. **Committee/Commission Reports Pertaining to the Public Hearings**

None.

VI. **Public Forum**

There being no appearances, Mayor Kaufert declared the public forum closed.

VII. **Mayor/Council Consideration of Public Forum Issues**

None.

VIII. **Consent Agenda**

MS Lendrum / Steele to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A. Approve Beverage Operator License Applications for: Maci Trzcinski. **(PSSC)**
- B. **(UC) There being no objections the motion was approved by unanimous consent.**

IX. **Reports of the Standing Committees.**

A. **Public Services and Safety Committee**

Chairman Bates reported the regular meeting of March 24, 2020:

- 1. Committee recommends Council approve a contract for outside services with Neighborhood Planners, LLC in the amount not to exceed \$15,000 for the S. Commercial Street Revitalization Plan funded by a grant from the Winnebago County Industrial Development Board. **MSCR P Bates / Lendrum,**
 - a) Ald. Kunz expressed excitement over the project and inquired about the Council's visibility and how the Council could be kept informed of progress.
 - b) Deputy Dir. Schmidt stated the project will form a steering committee, possibly with a council representative, for which and minutes will be kept and distributed to the public as well as Council.
 - c) **There being no further discussion, the City Attorney called the roll; all voting aye 9-0.**
- 2. Committee recommends Council approve the agreement and authorize the appropriate city officials to sign the Intermunicipal Agreement for the Abby Avenue Reconstruction project. **MSCR P Bates / Lendrum,**
 - a. Ald. Stevenson lauded Dir. Kaiser for his work in developing the spreadsheet and other documents to ensure that costs are appropriately divided between the two Cities.
 - b. There being no further discussion, **Mayor called for a voice vote; all voting aye 9-0.**

B. Finance & Personnel Committee

1. Regular Finance and Personnel Committee meeting of March 23, 2020: **(Cancelled)**

X. Reports of the Commissions and Special Committees.

A. Landmarks Commission – no report

B. Sustainable Neenah Committee-no report

C. Business Improvement District (BID) Board

1. Alderperson Lang reported from the Business Improvement District Board (BID Board); They have scheduled a meeting for Friday April 3 at 9 a.m. to discuss the ongoing planning efforts in combatting the Covid 19 pandemic.

Bergstrom Mahler Museum

- I. Alderperson Spellman reported from the Bergstrom Mahler Museum meeting of March 25th.
 - A. The Museum welcomed two new members to its board
 - B. The Museum continues its planning for the Covid-19 Pandemic. It is now closed to the public, but the staff is seeking ways to connect to the public online.
 - C. The next meeting of the Museum Board will occur on April 22, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

Petitions

- I. Annexation Petition Armstrong Street and Public Right-of-Way. **MS by Stevenson/Lang, to refer to Plan Commission and Finance and Personnel Committee.**
 - A. City Attorney Godlewski reported that in discussions with the Town, and in lieu of the Town filing an action in Court to challenge the City's annexation, they would agree to hold final action on this annexation pending talks on the boundary agreement between the Town and City.
 - B. Ald. Kunz expressed surprise by the expansion of the scope of this action to include a broader discussion of boundary agreement disagreements. He indicated that he was not sure what action was appropriate.
 - C. Ald. Stevenson was surprised by expansion of scope as well, but referral seems to be an appropriate action. He stressed the need to bring the Council in on the process.
 - D. The Mayor indicated that talks often occur between Town and City leaders, and he would ensure the Council has input in the process.
 - E. City Attorney likewise agreed that Council input would be a central part of the process.

- F. Director Kaiser indicated that Shootingstar and Armstrong were bid as alternates in contract 3-20 and action on the bids was held pending resolution of the issues with the town.
- G. **There being no further discussion, the Mayor called for Unanimous Consent; there being no objection, Motion carried.**
- II. Annexation Petition 1490 Breezewood Lane. (Motion to refer to Plan Commission and Finance and Personnel Committee) **(UC)**
 - A. **MS by Stevenson/Kunz to refer to Finance Committee and Plan Commission items B, C, D.**
 - B. The Mayor called on Dep. Dir. Schmidt, who explained the background of these annexations by agreement on Breezewood Lane.
 - C. **Mayor called for Unanimous Consent, there being no objection, Motion Carried.**
- III. Annexation Petition 1510 Breezewood Lane. (Motion to refer to Plan Commission and Finance and Personnel Committee) **(UC)**
 - A. **MS by Stevenson/Kunz to refer to Finance Committee and Plan Commission items B, C, D.**
 - B. **Mayor called for Unanimous Consent, there being no objection, Motion Carried**
- IV. Annexation Petition 1480 Breezewood Lane. (Motion to refer to Plan Commission and Finance and Personnel Committee) **(UC)**
 - A. **MS by Stevenson/Kunz to refer to Finance Committee and Plan Commission items B, C, D.**
 - B. **Mayor called for Unanimous Consent, there being no objection, Motion Carried.**

The Co Council Directives

None

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

- A. Registration for Davis/Kuelthau's 42nd Annual Public Officials Program. Wednesday April 29, 2020 at the Comfort Suites – Rock Garden, Green Bay from 5:00 pm to 8:15 pm. Any Alderperson interested in attending please let Dep. Clerk Cheslock know so reservations can be made. This has been converted to on line presentation
- B. Mayor Kaufert's appointment to fill the expired terms of Merry Whipple, Carol Codner on the Library Board for a three- year term to expire April 2023. (To be considered at the April 21, 2020 Organizational Meeting)
- C. Mayor Kaufert's appointment to fill the expired terms of Tom Martin and Grant Birtch on the Community Development Authority for four years term to expire April 2024. (To be considered at the April 21, 2020 Organizational Meeting)

- D. Mayor Kaufert's appointment to fill the expired term of Gerry Andrews on the Plan Commission for a three year term to expire April 2023. (To be considered at the April 21, 2020 Organizational Meeting)
- E. Ratification of Mayoral Proclamation 2020-02: Defining Emergency Responder for City of Neenah.
 - 1. Dep City Attorney VandenHeuvel explained the nature of the proclamation and the policy regarding definition of emergency responder under the federal legislation.
 - 2. **MS Stevenson/Bates to ratify Mayoral Proclamation 2020-02. Motion carried on a voice vote unanimously.**

Adjournment

- I. **MSC Boyette /Steele to adjourn into closed session as stated below at 8 p.m., City Attorney called the roll, all voting aye.**
- I. The Council will convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(g) for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel concerning litigation strategy.. Ulrich v. City of Neenah 20cv270

James G. Godlewski
City Attorney