

MONONA CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
January 17, 2023

The regular meeting of the Monona City Council was called to order by Mayor O'Connor at 7:04 p.m.

Present: Mayor Mary K. O'Connor, Alderpersons Brian Holmquist, Doug Wood (via Zoom), Kathy Thomas(via Zoom), and Teresa Radermacher

Excused: Alderpersons Nancy Moore and Patrick DePula

Also Present: Interim Administrator/Finance Director Marc Houtakker, Parks & Recreation Director Jake Anderson, Fire Chief Jeremy McMullen, Police Chief Brian Chaney, City Attorney Bill Cole, Public Works Director Dan Stephany(via Zoom), Director of Administrative Services Leah Kimmell(via Zoom), and City Clerk Alene Houser

ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Alder Radermacher, seconded by Alder Thomas, to approve the Minutes of the December 19, 2022 City Council meeting. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES

Kathy Carew, Monona resident, appeared before Council to speak for informational purposes regarding the graph on the property tax letter.

Rick Bernstein, Monona resident, appeared before Council to donate a framed poster from the Monona Mound state historical marker event in July 2020.

Andrew Kistlaar, President of the Friends of San Damiano, presented the 2022 Friends of San Damiano Financial Report.

Mayor O'Connor read a Proclamation in Recognition of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day – January 16, 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING, CONSENT AGENDA

There was no Public Hearing or Consent Agenda.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

**G.1.a Consideration of Ordinance 12-22-759 Amending No Parking Areas on Edna Taylor Parkway.**

Motion by Alder Radermacher, seconded by Alder Holmquist, to approve Ordinance 12-22-759 Amending No Parking Areas on Edna Taylor Parkway. Motion carried.

**G.1.b Consideration of Ordinance 12-22-761 Repealing Chapter 395 Article II and Recreating as Chapter 384 Special Events and Neighborhood Block Parties.**

Director Anderson explained that this ordinance will give the City standing with events to recoup some of the costs incurred and allows those organizers to apply for grants to help offset those costs.

Motion by Alder Radermacher, seconded by Alder Holmquist, to amend Ordinance 12-22-759 Repealing Chapter 395 Article II and Recreating as Chapter 384 Special Events and Neighborhood Block Parties to remove sentence two in 384-13 D: The cost of such devices and barricades shall be the responsibility of the applicant, and shall be paid at least 24 hours prior to the commencement of the neighborhood block party. Motion carried

Motion by Alder Radermacher, seconded by Alder Holmquist, to approve Ordinance 12-22-761 Repealing Chapter 395 Article II and Recreating as Chapter 384 Special Events and Neighborhood Block Parties. Motion Carried.

**G.1.c Consideration of Ordinance 12-22-760 Updating the Fees, Fines, and Penalties Schedule.**

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Radermacher, to approve Ordinance 12-22-760 Updating the Fees, Fines, and Penalties Schedule. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

**G.2.a Consideration of Resolution 23-1-2608 Authorization to Pre-Order Parks Mowers for 2024.**

Director Anderson explained that the 2023 to 2027 Capital Improvements Program approved two new mowers in 2024. Due to supply chain issues the length of time between ordering and receiving has more than doubled. These two pieces are used year round for mowing and snow removal and are at end of life. If ordered now mowers will be received and paid for in spring of 2024. Discussion followed regarding supply chain issues being a concern for all departments.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Wood, to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 23-1-2608 Authorization to Pre-Order Parks Mowers for 2024. Motion carried.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Wood, to approve Resolution 23-1-2608 Authorization to Pre-Order Parks Mowers for 2024. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion.

**G.2.b Consideration of Resolution 23-1-2607 Authorizing the Redemption of the City's General Obligation Promissory Notes Dated April 1, 2014.**

Interim Administrator/Finance Director Houtakker explained that the final note payment is due October 1 and the City will save about \$20,000 by paying now. There is no fee to pay early and the City is not borrowing money to make the final payment on this note.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Radermacher, to suspend the rules and take action on Resolution 23-1-2607 Authorizing the Redemption of the City's General Obligation Promissory Notes Dated April 1, 2014. Motion carried.

Motion by Alder Thomas, seconded by Alder Radermacher, to approve Resolution 23-1-2607 Authorizing the Redemption of the City's General Obligation Promissory Notes Dated April 1, 2014. Motion carried.

**G.2.c Consideration of Ordinance 1-23-762 Renumbering Sections 335-17 through 335-26 of the Code of Ordinances and Creating a New Section 335-17 Restricting Pedestrian Activity in Street Right of Ways.**

Police Chief Chaney explained that this ordinance was created to address safety issues with people approaching vehicles and median use. Working with Public Works high traffic areas and areas with low visibility were determined. Safety issues include view obstruction, road obstruction and near rear-ends, distractions, falling or tipping over while seated into traffic, and accessing a median or areas that were not intended for pedestrians. Discussion followed regarding Fill the Boot and other fundraising campaigns, and the potential negative impact this ordinance could have on people.

REPORTS

**1. Updates/Discussion on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Efforts**

Alder Radermacher reported the first meeting of the Implementation Committee will be on January 24.

Mayor O'Connor reported that Jon Anderson will be the chair of the DEIB Implementation Committee.

**2. Update/Discussion on Sustainability Efforts.**

There were no updates.

**3. Committee Reports.**

Alder Wood reported Parks Board met last week and one thing discussed was a pedestrian pathway through Winnequah Park on the North end.

Alder Radermacher reported salt awareness week is next week, which is a large campaign to educate businesses and residents about over salting. One teaspoon of salt can pollute up to five gallons of fresh water. A smart phone application was included with approved Media IT upgrades. The application will take you directly to Monona information. Looking for recommendations on what the application should be called.

Interim Administrator/Finance Director Houtakker reported Transit Commission meets January 18 at 6pm to discuss the transit survey.

Police Chief Chaney reported the department just received a Camry Hybrid; however, the Ford Explorer Hybrids are not doing great. After a pursuit last week the vehicle went into limp mode and needs a new engine. Jackson with Media is going to school for criminal justice and started as an intern last week with the Police Department.

Mayor O'Connor thanked Alder Radermacher for the Salt Wise campaign. Policy updates for the Police Department are complete and Fire updates are moving along. Short Term Rental Ordinance will be discussed at the next meeting. Condolences to Alder DePula for the passing of his mother.

APPOINTMENTS

Motion by Alder Radermacher, seconded by Alder Holmquist, to approve the following appointment. Motion carried.

1. Bill Graf to the Community Media Committee (effective immediately-April 2024).

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Alder Radermacher, seconded by Alder Holmquist, to adjourn. Motion carried (8:45 p.m.).

Alene Houser  
City Clerk