



CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Monday, August 26, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Council Chambers - City Hall, 3rd Floor
1717 E. Park Street, Two Rivers, WI 54241

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

This meeting was called to order by President Stechmesser at 6:00 PM.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

3. ROLL CALL BY CITY CLERK

Councilmembers: Mark Bittner, Doug Brandt, Shannon Derby, Bill LeClair, Darla LeClair, Tim Petri, Bonnie Shimulunas, Scott Stechmesser, Adam Wachowski.

Also Present: Ryan Menges, Fire Department; Matt Heckenlaible, Public Works Director; Ben Meinnert, Police Chief; Rick Powell, IT Supervisor; Mike Mathis, Parks and Recreation Director; and Greg Buckley, City Manager

Motion to allow remote participation by Councilmember B. LeClair.

Motion carried with a roll call vote.

Motion made by Wachowski, seconded by Shimulunas

Voting Yea: Bittner, Brandt, Derby, D. LeClair, Petri, Shimulunas, Stechmesser, Wachowski

4. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Discussion of Proposed Rate Changes for Emergency Medical Services

Recommended Action:

None; discussion only, prior to consideration at a regular City Council meeting

Fire Assistant Chief Menges provided an overview of these fees that were last changed two years ago; the recommended increases are based on the City's EMS billing consultant.

B. Discussion of Possible Referrals to Plan Commission Regarding Possible Ordinance Amendments to Address Concerns from Residents Regarding Neighborhood Impacts of Vacation Rentals, Outdoor Lighting and Other Issues

Recommended Action:

No action, other than identifying matters to be referred for further review by staff, Plan Commission or other boards or committees

Mr. Buckley gave a summary of possible referrals to plan commission regarding ordinance amendments to address concerns from residents regarding neighborhood impacts of vacation rentals, outdoor lighting.

Councilmembers allowed Susan and Andre Robitaille to address the council with their concerns on Two Rivers' lack of ordinances on light nuisances and on vacation rentals.

They expressed the opinion that the lack of lighting regulations leaves residents without guidance on acceptable lighting and stripping them of any recourse when excessive and intrusive lighting from neighboring properties disrupts their right to enjoy their own homes. They requested that the Plan Commission amend zoning laws to close the existing loopholes in lighting requirements. They asked that the City ensure that full-cutoff light fixtures are not only required but also correctly installed. Also, they requested that the City develop and implement a comprehensive light nuisance ordinance similar to the noise ordinance that ensures lighting does not excessively illuminate other properties.

Mr. and Mrs. Robataille also shared their concerns regarding the increasing number of short-term vacation rental properties in the city, citing their own negative experiences with a vacation rental in their neighborhood. It was noted that research by Mr. Robataille, using available on-line tools, indicates that there are substantially more vacation rentals in the city than City or County licensing records indicate. Following discussion, Mr. Buckley stated that he would have City staff consult with Mr. Robataille regarding the sources for his data, and report back to the City Council.

Following discussion, there was consensus that the City Council would like to receive additional information on lighting regulations in other communities. The City Attorney and City Manager advised that any such regulations might be better addressed in the Nuisances section of the Municipal Code, rather than through a Zoning Ordinance amendment. Mr. Buckley stated that he would direct that some staff research be done, and a report presented at a future meeting.

5. ACTION ITEMS

- A. Consideration of Amendment to 2024 Capital Budgets to Provide Funding for Replacement of City Hall Elevator Controls

Recommended Action:

Motion to waive reading and adopt the resolution

Motion carried with a roll call vote.

Motion made by D. LeClair, seconded by Brandt

Voting Yea: Voting Yea: Bittner, Brandt, Derby, B. LeClair, D. LeClair, Petri, Shimulunas, Stechmesser, Wachowski

6. CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion to enter into Closed Session at 7:55 PM, per Wisc. Stats 19.85(1)(e) deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investment of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reason require a closed session.

--Discuss possible property acquisition

--Discuss matters related to a property sale

--Discuss possible assistance to economic development project

Motion carried upon a roll call vote.

Motion made by Wachowski, seconded by Petri.

Voting Yea: Bittner, Brandt, Derby, B. LeClair, D. LeClair, Petri, Shimulunas, Stechmesser, Wachowski

7. RECONVENE IN OPEN SESSION

Motion to reconvene in open session at 8:57 pm consider possible actions in follow-up to closed session discussions

Motion carried with a voice vote.

Motion made by Derby, seconded by Wachowski

Voting Yea: Voting Yea: Bittner, Brandt, Derby, B. LeClair, D. LeClair, Petri, Shimulunas, Stechmesser, Wachowski

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of this meeting and adjourn this meeting at 8:58 PM.

Motion carried with a voice vote.

Motion made by Wachowski, seconded by Derby

Voting Yea: Voting Yea: Bittner, Brandt, Derby, B. LeClair, D. LeClair, Petri, Shimulunas, Stechmesser, Wachowski

Respectfully submitted,



Lisa Kuehn
Deputy City Clerk