

FEBRUARY 11, 2003

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Fanta with Alderpersons Hatlem, Bjerke, Mack, Macasaet, Suhr, Zastrow and Smith present. Alderpersons Molland and Long were absent. Motion made by Smith, seconded by Zastrow to approve the minutes of the January 28, 2003 Council meeting as mailed. All aye, motion carried.

Miriam Hatlem, representing the Festival of Trees Committee, presented a plaque to the City Council. State Representative Duwayne Johnsrud and State Senator Mark Meyer had originally presented this plaque to the Festival of Trees Committee in recognition of the Festival of Trees Committee coordination and work to decorate the Wisconsin State Holiday Tree that was on display in the capital rotunda.

City Attorney Jenkins addressed the Council about Ordinance 545, an amendment to the sewer ordinance regarding sewer connection charges. Jenkins reported that the Public Works Committee had met to discuss changing fees for sewer hookup. Currently, there is a \$500.00 sewer connect fee for the original tap into the sewer main. Presently, there is no additional charge to reconnect to the sewer main from that original tap. The consensus of the committee was to change the fee structure to be \$500.00 for an initial tap and \$250.00 for any new hookups to the initial tap. Administrator Brown said the secondary fee would help defray the City's cost of evaluation and inspection for any subsequent connections to the sewer. Alderperson Smith commented that the fee would go back into the sewer revenue stream and not the general fund. Motion made by Hatlem, seconded by Mack to approve Ordinance 545, an ordinance regarding sewer connection charges. All aye, motion carried.

Motion made by Zastrow, seconded by Suhr to approve the second reading of Ordinance 544, an ordinance pertaining to dumpsters. Alderperson Smith requested a roll call vote. Alderperson Suhr said he felt the ordinance was a good response to safety issues. Alderperson Smith said he would like to have seen the issue presented to the Council and then referred to committee instead of the other way around. Alderperson Hatlem commented that the Public Works Committee meeting concerning this issue had been attended by owners of dumpster services, and they were 100% in favor of the ordinance. Roll call vote on the motion. 5 ayes and 2 nays with Alderpersons Macasaet and Smith voting no. Motion carried.

City Attorney Jenkins addressed the Council with regard to obtaining surety bonds for the Police Chief and City Treasurer. Jenkins said that state statute requires surety bonds for both positions. This protects the city from neglect of duty by either position and gives the City recourse to collect any lost funds. Attorney Jenkins presented a proposal from Bentson Insurance Agency, Inc for surety bonds for both positions. Jenkins said the amount of the bond would need to be determined by the Council. Administrator Brown recommended securing a surety bond for the Police Chief and City Treasurer at the lowest coverage and premium available. The lowest

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amount for the Police Chief was a bond for \$25,000 at \$50.00 per year and the City Treasurer's bond would be a \$25,000 bond for \$68.00 per year. Motion made by Mack, seconded by Macasaet to authorize the purchase of surety bonds for the Police Chief and City Treasurer for the lowest coverage and premium available. Roll call vote. All aye, motion carried.

Aldersperson Smith updated the Council regarding the Comprehensive Planning Commission. Smith reported the award of a state grant for the development of a comprehensive plan that would include the City of Viroqua. Smith provided a handout showing the placement of all the grant applicants. Administrator Brown commented that he had met with Mead & Hunt, the consulting firm that will be overseeing the comprehensive plan process, and he would be reviewing the contract and commenting further at a later date. Aldersperson Smith also reported that there had been a good response to the community survey, and the Comprehensive Planning Commission would be meeting to start tabulating the surveys.

Motion made by Hatlem, seconded by Zastrow to table action on the addition of certain Federal Assurances to the 2003 shared-ride taxi cab contract. Attorney Jenkins stated that he would like to study the documents further to be more familiar with the assurances and then have the issue brought back to the Council. All aye, motion carried.

Motion made by Bjerke, seconded by Macasaet to approve a regular bartenders license for Michael J. Klen. All aye, motion carried.

The final bill for the renovation work done by Zastrow Builders upstairs at City Hall was presented for approval. Administrator Brown said the request for final payment would bring the cost of the project to \$401.50 over the original bid. Brown said that due to the sensitive nature of the issue, the Council should be aware of this and act accordingly. Motion made by Mack, seconded by Suhr to approve the final pay request of \$5,224.00 to Zastrow Builders. Aldersperson Smith asked where the additional funds were spent. Aldersperson Zastrow explained that an original light fixture of historical value had been moved from another room to the office, and additional carpet had been installed in an area not previously set for carpeting. Roll call vote, 6 ayes and 1 abstention with Aldersperson Zastrow abstaining. Motion carried.

Motion made by Suhr, seconded by Zastrow to approve the bills as audited by the Finance Committee. Roll call vote. All aye, motion carried.

At 8:01 p.m., motion was made by Zastrow, seconded by Hatlem to adjourn until 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, February 25, 2003. All aye, motion carried.

