

APRIL 10, 2007

1. Roll call:

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Larry Fanta with Alderpersons David Tryggestad, Marc Polsean, John Bjerke, Gary Krause, Weston Mack, Roger Hatlem, Gail Frie, and Terry Noble present. Alderperson Robert Suhr was absent. Also present were City Administrator Jeff Gohlke, Clerk John Severson, City Attorney David Jenkins, Assistant Police Chief Daron Jefson, Dan Stalsberg, Cade Cary, Derek Dregne, Tim Poliquin, Justin Running, Lisa Solverson, Mike Olson, Rich Grams, Susan Grams, Marlin Ladwig, Eugene Sauers, Arlen Foss, Kathy Reuter, Jim Gillen, Carol Gohlke, Martha Burns, Karla Shaw, T. H. Lewison and Dian Krause.

2. Approval of the March 27, 2007 Council Minutes.

Motion by Alderperson Hatlem to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2007 meeting as amended. Seconded by Alderperson Frie. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

3. First period for public comment.

Dian Krause addressed the Council concerning the events and process of changing the sign ordinance and felt that it set a bad precedent and hoped the Council would consider this the next time a situation may come up.

Without objection Mayor Fanta moved to agenda item # 10.

10. Request of Rich Grams for zoning change on property located at Sherwood Drive and Derek Lane from R-1 to R-2. Referral to Plan Board.

Mayor Fanta reported that he had received a phone call from Duane Dregne, who is opposed to the zoning change. Alderperson Tryggestad commented that there are people in attendance from the surrounding area that are opposed to it. Mayor Fanta asked Rich Grams to explain his request to the Council. Mr. Grams said that he has two acres in Abbey Estates and was requesting that it be rezoned to R-2 for the building of Town Houses. Current zoning would allow for nine double units on individual lots. Rezoning to R-2 would allow for a cluster effect, making better use of the land and allowing for some green space. Numerous individuals spoke against the zoning change. Motion by Alderperson Frie to refer the matter to the Plan Board. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

4. Public Hearing – Application by Wade O. and Karla M. Walker to operate a home based animal treat bakery at 410 East Decker Street.

Mayor Fanta announced that the Plan Board had recommended approval of the conditional use request after the public hearing held on Monday, April 9, 2007. No citizens were present to be heard. The Council reviewed the request. Motion by Alderperson Hatlem to accept the recommendation of the Plan Board and grant the conditional use with review in one year. Seconded by Alderperson Polsean. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

5. Plan Board recommendation concerning Kevin Burke conditional use application for property at 618 Madison Street.

The Plan Board, at the request of the Council, reviewed the Kevin Burke conditional use application and had no additional recommendations other than the initial finding to deny the request. Motion by Alderperson Frie to accept the recommendation of the Plan Board and deny the request of Kevin Burke for a conditional use of property at 618 Madison Street. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

6. Appointment to the Library Board – Carol Gohlke.

Mayor Fanta asked the Council to accept the appointment of Carol Gohlke to the unexpired term made vacant by the resignation of Angie Lawrence. Mayor Fanta noted that Carol is Chairman of the Friends of the Library. Since that position is voluntary the Council felt there was no conflict of interest. Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad to approve the appointment of Carol Gohlke to the Library Board. Seconded by Alderperson Bjerke. Lisa Solverson commented to the Council about replacing someone on the Library Board who has children in the public school system with someone who does not, stating that her concern is a balanced makeup of the board. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

7. Accommodation for truck unloading and loading on Court Street at Felix building.

Motion by Alderperson Frie to table the agenda item. Seconded by Alderperson Tryggestad. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.

8. Notice of commencement of contract negotiations – City Employees Union.

Jeff Gohlke reported that the City had received notification of the Local Union's intent to reopen negotiations for a successor agreement.

9. Public Works contract awards – informational.

The Council was informed that Public Works had selected Mathy Construction as low bidder for hot mix paving and Country Roads as low bidder for curb & gutter and sidewalk construction. Jeff Gohlke updated the Council on the HWY 56 construction.

11. Payment of bills.

Motion by Alderperson Mack to pay the bills as recommended by the Finance Committee and as presented on payment reports dated 04/05/07 and 04/10/07 in the amounts of \$222,468.57 and \$32,059.87. Seconded by Alderperson Krause. All voted aye on roll call vote. Motion carries.

12. Second period for public comment.

Lisa Solverson reported that the Library had changed its meetings from the second Monday of the month to the third Monday of the month and that the Friends of the Library were sponsoring a plant a book, grow a Library event on Friday, May 4, 2007.

13. Adjournment.

Motion by Alderperson Tryggestad to adjourn the Council meeting until 7:30 pm April 24, 2007. Seconded by Alderperson Hatlem. All voted aye on voice vote. Motion carries.