

FEBRUARY 25, 2003

The regular meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Fanta with Alderpersons Hatlem, Molland, Long, Bjerke, Mack, Macasaet, Suhr, Zastrow and Smith present. Motion made by Smith, seconded by Bjerke to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2003 Council meeting. All aye, motion carried.

Janet Aasen, Marsha Mayberry and Michelle Dahl addressed the Council regarding their plans to establish a bar/restaurant in the City. The bar/restaurant would seat approximately 60 people and employ approximately 10 people. Initially, Aasen, Mayberry and Dahl have been looking at sites to remodel or to build new. Administrator Brown explained that Director of Public Works and he had met informally with Aasen, Mayberry and Dahl about their plans. It was suggested at this meeting that the three approach the Council with their business plan and ask about obtaining a liquor license. Alderperson Zastrow asked if the City had any available liquor licenses, and it was confirmed that there is availability of a license. Ms. Mayberry said they did not want to pursue this if a liquor license would not be available. Alderperson Hatlem commented that the City needs another restaurant. Alderperson Suhr felt that a restaurant needs a liquor license in order to be successful. Administrator Brown suggested the City needed to look into the availability and cost of a liquor license. Alderperson Smith said he would not be in favor of issuing another liquor license.

Alderperson Molland reported that the Finance/Personnel Committee had met with Police Chief Rahr about the reorganization of the police department. The reorganization of the department would include the internal hire of an assistant chief, elimination of the Community services officer, fill the vacancy created by the internal hire of an assistant chief and create a new police-patrolman position. The Committee agreed with the reorganization but not necessarily filling all the slots at this time. Alderperson Zastrow asked that the name of the position of "pound worker" be changed to be "shelter worker". Alderperson Smith had a question about additional personnel, but he felt that had been answered by Molland's comment about not filling all the slots at this time. Motion made by Molland, seconded by Long to approve the reorganization of the Police Department. All aye, motion carried.

Administrator Brown addressed the Council regarding the outdoor pool. Brown asked the Council for direction about whether to repair a substantial water leak in order to open the pool this year or not open the pool at all. The water leak is located on the southeast corner of the pool where the deck is collapsing and water is running on to a neighboring property. It was stated that \$30,000 had been budgeted in the capital budget for pool repair, but that figure was sheer guess work because the scope of the problem had not been determined. Brown reminded the Council that the cost of the repair work would be debt spending, and any repair work will not solve the long term disposition of the pool. As the pool runs at a net loss annually, Brown said there needs to be a real commitment to open the pool this year. The scope and cost of the repair work needs to be determined so the Council can decide if they are willing to spend the funds. Alderperson Suhr asked for more details about the leak. Park/Rec Director Sime