

**ABSTRACT/SYNOPSIS OF THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE OFFICIAL ACTIONS OF THE  
COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEWATER, WALWORTH AND JEFFERSON  
COUNTIES, WISCONSIN**

March 17, 2015

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Patrick Singer. MEMBERS PRESENT: Phil Frawley, Stephanie Abbott, Brienne Diebolt-Brown, Lynn Binnie, Patrick Singer, Sarah Bregant, Ken Kidd. MEMBERS ABSENT: None. LEGAL COUNSEL NOT PRESENT.

It was moved by Councilmember Binnie and seconded by Councilmember Bregant to approve the Parks and Recreation Board Minutes of February 10, 2015, the Report of Manually-Produced Checks for February, 2015, Financial Reports for February, 2015, Police and Fire Commission Minutes of November 13, 2014, Plan Commission Minutes of January 12, 2015 and February 9, 2015 and Landmarks Commission Minutes of February 5, 2015. AYES: Frawley, Abbott, Diebolt-Brown, Binnie, Singer, Bregant, Kidd. NOES: None.

**APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF INVOICES.** It was moved by Council Chairman Singer to approve payment of city invoices in the total sum of \$175,217.31. AYES: Frawley, Abbott, Diebolt-Brown, Binnie, Singer, Bregant, Kidd. NOES: None.

**STAFF REPORTS:** None

**HEARING OF CITIZEN COMMENTS:** Kristine Drettwan formally introduced herself as a candidate on the April 7, 2015 ballot for Walworth County Circuit Court Judge.

**RESOLUTIONS:** None

**ORDINANCES:** None

**REQUEST FOR CLOSURE OF A PORTION OF MAIN STREET, FROM WHITEWATER STREET TO SECOND STREET ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2015.** The Whitewater Chamber of Commerce has submitted a request for closure of a portion of Main Street, from Whitewater Street to Second Street, on September 12, 2015 for their Main Street Festival. City Manager Clapper stated that upon review by staff, they are recommending to allow this street closure as a trial run. Clapper stated that Main Street has not been closed for an entire day other than during a construction project. This trial run will determine whether street closures on Main Street will be allowed in the future. It was moved by Councilmember Binnie and seconded by Councilmember Kidd to approve the request for closure of a portion of Main Street, from Whitewater Street to Second Street, on September 12, 2015. AYES: Frawley, Binnie, Singer, Bregant, Kidd. ABSTAIN: Abbott, Diebolt-Brown. NOES: None.

**TRAFFIC CALMING MEASURES TO BE IMPLEMENTED ON NORTH FRANKLIN STREET.** City Manager Clapper stated that there has been at least one complaint regarding the speed of vehicles on Franklin Street. Clapper stated that when there is a complaint, the Whitewater Police Department will send a squad car to observe. Clapper suggested setting up a meeting between all parties relevant for the

conversation to evaluate other alternatives and then bring that information back to the Council for further discussion. Councilmember Diebolt-Brown stated that the Homeowner's Association plans to discuss this further at their next meeting. Clapper suggested that a City staff member attend the meeting as well.

**APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH DOWNTOWN WHITEWATER, INC.** City Manager Clapper explained that this is an agreement between the City of Whitewater and Downtown Whitewater, Inc. for 2015 and is for what the City expects in return for providing funding to Downtown Whitewater, Inc. Clapper stated that this agreement was approved in February, 2015 by Downtown Whitewater, Inc. Clapper stated that the agreement has been modified to bring WIFI to the downtown area, bring more market experiences to the downtown area, establish an electronic inventory of properties in the downtown area, develop festival or event guidelines for the downtown area, coordinate and supervise multiple downtown cleanup events, bring beautification/public art to the corner of Main Street and Whitewater Street and in the downtown area in general, and work with City staff and Urban Forestry Commission to execute a downtown tree replacement plan. Councilmember Binnie asked whether barriers around the trees would be included as part of this item. Tami Brodnicki with Downtown Whitewater, Inc. informed that the barriers would be included in the downtown area as well as in areas at Cravath Lakefront Park. Councilmember Binnie further inquired about a target date as to when the goals would be achieved. Brodnicki stated that it is the Downtown Whitewater, Inc's intention to have these items done this year. Councilmember Binnie also clarified that the City's contribution of \$30,000, payable in four installments, will be paid by the first month of each calendar quarter rather than the 7<sup>th</sup> of the month of each calendar quarter as stated in agreement. It was moved by Councilmember Binnie and seconded by Councilmember Bregant to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Downtown Whitewater, Inc. AYES: Frawley, Abbott, Binnie, Singer, Bregant, Kidd. ABSTAIN: Diebolt-Brown. NOES: None.

**APPROVAL OF ENGINEERING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH STRAND ASSOCIATES FOR CRAVATH LAKEFRONT BOAT LAUNCH.** It was moved by Councilmember Binnie and seconded by Councilmember Bregant to approve the Engineering Services Agreement with Strand Associates for Cravath Lakefront Boat Launch with the understanding that the language of the Agreement be changed from "estimated fee of \$12,000" to "not to exceed \$12,000". AYES: Frawley, Abbott, Diebolt-Brown, Binnie, Singer, Bregant, Kidd. NOES: None.

**GEORGE STREET RECONSTRUCTION PRESENTATION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION.** Assistant City Manager McDonell gave his presentation on using curb and gutter, tree removal, backfill, ADA compliance and the project timeline as part of the George Street reconstruction. McDonell stated one of the major concerns residents on George Street have is whether the installation of curb and gutter would push water north up the street when Whitewater Creek floods. McDonell stated that the elevation would not change and that the DNR would not allow them to change the elevation. McDonell stated that by having curb and gutter will define the travel way for vehicles and provide support for the edges of the pavement. McDonell stated it would move the water away from the road and help protect the life span of the road. McDonell stated that there are 12 trees that need to be removed from George Street because of new water and sewer laterals being installed. McDonell further stated that the material

under the street will be removed and replaced with granular backfill, which retains less moisture. McDonnell further stated that in order to stay compliant with ADA standards regarding the sidewalk on the George Street Bridge, they could extend the sidewalk, put a crosswalk there or put in a turning area. McDonnell stated that regarding the project timeline, the final design will be brought to Council on April 21, 2015, they will advertise for bids on April 30, 2015, the construction contract will be brought to Council for approval on June 2, 2015. McDonnell confirmed that construction will begin on July 1, 2015 and be completed in October. McDonnell stated that if Council does not approve curb and gutter, the alternative would be to put in a ditches and culverts. City Manager Clapper stated the preference would be to install the curb and gutter because it will preserve the life of the street. Councilmember Abbott inquired as to the costs of putting in curb and gutter as opposed to ditch and culvert. Zach Simpson of Strand and Associates stated that the gutter installation would be more expensive but the ditching concept would be more disruptive and would require more tree removal. Councilmember Kidd inquired as to the accessibility of residents getting out for medical reasons to which Simpson replied they would come up with a plan. Councilmember Binnie inquired about trash removal to which Simpson stated there will be arrangements made between the contractor and John's Disposal. Council Chairman Singer clarified that parking arrangements in public lots would be at no cost to residents of George Street.

Doug Behrens, Brandon Harris, Win Wimmer, Richard Kilpin and John Koebler, residents of George Street, expressed their concerns about flooding. They stated they are against curb and gutter and want to leave George Street as it is. The residents also expressed their concerns about accessibility to their homes and the time frame of construction. Streets Superintendent Chuck Nass addressed accessibility and the possibility of having automatic street lights put up for access to Starin Road. Council Chairman Singer stated that because George Street is only used by George Street residents, Council should respect their wishes. Councilmember Abbott stated that they made a reasonable compromise by eliminating sidewalks on George Street and that curb and gutter would be a smart investment for the long term life of that street. Councilmember Binnie stated we need to listen to expert opinion as to what we need to do to maintain a street when we put a lot of money into it. Councilmember Kidd also agreed that we need to follow expert opinion and do it right for the long haul. Councilmember Diebolt-Brown stated that curb and gutter would be the best investment for the future. Councilmember Frawley stated that curb and gutter seems like it is going to be the better way to go to extend the life of the street. Councilmember Bregant agrees that curb and gutter is the better option. Council Chairman Singer stated he would like to see the plan as to street accessibility for the residents of George Street. Singer stated his concerns about the deadline of the project and stressed the possibility of getting the project done early. Singer clarified that this project would be brought to Council for approval on April 21, 2015. Councilmember Kidd stated that he will look into the possibility of dredging the creek.

**COUNCILMEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.** None

**ADJOURNMENT.** It was moved by Council Chairman Singer and seconded by Councilmember Abbott to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Teri Nowakowski, Deputy Clerk