



Meeting Minutes
Common Council

Tuesday, April 16, 2013

7:30 PM

Council Chambers

4:00 p.m. Adjourned April Council Meeting

Mayor Harter called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 15 - Andrea Richmond, Chris Olson, Jai Johnson, Katherine Svitavsky, John Satory, James Cherf, Robert Seaquist, Richard Becker, Audrey Kader, Sara Sullivan, Francis Formanek, Paul Medinger, Douglas Happel, Marilyn Wigdahl and Richard Swantz

Absent: 1 - Al Wagner

[13-0222](#)

Resolution approving the abolishment of the Apportionment Committee.

2013-04-053

The Mayor read the Resolution. Motion by Richard Becker, second by Jai Johnson that the Resolution be NOT ADOPTED. The motion carried unanimously.

[13-0225](#)

Resolution approving the abolishment of the Reapportionment Committee.

2013-04-054

The Mayor read the Resolution. Motion by Richard Becker, second by Jai Johnson that the Resolution be NOT ADOPTED. The motion carried unanimously.

[13-0221](#)

AN ORDINANCE to amend Paragraph 20.25(4)(b)(vii) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse regarding electronic billboard signs.

2013-04-055

The Mayor read the Resolution. Motion was made by Robert Seaquist, seconded by Audrey Kader, that the Ordinance be NOT ADOPTED. The motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 15 - Andrea Richmond, Chris Olson, Jai Johnson, Katherine Svitavsky, John Satory, James Cherf, Robert Seaquist, Richard Becker, Audrey Kader, Sara Sullivan, Francis Formanek, Paul Medinger, Douglas Happel, Marilyn Wigdahl and Richard Swantz

Absent: 1 - Al Wagner

[13-0227](#)

Resolution amending Council Rules pertaining to start times of the standing committees, Committee of the Whole Meeting and Common Council Meetings.

2013-04-056

The Mayor read the Resolution. Motion by Richard Becker, second by Douglas Happel, to remove from the Table. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Motion was made by Douglas Happel, seconded by Richard Becker, that the Resolution be NOT ADOPTED. The motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 15 - Andrea Richmond, Chris Olson, Jai Johnson, Katherine Svitavsky, John Satory, James Cherf, Robert Seaquist, Richard Becker, Audrey Kader, Sara Sullivan, Francis Formanek, Paul Medinger, Douglas Happel, Marilyn Wigdahl and Richard Swantz

Absent: 1 - Al Wagner

[13-0219](#)

AN ORDINANCE to create Section 2.23 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse entitled, "Joint Emergency Medical Services Commission."

2013-04-057

The Mayor read the Ordinance. Motion by Francis Formanek, second by Robert Seaquist, to remove from the Table. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. A motion was made by Francis Formanek, seconded by Paul Medinger, that the Ordinance be NOT ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 14 - Chris Olson, Jai Johnson, Katherine Svitavsky, John Satory, James Cherf, Robert Seaquist, Richard Becker, Audrey Kader, Sara Sullivan, Francis Formanek, Paul Medinger, Douglas Happel, Marilyn Wigdahl and Richard Swantz

No: 1 - Andrea Richmond

Absent: 1 - Al Wagner

[13-0163](#)

Amended Resolution approving Second Intergovernmental Agreement for Park Plaza Property between the City of La Crosse and the County of La Crosse.

(Note: The committee, Committee of the Whole and/or Common Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stats. sec. 19.85(1)(e) to update and formulate negotiation strategies and parameters. Following the closed session, the committees and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)

The Mayor read the Resolution. Motion by Richard Becker to amend to give direction that City Department Heads meet with County Department Heads at the discretion of the City Attorney, second by Andrea Richmond. The motion carried unanimously. A motion was made by Audrey Kader, seconded by Chris Olson, that the Resolution be REFERRED with direction, due back on 4/30/2013. The motion carried unanimously.

Aye: 15 - Andrea Richmond, Chris Olson, Jai Johnson, Katherine Svitavsky, John Satory, James Cherf, Robert Seaquist, Richard Becker, Audrey Kader, Sara Sullivan, Francis Formanek, Paul Medinger, Douglas Happel, Marilyn Wigdahl and Richard Swantz

Absent: 1 - Al Wagner

[13-0188](#)

A CHARTER ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 2.02(C) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse regarding Council Member Salaries.

2013-04-012

A motion was made by Richard Swantz, seconded by Chris Olson, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion failed by the following vote:

Aye: 11 - Andrea Richmond, Chris Olson, Jai Johnson, Katherine Svitavsky, John Satory, Robert Seaquist, Audrey Kader, Sara Sullivan, Douglas Happel, Marilyn Wigdahl and Richard Swantz

No: 4 - James Cherf, Richard Becker, Francis Formanek and Paul Medinger

Absent: 1 - Al Wagner

[13-0209](#)

AN ORDINANCE to create Subsection 8.08 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse regarding rental inspection fees.

2013-04-058

This Ordinance was RETIRED due to inactivity.

[13-0210](#)

Report of the Director of Human Resources and Director of Finance regarding Comparable Cities Study.

2013-04-059

This Resolution was RETIRED due to inactivity.

[13-0212](#)

Resolution suspending the Small Business Development Loan (SBDL) Program, the Architectural and Engineering Analysis (A&E) Program and the Upper Floor Loan Program.

2013-04-060

This Resolution was RETIRED due to inactivity.

[13-0214](#)

Resolution approving easement and agreement regarding storm sewer outfall on property located at 1325 Nakomis Avenue.

2013-04-061

This Resolution was RETIRED due to inactivity.

[13-0216](#) Resolution approving the installation of sidewalk on the south side of the 1400 block of North Salem Road.

2013-04-062

This Resolution was RETIRED due to inactivity.

[13-0218](#) Resolution appointing a temporary member to the Common Council.

2013-04-063

This Resolution was RETIRED due to inactivity.

[13-0226](#) CHARTER ORDINANCE to amend Section 2.18 of the Municipal Code of Ordinance of the City of La Crosse to reduce the membership of the Municipal Transit Utility Board.

No action taken; the item remains on the Table.

[13-0067](#) Resolution amending membership of the Housing Rehabilitation Review Board.

No action taken; the item remains on the Table.

[13-0171](#) Resolution approving the use of Room Tax Funds to help offset the cost of the Oktoberfest Maple Leaf Parade.

No action taken; the item remains on the Table.

Referral of all items in the hands of the standing committees to the appropriate new committees.

Motion by Robert Seaquist to refer all items to standing committees, second by Richard Becker. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

New Item for Referral

[13-0242](#) Second Amended Resolution awarding contract for the 2014-2020 residential refuse and recycling collection services to Harter's Quick Clean-up.

BPW, J&A

ADJOURN SINE DIE

On motion, the meeting was adjourned sine die at approximately 4:30 p.m.

4:30 p.m. New Council Meeting

Mayor Tim Kabat called the meeting to order at approximately 4: 40 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 17 - Andrea Richmond, Dempsey Miller, Ryan Cornett, Jai Johnson, Katherine Svitavsky, David Krump, James Cherf, Robert Seaquist, Richard Becker, Peg Jerome, Audrey Kader, Sara Sullivan, Francis Formanek, Paul Medinger, Douglas Happel, Marilyn Wigdahl and Richard Swantz

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Moment of Silence in honor of the victims of Boston bombings

Election of Council President

James Cherf nominated Audrey Kader, second by Sara Sullivan. Francis Formanek nominated Richard Swantz, second by Andrea Richmond. Motion by Andrea Richmond to close nominations, second by Marilyn Wigdahl. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Secret ballots were cast: Audrey Kader received 5 votes and Richard Swantz received 12 votes. Richard Swantz received the most votes to serve as Council President for two years.

Election of two Council Members to Board of Public Works

Francis Formanek nominated Bob Seaquist, second by James Cherf. Douglas Happel nominated Richard Swantz, second by Andrea Richmond. Audrey Kader nominated Douglas Happel, who declined. Motion by Andrea Richmond to close nominations, second by James Cherf. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Motion by Richard Becker to cast a unanimous ballot, second by Douglas Happel. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Bob Seaquist and Richard Swantz were elected to serve on the Board of Public Works for two years.

Mayor's Address

Tim Kabat – Mayoral Address April 16, 2013

Thank you ladies and gentlemen. And thank you people of La Crosse for your support. It is very humbling to be selected by the voters to help lead this city and I know each elected official here today has many family and friends in attendance who helped them get here. So I would like to thank my family for their love and support.

I would like to acknowledge and thank Mayor Harter. He made history as our youngest mayor and carried himself with humility and graciousness. I think we should recognize his service during these past four years.

I would also like to acknowledge and thank our three out-going council members: Al Wagner in District 2, Chris Olson in District 3 and John Satory in District 6. Thank you, gentlemen, for your service to La Crosse.

Please help me congratulate our four new council members: Dempsey Miller in District 2, Ryan Cornett in District 3, David Krump in District 6 and Peg Jerome in District 10.

We have a superb mix of experienced council members and new members who are all brimming with optimism and a focus on the challenges ahead. I trust that our veteran council members will show leadership to mentor and guide these new members and that our new members will be open to their guidance and support.

These are hopeful days in La Crosse. We live in a beautiful city with abundant natural resources. Our economy is strong – with opportunity to grow stronger. We are blessed with the arts and culture and have the finest educational institutions anywhere – from pre-K through college. We have strong neighborhoods and growing diversity. The possibilities are truly endless.

However, with all we have to celebrate we must acknowledge the challenges we face. We have too much poverty and housing stock and infrastructure that needs rebuilding. We must put aside our egos; and treat each other with civility, care and respect.

We must look out for those in our community most vulnerable and in need of our help. Every single citizen is important, has something to share and can participate to make this great city even better. Every success we celebrate will be shared. Every setback we experience we will shoulder together.

The question at hand is, are we ready to work together to set and to achieve the goals necessary to make La Crosse a better place to live and work? I know the answer is yes.

- Together we will help City Hall become more transparent and service oriented to better serve the public.*
- Together we will focus on economic development opportunities that will bring new businesses and jobs to La Crosse and will help our existing businesses to grow and expand.*
- Together we will find opportunities to work with our neighbors to share resources and to decrease costs for our taxpayers.*
- Together we will implement sustainable and energy efficient practices in our homes and businesses to protect our valuable natural resources and to ensure that*

the beauty we hold so dear today is thriving 100 years from now for future generations.

- *Together we will rebuild our infrastructure and housing, to ensure that La Crosse has strong neighborhoods and strong and thriving community.*

City Hall has the best employees anywhere. People who care, who want to see La Crosse flourish and grow and who have dedicated their professional lives to public service. And we must work together – put aside the differences for the good of our people. The people of La Crosse are our greatest resource. By working with them and for them we can meet the challenges we face.

Today we begin to build bridges...to build our legacy so that La Crosse is better after we leave than it was before we came because we had the courage to face our challenges, the intelligence to see our opportunities, and the strength to work hard to achieve our highest goals. After all, "It is not in the stars to hold our destiny, but in ourselves." Thank you and God bless.

Adjournment

On motion by Richmond, second by Swantz, the meeting was adjourned at 4:55 p.m.