

**CITY OF FORT ATKINSON**  
**City Council Minutes ~ April 6, 2017**

CALL MEETING TO ORDER.

Pres. Kotz called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL.

Present: Cm. Becker, Cwmn. Gehred, Cm. Hartwick, Cm. Lescohier and Pres. Kotz. Also present: City Manager, City Engineer, City Attorney and City Clerk/Treasurer.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2017 REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING.

Motion made by Cm. Hartwick, seconded by Cm. Becker to approve the minutes of March 21, 2017 regular council meeting as presented.

Cwmn. Gehred made a motion to amend the minutes of the March 21 meeting to read the following: Cwmn. Gehred noted an amendment to the public comment made by Laura Alwin. She would like to see the minutes read: “She brought forth the topic of fear in the immigrant and undocumented community and ask the council what they could do to alleviate it” and to strike the following sentence; ‘She thinks it is an issue coming before us and wants the comments more particularly correct and referenced the Daily Union newspaper article’. No second was made to the motion.

Clerk Ebbert took roll call on the motion to approve the minutes as originally presented. Motion carried, 4-1, Gehred opposed. Minutes approved as presented.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sean Alwin, 214 E. Milwaukee Avenue – spoke in support of the Unity Project proposal.

Jim Marousis 94 Shirley Street – spoke in support of the Unity Project.

Mark Chaney 322 Sherman Avenue E. – wants to see a compassionate community and to not have residents living in fear.

PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

*a. Request by Chamber of Commerce to hold Farmers Market in parking lot across from Post Office on Saturdays from May through October and to close South Water Street East on June 3 and once per month thereafter.*

Manager Trebatoski introduced Cynthia Holt who reviewed the request for the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fort Atkinson Farmers Market. The request is for the use of the municipal parking lot on Milwaukee Avenue for every Saturday from 6 am until 1pm May 2017 until October 2017. It is also requested to close South Water Street alongside the municipal lot six times during the season to accommodate the Arts Saturday, Harvest Fest and the 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration. They are also requesting June 3 to assist in the Chamber’s events on that date.

Cm. Hartwick moved to approve the request by Chamber of Commerce to hold Farmers Market in parking lot across from Post Office on Saturdays from May through October and to close South Water Street East on June 3 and once per month thereafter for the events aforementioned. Cwmn. Gehred seconded the motion and carried.

*b. Discuss and consider Unity Project proposal*

Dr. Laura Alwin and Mairead Ahmad presented the Unity Project proposal. Ahmad spoke of her moving to Fort Atkinson from Ireland and raising her family. Alwin shared materials with the Council that she presented and read aloud correspondence she had shared with Chief Bump and referenced an executive order.

Cm. Hartwick referenced the date of police policy and commended Chief Bump on his wisdom and integrity. The things he talks about are unbiased policing and equal treatment. He hopes the whole community understands our police are committed to the policies.

Chief Bump addressed the Council and audience. The policy was approved his first 30 days of employment. He shared empathy for the situation and wants to make sure he is doing the right thing. He stated his department is postured in being very successful in the community. He noted in his 19 years, he only had to assist with one situation where an undocumented individual was taken into custody. Bump stated the Department has taken no one into custody based on citizenship that he is aware of. The local Federal Agent that is assigned to this area has taken three individuals into custody over the past few years, however those individuals were habitual law offenders.

Attorney Rogers inquired on the process for arresting individuals. Bump confirmed they first run a criminal history and confirm if the individual is a habitual offender. Rogers asked, when running a history, would it reveal a customs or immigration warrant. Bump replied those types of 'warrants' are administrative. If it is a felony warrant, Bump would confirm the documentation was authorized by a Judge. Rogers added that if the Police were to ignore a Court Order by a Judge, it would be a crime for violating said Court Order.

Chief Bump added their goal is to reassure everyone the Police Department is here to protect, they are here when you need them, call them and they will help you, they are unbiased on religion, nationality and citizenship. They are here to be your Police Department, keep a safe community and practice everything they preach. They have written policies, published mission, and vision and shared values. They represent a model that they are focused on teamwork, community and safety.

Cm. Hartwick moved to support and endorse the unbiased policing policy as written on November 1, 2014 by Chief Bump with the understanding that when updates need to be made to this policy, that the updates will be brought to the City Council. Cm. Becker seconded the motion and carried.

## RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

*a. Approve revisions to Room Tax Ordinance.*

Manager Trebatoski stated this is the second reading of the ordinance.

Cm. Lescohier moved to send the Ordinance to its third reading. Cm. Becker seconded the motion and carried.

*b. Ordinance deleting C-4, Restricted Commercial District, from Zoning Code.*  
Manager Trebatoski stated this is the second reading of the ordinance.

Cwmn. Gehred moved to send the Ordinance to its third reading. Cm. Lescohier seconded and carried.

*c. Ordinance amending Zoning Code language pertaining to site plan submittals.*  
Manager Trebatoski stated this is the second reading of the ordinance.

Cm. Hartwick moved to table the ordinance. Seconded by Cwmn. Gehred. Motion failed, Becker, Lescohier and Kotz against, Hartwick and Gehred for.

Cm. Lescohier moved to send the ordinance to its third reading. Cm. Becker seconded and motion carried with Hartwick opposed.

#### REPORTS OF OFFICERS, BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

*a. Building, Plumbing and Electrical Permit Reports for March, 2017.*

Cm. Becker moved to accept and file the reports of officers, boards and committees. Seconded by Cwmn. Gehred and motion carried.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*a. Update on solar energy study.*

Madison Solar Consulting - Niels Wolter provided an update on a solar energy study done on buildings owned by the City of Fort Atkinson.

Attorney Rogers inquired on the tax credits that can be used by investors, has Wolter heard anything on credits being repealed? Wolter believes the tax credits could be phased out in approximately 2021. Rogers asked on the increase in insurance cost, is it factored into the estimate for construction. Wolters confirmed it is factored in. Rogers also asked if the panels are exposed to weather elements, such as hail. Wolter replied the panels are constructed similar to skylight windows and any damage would be covered by insurance. Discussion continued on ownership between investors and tax credits.

Engineer Selle stated the next step is to check on the roof structures, review detailed designs, and expand on the cost estimates.

Cwmn. Gehred discussed a summit she attended and referenced a solar energy financing guide that discusses ownership for governments/city/municipalities. She shared the attachments with Clerk Ebbert who will redistribute to the Council via email.

Cm. Lescohier asked if solar projects are in the 10-15 year range for payback. Wolter replied they have a 25 year warranty. Modules that have been around for 30 years and are still working. Technology has improved panels and they should last over 30 years.

Cm. Lescohier made a motion to accept and file the solar energy study. Seconded by Cm. Becker and motion carried.

#### NEW BUSINESS

None.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

*a. Granting operator licenses.*

Cm. Hartwick motioned, seconded by Cwmn. Gehred to approve the granting of operator licenses as presented. Motion carried.

#### CLAIMS, APPROPRIATIONS AND CONTRACT PAYMENTS

*a. Verified claims.*

Motion made by Cm. Becker to approve the list of verified claims presented by the Finance Director and authorize payment. Cm. Hartwick seconded the motion and carried on a roll call vote.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Motion made by Cm. Becker to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Cm. Hartwick and meeting adjourned at 9:24 pm

Respectfully submitted

Michelle Ebbert  
City Clerk/Treasurer