



***CITY OF RIVER FALLS, WISCONSIN  
COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS***

**November 13, 2018**

Mayor Dan Toland called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located in City Hall.

**City Council Members Present:** Todd Bjerstedt, Sean Downing, Christopher Gagne, Scott Morrissette, Diane Odeen, Michael Page, Hal Watson

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** City Administrator Scot Simpson, Assistant City Administrator Julie Bergstrom; City Attorney Dan Gustafson; Sergeant Jeff Sather; Utility Director Kevin Westhuis; Assistant to the City Administrator Brandt Johnson; Development Director Amy Peterson; Operations Superintendent Mike Stifter; City Engineer Reid Wronski

**Others Present:** Jerry Carter, Mel Germanson, Anne McAlpine, Abby Keilman, others

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

October 23, 2018, Regular Meeting and Workshop Minutes

**MSC Watson/Morrissette approve minutes. Unanimous.**

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

Bills: \$2,039,876.30

**MSC Watson/Downing move to approve bills subject to the comptroller. Unanimous.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT, PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**

There were no public comments.

The Mayor changed the agenda order. Council President Morrissette read the Grumpy Old Men Proclamation honoring Jerry Carter and Mel Germanson. The Mayor asked the public to participate in the collection. Germanson shared how they got their name.

The Mayor thanked veterans for their service.

**Report from the River Falls Housing Authority**

Director Anne McAlpine provided a report for the Council. She recognized the board of commissioners. McAlpine talked about revenue, expenses (most expenses go to maintenance), federal government programs that they administer, and property management. She talked about the waiting lists, turnovers, recertification of income, and work orders. McAlpine talked about future including replacements of windows, storage sheds, water heaters, and other appliances. She thanked the Council for its support and stood for questions.

Alderperson Morrissette asked about maintenance and a replacement schedule. McAlpine said there is not a replacement schedule. Items are replaced as they wear out. She provided further details. Morrissette suggested a replacement schedule would be a good thing to explore.

There were no other questions. The Mayor thanked her and the board.

**PUBLIC HEARING:**

Ordinance 2018-14 – Appropriating the Necessary Funds for the Operation of the Government and Administration of the City of River Falls for the Year 2019-Second Reading and Disposition

**The Mayor recessed into a public hearing at 6:45 p.m.** He asked if the budget covered both 2019 and 2020. Assistant City Administrator Bergstrom said this was the ordinance for the levy and was only for 2019. She noted the ordinance was modified after the last meeting reducing the tax levy by approximately \$100,000.

**As there were no public comments, the Mayor moved back into Open Session at 6:46 p.m. MS Morrissette/Page move to approve ordinance.** Alderperson Downing asked about sinking funds and asked if this is the correct way to fund projects. City Administrator Simpson said that sinking funds have a specific purpose and funding source. He provided an example of the purchase of the breathing apparatus for the fire department. Simpson provided details about the funding and collection of funds.

Downing also asked about the pool liner and filter for the pool at Glen Park. He wondered how long it would last. Simpson said it was more of a stop gap measure rather than a refreshing of the pool. He went into further details and talked about the filter system. Downing asked about which City projects would be funded by the property tax levy. Bergstrom said several pieces of minor equipment which aren't going to be financed were included. She could provide a list if needed. Alderperson Gagne asked about tax implications on a \$180,000 home. Simpson said it was \$30.

**With no other questions, the Mayor asked for a roll call vote. The ordinance passed unanimously 7-0 with all voting in favor.**

Request for a Combination “Class A” Liquor and Class “A” Beer License – Aldi Inc., 1567 Sullivan Ct.

**The Mayor recessed into a public hearing at 6:55 p.m. As there were no public comments, the Mayor moved back into Open Session at 6:45 p.m. MS Morrissette/Odeen move to approve license.**

Morrissette asked agent Abby Keilman if she understood the role of an agent; if she has a responsible servers certificate; and if she understood that she was responsible for any alcohol infractions even if she wasn't there. Keilman answered yes to all. Morrissette also asked her to clarify an answer that wasn't answered completely on the application. Keilman said yes, they will work with law enforcement and would amend the answer on the application. There were other questions from Councilors including the opening date.

**With no other questions, the Mayor asked for a vote on the motion. The motion to approve the liquor license passed unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Resolution Approving Agreements to Contract with Running Inc to Provide Shared-Ride Taxi Services for the Year 2019→→***Pulled by Downing***

Resolution Approving Write Off of Uncollectible Accounts→→***Pulled by Downing***

Resolution No. 6315 - Regarding Wayfinding Bids

Resolution Approving Lease Agreement for Golfview Tower-Northfieldwifi.com→→***Pulled by Gagne***

**MSC Morrissette/Odeen move to approve the remainder of the Consent Agenda. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 6316 - Approving Agreements to Contract with Running Inc to Provide Shared-Ride Taxi Services for the Year 2019

Downing was wondering how the company was selected. Bergstrom said in 2014-15, a request for proposals were issued per State guidelines. Two proposals were received; Running was selected and approved by the State. Running has most of the shared ride taxis in the State and own Brown Cab.

**MSC Downing/Morrissette move to approve resolution. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 6317 - Approving Write Off of Uncollectible Accounts

Downing asked if they were all in bankruptcy. Bergstrom said no; she provided further detail. **MSC Downing/Watson move to approve resolution. Unanimous.**

**With no other comments, the Mayor asked for a motion. MSC Watson/Odeen move to approve the resolution. Unanimous.**

Resolution No. 6318 - Approving Lease Agreement for Golfview Tower-Northfieldwifi.com

Gagne asked if this was from a solicitation from a township. Bergstrom said both the company called her and also a Town of Clifton Plan Commission member. He asked if internet service would be provided. Bergstrom did not know. Gagne said he would need to abstain voting because the company could be a direct competitor. Downing asked what type of services were offered. Bergstrom was unsure. **MSC Watson/Downing move to approve resolution. Unanimous.**

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS:**

Ordinance 2018-15 – Amending the Official Map – First Reading

The Mayor asked if Council had questions. Alderperson Page asked if the City had received any feedback. There was discussion among the Councilors. Simpson asked if this was sent to neighboring town boards. It was not. Simpson said it is the City's official map and its part of the powers the Plan Commission and City Council have.

Resolution No. 6319 - Regarding Financing of Public Works Equipment, Library Improvements and Lake George Trail

**MS Gagne/Watson move to approve resolution.** Gagne asked what library improvements were being done. Bergstrom said hvac, vav boxes, and led lighting. Gagne asked a clarifying question. **The Mayor asked for vote. It passed unanimously.**

**REPORTS:**

Administrator's Report

City Administrator Simpson provided an answer to a previous question from Downing about tax levy projects. For 2019, they include: Glen Park Master Plan implementation, mechanics' office repairs, new voting machines, new interview room recording system for the Police Department, fire detection system at Public Works building, community signage, and downtown alley upgrades. For 2020, extrication equipment, emergency weather siren, community signage, downtown alleys, downtown street scape, and Police Department laptop replacement.

Simpson provided information on upcoming events and an election day update. Gagne asked about outreach to students for help with elections. Simpson said yes, staff are currently doing that but there is more that can be done.

Morrisette asked about last week's power outage and the contractor that caused the failure. He asked if they would be responsible for reimbursement. Utility Director Westhuis said that was undetermined.

Alderperson Watson thanked Simpson and Council for moving the voting location from the storm shelter to City Hall.

**MSC Bjerstedt/Morrisette move to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Unanimous.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kristi McKahan, Deputy Clerk