

**MINUTES
REGULAR WASECA CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2010**

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

- 1 The regular Waseca City Council Meeting was called to order by Mayor Roy Srp at 7:00 p.m.

Councilmembers present:

Mayor Roy Srp	Allan Rose
John Clemons	Cindy Coy
Larry Johnson	Mark Christiansen
Les Tlougan	

Staff present:

Crystal Prentice, City Manager
Peter Giovannini, Community Development Director
Mary Buenzow, Records Secretary

MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

- 2 A moment of silent prayer was observed. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

- 3 Councilmember Tlougan requested adding the Heritage Preservation Commission to item 6A, Commission Reports.

Councilmember Clemons requested the addition of item 10d, Highway 14 turn back.

It was moved by Coy, seconded by Tlougan, to approve the agenda as amended; the motion carried 7-0.

VISITORS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 4 None

Mayor Srp asked if there was anyone in the audience, not on the agenda, who wished to address the City Council at this time.

John Hinton, 300 15th Avenue NE (Northridge Apartments), addressed the City Council regarding issues of health and safety in the apartment building in which he and others reside. He stated the building houses many vulnerable adults, and there are health and safety issues throughout the building. Complainers are threatened with eviction and

and the residents of this building. Mr. Hinton stated the City Building Inspector has been very helpful as well.

Mayor Srp stated he is glad Mr. Hinton came forward with his concerns. He asked that the City Manager and Building Inspector discuss this issue and see what can be done.

The City Manager stated there are a number of resources that may be available and she will discuss this issue with the Building Inspector.

Councilmember Clemons commented this is also a human rights issue and there may be certain things that can be done, such as revoking the rental license on this property.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

5 The City Manager stated she has nothing to report at this time.

COMMISSION REPORTS

6 Councilmember Coy reported on recent activities of the EDA.

Councilmember Tlougan provided a Marketing Committee update.

Councilmember Tlougan reported on activities of the Heritage Preservation Commission.

Maynard Stensrud, Airport Manager, gave a report to the Council regarding recent activities of the Airport Board.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

7a **Adoption of Ordinance No. 952-** Renaming a portion of Old Highway 13 South

The Community Development Director explained that MnDOT has completed construction of Highway 13 South, which has resulted in a dead-end frontage road. According to the City's Comprehensive Plan and Policy, state roads need to be numbered, and Staff is recommending this portion of frontage road be renamed 8th Street SE.

Mayor Srp opened the public hearing at 7:20 p.m.

Tom Kraus, 1025 Leona Place, Owatonna, addressed the City Council with a request that this road be named "Kraus Drive". Mr. Kraus presented a diagram and gave some history as to the reasoning behind this request. He felt calling this portion of road 8th Street SE would be misleading, as it does not tie in directly to the rest of 8th Street SE.

Mayor Srp commented that Mr. Kraus makes a very valid argument.

Councilmember Tlougan stated in the past there have been issues with naming streets rather than giving them numbers, and those people who are new in town have difficulty finding street names. He stated the Planning Commission made a decision a number of years ago to recommend to the Council to stop naming streets with names. The Planning Commission and City Council have worked together from that point on.

Councilmember Johnson commented in favor of naming this street “Kraus Drive” and stated he had intended to make a motion to that effect.

Councilmember Rose stated he preferred street numbers. He stated he worked in Owatonna for a short time and it is very difficult to find named streets and he does not want that to happen in Waseca.

Brian Kirk, 42959 150th Street, spoke in opposition to named streets and encouraged the Council to number this street.

The public hearing was closed at 7:42 p.m.

It was moved by Clemons, seconded by Rose, to adopt Ordinance No. 952, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF WASECA, MINNESOTA RENAMING A PORTION OF OLD HIGHWAY 13 SOUTH TO 8TH STREET SE;

DISCUSSION

Councilmember Clemons commented that nobody knows where the named streets in the City are located, but everyone can find a numbered street.

Mayor Srp wondered if Mr. Kraus decided to put up his own sign that said “Kraus Drive”, would that be a problem. The City Manager stated she would have to look into that.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

The motion carried 6-1 (nay-Johnson).

7b **Public hearing re: participation in Small Cities Development Program (Resolution No. 09-56)**

The Community Development Director explained that, in June, the City of Waseca, City of Janesville, City of New Richland and County of Waseca applied for a Small Cities Development Program grant to conduct commercial, rental and owner occupied housing rehabilitation and renovation projects. A pre-application was submitted on behalf of the four entities by Pettipiece and Associates. The pre-application sought to leverage the small amount of funds remaining in the old SCDP coffers to help businesses, rental property owners and homeowners in our community accomplish needed rehab projects. In November, we received notification that Waseca had been invited to submit a full application. This application would be limited to the City of Waseca only and only cover 18 owner occupied housing units. As part of the application process, the City of Waseca must hold a public hearing regarding our participation in the program.

Mayor Srp opened the public hearing at 7:50 p.m. There were no public comments.
The public hearing was closed at 7:50 p.m.

It was moved by Tlougan, seconded by Rose, to adopt Resolution No. 09-56, A RESOLUTION OF THE WASECA CITY COUNCIL APPROVING THE SMALL CITIES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION; the motion carried 7-0.

ROUTINE BUSINESS

8a Council board appointments

The City Council held a discussion at the work session this evening regarding board and commission appointments for 2010.

It was moved by Christiansen, seconded by Coy, to approve the Council appointments to boards and commissions as follows:

Mayor Pro Tem	Councilmember Rose
Airport Board	Mayor Srp
Charter Commission	Councilmember Rose
EDA	Councilmembers Clemons, Coy
Fire Relief Association	Councilmember Johnson
Heritage Preservation Commission	Councilmember Tlougan
Human Rights Commission	Mayor Srp
Park Board	Councilmember Christiansen
Planning Commission	Councilmember Tlougan
Traffic Safety Board	Councilmember Rose
Water Park Advisory Board	Councilmember Johnson
Community Ed Advisory Board	Councilmember Tlougan
Joint Government	Councilmembers Christiansen, Johnson, Rose
Library Board	Councilmember Tlougan
Marketing Committee	Councilmember Tlougan
Region 9	Councilmember Coy
Waseca Tourism & Visitors Bureau	Mayor Srp

The motion carried 7-0.

8b Citizen Advisory Board appointments

Openings exist on various City advisory boards and commissions. Applications have been received from individuals interested in appointment.

It was moved by Coy, seconded by Tlougan, to approve appointments as listed below; the motion carried 7-0.

Jean Byron	Heritage Preservation Commission
Phoebe Praxl	Library Board
Carol Rausch	Park Board
Kay Neuendorf	Planning Commission
Joshua Bice	Planning Commission
Joshua Bice	Traffic Safety Board

Mayor Srp informed the audience that members are needed for the Human Rights Commission, and he encouraged anyone interested to contact the City Council or staff.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9 None

NEW BUSINESS

10a **Historic Site Designation for Trowbridge Park Band Shell**

Pat Pearson, 824 East Elm Avenue, explained the Heritage Preservation Commission is recommending the Council accept their request to begin the process of designating the Trowbridge Park Band Shell as an historic site. Designation on the National Historic Register would provide Waseca with another registered structure and could make some grant money available to help cover the cost of renovation.

It was moved by Coy, seconded by Christiansen, to concur with the Heritage Preservation Commission and Staff recommendations to begin the process of designating the Trowbridge Park Band Shell as an historic site; the motion carried 7-0.

10b **Airport Contract Agreement**

The City Manager explained the current contract between the City and Stensrud Aviation expires on December 31, 2009. The City has not increased the contract amount for the past five years. After meeting with Mr. Stensrud, Staff recommends entering into a management agreement in 2010 in the amount of \$23,400 and a \$24,000 contract for 2011. The budget contains \$24,000 in 2010.

It was moved by Christiansen, seconded by Coy, to concur with Staff recommendation and authorize the City Manager to enter into a two-year contract with Stensrud Aviation for the period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2011 as presented; the motion carried 7-0.

Maynard Stensrud addressed the Council and thanked them for supporting the contract and for the support of the airport. He also thanked the maintenance crew, Clark Fell and his crew, for the great job they do at the airport.

10c **Audit engagement services for 2009 Annual Audit**

A memorandum from the Finance Director explained that each year the City retains the services of a Certified Professional Accounting firm to complete the mandated requirements of the annual city financial and operational audit. The engagement letter defines the procedures that will be followed to comply with the audit standards necessary for the audit of the City-wide financial statements, which includes the development of the audit opinion.

It was moved by Christiansen, seconded by Tlougan, to concur with Staff recommendation and approve Larson Allen, LLP as the City's auditors for audit services related to the 2009 audit;

DISCUSSION

Councilmember Johnson commented the City has used this firm for many years and wondered if there is a particular reason for that. The City Manager replied the City has a good working relationship with Larson Allen, they are familiar with the City, and we have received awards for our financial statements for many years. Their service is a good value to the City and we have had good experience with them.

VOTE ON THE MOTION

The motion carried 7-0.

10d **Highway 14 turn back (Councilmember Clemons)**

Councilmember Clemons stated he thought everyone is probably familiar with what will happen when Highway 14 is given back to the City. Former Councilmember Parry brought this issue up repeatedly and Councilmember Clemons expressed his frustration that the State is ready to give the road back to us before it is repaired. The City Manager explained the City will not be given the road, and we are working with MnDOT and the County on the issue. There is a substantial amount of infrastructure under the road and a lot of planning is going into this. The City Manager stated we will be meeting continuously with the State and the County as it gets closer to turn back time. She would also like to have a joint work session to discuss the issue.

Councilmember Clemons inquired as to the actual plan, and he felt people need to know. He stressed that potholes are a significant problem. The City Manager explained it will become a county road and there are a number of issues that need to be worked out.

Mayor Srp commented the taxpayers should not be responsible for the repairs.

Mike Hintz, 14410 Rice Lake Drive, stated the County is working diligently on the turn back issue. Meetings will continue between MnDOT and the County and City engineers.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 11 It was moved by Coy, seconded by Christiansen, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; the motion carried 7-0 and included the following actions:
- a. Payroll & expenditures – December 2009- were authorized for payment.
 - b. Pay request #6 – Bonestroo – Project #0812 – was authorized for payment.
 - c. Pay request – Invoice #174513 – Bonestroo – Project #0803 – was authorized for payment.
 - d. Pay request – Invoice #174511 – Bonestroo – Project #0812 – was authorized for payment.
 - e. Pay request #5 – S.M. Hentges & Sons – Project #0803 – was authorized for payment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 12 The following announcements were made:
- a) Councilmember Christiansen reported the Park Board met and decided to do the Adopt A Park program again this year. Starting on February 1st, anyone interested can pick an area and contact the Park Director at the City Hall.
 - b) Councilmember Rose commented he is looking forward to warmer weather!

ADJOURNMENT

- 13 There being no further business to be brought before the Council, it was moved by Coy, seconded by Rose, to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 p.m.; the motion carried 7-0.

R. D. SRP
MAYOR

MARY BUENZOW
RECORDS SECRETARY