

Meeting Minutes  
Finance & Personnel Committee  
Wednesday – October 8, 2008 4:30 p.m. Council Chambers

Members present: Romberg, Barrington, O'Connell, Tate, Morack

Also present: Henke, Herminath, Dean, Hager, Luaders, Wilkinson, Hanlon, Villiesse, Faucher, Rousseau, Weisheipl, Allen Brey, Kristi Lauer, Amy Toporski

Chairman Romberg opened the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

1. Morack/Tate to adopt agenda as presented. Carried: 5-0.
2. The Committee discussed with City Attorney Luaders and City Administrator Hager negotiations with downtown business owners over access to the Riverwall and the alley behind their businesses, adjacent to the Riverwall. The business owners had proposed an easement, which has several unacceptable terms and would probably be unworkable in a practical manner. In an attempt to continue negotiations a letter will be sent identifying these issues in hope that a more workable agreement may be obtained, if not, options are available.
3. Kristi Lauer representing a group of manufacturers asked that the City support a resolution to be sent to our State and Federal representatives in support of free trade and preserving manufacturing jobs. Tate/Morack to recommend to Council adoption of the Resolution. Carried 5-0.
4. Allen Brey of Johnson and Block answered questions of members regarding the 2007 Audit. These questions focused on internal control issues and the collateralization of investments.
5. An R.F.P. for assessment services had been sent out, two firms responded and were received. Associated Appraisal is offering to perform these services for three years starting at \$13,500; Greg Weisheipl, the current Assessor offered a 3-year proposal starting at \$22,250. Amy Toporski reviewed the Associated proposal and Greg Weisheipl was present to review his. After some discussion Morack/O'Connell to recommend to Council that Associated Appraisal be offered the 2009-2011 Assessment Services Contract. Carried 3-2 (Romberg, Tate against).
6. Paul Hanlon, Building Inspector brought forth a revised Demolition – Razing Permit Ordinance. After some discussion members requested that it be modified to separate residential demolition from Commercial-Industrial

demolition. Hanlon said he would adjust the ordinance and bring it back for the next meeting.

7. Chief of Police Wilkinson brought forth a revised Fireworks Ordinance. This draft spells out the differences in fireworks classifications and addresses other issues brought up at last month's meeting. O'Connell/Morack to recommend to Council its adoption. Carried 5-0.

8. Hanlon recounted the events and current status of a house at 1007 S. Pearl Street. He has ordered its demolition, the owner does not object. In order to place the cost of demolition on this December's tax bill the demolition needs to be done prior to month's end. An RFP for demolition is out and Hanlon requested that the Council authorize the contract to the lowest responsible bidder. Morack/Tate to recommend to Council that it approve said contract. Carried 5-0.

9. Hanlon requested that the Committee authorize a change in his duties. Currently, he performs fire inspection and some fire administrative work in addition to his building inspection and zoning administration duties. He feels that code enforcement and planning require more effort and he would like to concentrate on these and let others do the Fire Department duties. The effect of this would be to make him full-time in the General Government account group rather than split 50-50 between General Government and Public Safety. Members wanted more information on what the new duties or new emphasis would amount to, and to understand how the Police & Fire Commission might deal with their part of this proposal. Morack/O'Connell to bring back this request at the next meeting.

10. The Traffic Sub-Committee recommends that stop signs be installed on McKinley and Avon Street at Waupaca Street as well as on Oriole and Cardinal Streets at Robins Street. Police Chief Wilkinson explained why the Department was in support of this request.

O'Connell/Morack to recommend to Council an ordinance which establishes these stop signs. Morack/O'Connell to amend this motion by instead placing yield signs on McKinley and Avon Street at Waupaca Street. The amendment was voted upon. Carried 5-0. The amended motion was then voted upon. Carried 5-0.

11. Potential Citizen Survey questions were distributed. Morack suggested that it was premature to decide upon these questions until the Capital Projects Committee decided whether funds would be allocated in 2009 for this survey. Members concurred.

12. Reorganizational Matters.

Kent distributed a memo on how other communities structured their Public Works departments. This was reviewed. Members requested a special meeting to discuss these matters further. It was agreed that they would meet at 4:30 p.m. on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

Kent also said that he is working on his 2009 goals to be discussed at the next meeting.

13. Hanlon & Wilkinson explained the need for a better Emergency Communications system in Waupaca County. Hanlon presented a Resolution in support of a new system requesting the county to fund it. Morack/Barrington to recommend adoption of the Resolution to Council. Carried 5-0.

14. Budget Report were presented. Villiesse also distributed some information on the current national economic difficulties.

15. The Economic Development Report was distributed. To the surprise of all it was learned that technically the Canadian National Railroad has abandoned the line serving Wolf River Lumber.

16. There being no further business Morack/Tate to adjourn. Committee adjourned at 7 p.m.