



City of La Crosse, Wisconsin

City Hall
400 La Crosse Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

Meeting Minutes - Final

Common Council

Thursday, May 11, 2023

6:00 PM

Council Chambers
City Hall, First Floor

Draft until approved by Council on June 8, 2023.

Mayor Mitch Reynolds, Presiding

Mayor Reynolds called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Present: 12 - Tamra Dickinson, Erin Goggin, Barb Janssen, Larry Sleznikow, Chris Kahlow, Mac Kiel, Mackenzie Mindel, Chris Woodard, Rebecca Schwarz, Jennifer Trost, Douglas Happel, Mark Neumann

Excused: 1 - Jenasea Hameister

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation

Chaplain Ann Wales, La Crosse Jail Ministry

Council Member Appointment to the Executive Committee

Happel nominated Janssen and Mindel nominated Sleznikow; no other nominations. By secret ballot, Janssen was elected to the Executive Committee on a vote of 7 to 5.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Janssen, seconded by Schwarz, to APPROVE minutes of April 13 and 18, 2023. The motion carried unanimously.

Reports

[23-0490](#)

Engineering Monthly Progress Report.

2023-05-001

A motion was made by Mindel, seconded by Kiel, that the Report be RECEIVED AND FILED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

[23-0536](#)

Financial Report from the Director of Finance for the month of March 2023.

2023-05-002

A motion was made by Mindel, seconded by Schwarz, that the Report be RECEIVED AND FILED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

Notices and Discussions

Mindel spoke on Mental Health Awareness. Mayor Reynolds acknowledged April 30 to May 6 as Professional Municipal Clerks week, the 3rd week of May as National Public Works week with the 6th annual Touch-a-Truck on Thursday May 25 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Municipal Service Center. He gave thanks to incredible staff and Emergency Management Plan manager Chief Schott who were involved with regard to the recent flooding which was the 3rd highest recorded flood in La Crosse history. Mayor Reynolds also recognized National Police Week which is May 15 to 29; on the 15th there will be a memorial service in Holmen to recognize sacrifices officers have made. He stated that it was an incredible honor to be invited to hand out UW-L Chancellor Service Awards where 69 students were honored; UW-L Eagle Achievement Awards were received by Maddy Krueger and Ilah Tregoni who provided more than 400 volunteer hours each while at UW-L. Happel spoke on the award ceremonies on Wednesday the 18th for Police and Fire staff.

COMMON COUNCIL MATTERS

[23-0535](#)

Resolution approving 2023 Bills and Engineering Estimates paid in May 2023.

2023-05-003

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Kiel, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

APPOINTMENTS BY THE MAYOR

[23-0498](#)

Common Council Emergency Interim Successors - 2023.

2023-05-004

A motion was made by Janssen, seconded by Kahlow, that the Emergency Interim Successors be CONFIRMED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

[23-0532](#)

Aviation Board: Tamra Dickinson. Arts Board: Mark Neumann. Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee: Larry Sleznikow, Brooke Pataska. Boundary Agreement Task Force: Doug Happel, Mark Neumann, Jennifer Trost. Building and Housing Appeals Board: Kevin Kellogg. Committee for Citizens with Disabilities: Larry Sleznikow. City Plan Commission: Jennifer Trost, Jenasea Hameister. Climate Action Plan Steering Committee: Mackenzie Mindel. EMS Contract Negotiating Committee: Doug Happel, Erin Goggin. Heritage Preservation Commission: Mackenzie Mindel. Human Rights Commission: Claire Bakalars, Mac Kiel. International Committee: Chris Woodard. Joint Board of Harbor Commissioners: Mark Neumann, Jerome Gundersen. Joint Development Corporation: Chris Woodard, Chris Kahlow. La Crosse County Convention and Visitors Bureau: Barb Janssen. La Crosse Center Board: Barb Janssen. Library Board: Mac Kiel. Neighborhood Revitalization Commission: Larry Sleznikow, Jennifer Trost. Public Safety Communications Board: Doug Happel. Redevelopment Authority: Barb Janssen. Room Tax Commission: Jennifer Trost, Ben Stepanek. Weed Commissioners: Kelsey Hanson, Andrew Berzinski, David Reinhart, Jason Riley, Mike Suntken, Eddie Young, David Foster, Sarah Rafajko, James Woychik, Jeff Kepler.

2023-05-005

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Kiel, that the Appointments be CONFIRMED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

REPORT OF BIDS/QUOTES RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

[23-0417](#)

Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Fowler & Hammer, Inc. in the amount of \$2,507,118.33 for the 2nd Street Reconstruction Project.

2023-05-006

A motion was made by Woodard, seconded by Mindel, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

[23-0419](#)

Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Johnson Controls, Inc. in the amount of \$693,500.00 for the La Crosse Center Boiler Replacement.

2023-05-007

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Schwarz, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

[23-0420](#)

Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Gerke Excavating, Inc. in the amount of \$683,221.33 for the LRIP Cliffwood Lane - 28th St to Seiler Lane Project.

2023-05-008

A motion was made by Mindel, seconded by Kiel, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

[23-0422](#)

Report of Bids and Resolution awarding contract to Brickl Bros., Inc. in the amount of \$591,275.00 for the Myrick Park Playground Phase 2 Improvements Project.

2023-05-009

A motion was made by Kiel, seconded by Janssen, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

ITEM RECOMMENDED TO BE NOT ADOPTED

[23-0450](#)

Resolution approving Request of Northern Grounds Properties LLC for an Exception to Minimum Height Standards allowing for a drive-thru coffee kiosk at 224 La Crosse Street.

2023-05-010

A motion was made by Mindel, seconded by Trost, that the Resolution be NOT ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 11 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

No: 1 - Woodard

Excused: 1 - Hameister

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

[23-0244](#)

AN ORDINANCE to amend Subsection 115-110 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of La Crosse by transferring certain property from the Single Family Residence to the Residence District allowing for the existing dwelling to be used as a duplex at 3019 Ward Avenue.

Ord. 5249. For complete ordinance, see p. _____ of Volume 12 of Ordinances.

A motion was made by Happel, seconded by Trost, that the Ordinance be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

[23-0312](#)

Resolution approving increased CIP costs for Boilers at the La Crosse Center.

2023-05-011

A motion was made by Neumann, seconded by Schwarz, that the Resolution be ADOPTED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

[23-0381](#)

Resolution recreating Council Rules (Appendix B of the Municipal Code).

2023-05-012

A motion was made by Schwarz, seconded by Woodard to ADOPT.

A motion was made by Mindel, seconded by Dickinson, to AMEND AS PROPOSED on Legistar. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

A motion was made by Sleznikow, seconded by Mindel, that the Resolution be ADOPTED AS AMENDED. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Dickinson, Goggin, Janssen, Sleznikow, Kahlow, Kiel, Mindel, Woodard, Schwarz, Trost, Happel, Neumann

Excused: 1 - Hameister

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Kahlow, seconded by Kiel, to ADOPT the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

ITEMS RECOMMENDED TO BE ADOPTED

[23-0377](#)

Resolution approving Application of K & M Chances R LLC dba Chances R for an Expansion of Alcohol Beverage License & Street Privilege Permit for special event at 417 Jay Street on June 3, 2023.

2023-05-013

[23-0393](#)

Resolution approving Application of The Charmant Hotel LLC dba The Charmant Hotel for Expansion of Alcohol Beverage License & Street Privilege Permit for special event at the 100 Block of State Street on Friday, August 18, 2023.

2023-05-014

[23-0394](#)

Preliminary resolution declaring intent to exercise special assessment powers under Secs 66.0829 and 66.0703, Wisconsin Statutes, relating to the operation and maintenance of a downtown parking system.

2023-05-015

[23-0396](#)

Resolution amending membership of the City of La Crosse Racial Equity Team to ten (10) members.

2023-05-016

- [23-0409](#) Resolution approving Application of Christopher and Kelly Jo Eberlein for a Conditional Use Permit at 4808 Stanley Court allowing for a detached garage.
2023-05-017
- [23-0410](#) Resolution approving Application of Allan McCormick for a Conditional Use Permit at 455 Park Plaza Drive allowing for removal of structure and creation of green space for future development of a multi-story, mixed-use building.
2023-05-018
- [23-0418](#) Amended Resolution transferring City-owned parcels to the Redevelopment Authority of La Crosse for the development of River Point District.
2023-05-019
- [23-0421](#) Resolution authorizing funding for a design and bidding services contract with Short Elliott Hendrickson Inc. (SEH) for Phase III (3) of River Point District.
2023-05-020
- [23-0434](#) Resolution approving Application of Pump House Regional Arts Center, Inc. dba Pump House Regional Arts Center for an Expansion of Alcohol Beverage License for special event at 119 King Street on June 10, 2023.
2023-05-021
- [23-0451](#) Resolution approving American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding for costs associated with residential development in the floodplain.
2023-05-022
- [23-0456](#) Resolution granting Various license applications pursuant to Chapters 4, 6, and/or 10 of the La Crosse Municipal Code for the remainder of license period 2022-2023 (May).
2023-05-023

DISCUSSION ITEM FOR CLOSED SESSION

- [23-0540](#) Update on La Crosse River Marsh Lead Contamination. *(Note: The Committee and/or Council may convene in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters. Following such closed session, the Committees and/or Council may reconvene in open session.)*

A motion was made by Mindel, seconded by Kiel to CONVENE in closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1)(e) to formulate & update negotiation strategies and parameters; the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

No action taken; discussion/status update only.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.