

REGULAR SPOONER CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

November 1, 2011, 5:00 PM, City Hall

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:**

2. **ROLL CALL:** 6 present, 2 absent (Everroad & Stelter), Cuskey, Others in attendance: Allen, Ford, Coquillette, Captain Christman, Kohler, Koehn, Marx, Jensen, Ortman, 4 High School Students – government class.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTARY:**

No comments.

5. **Mayor's Comments:**

Darrell Petz passed away, his family has our deepest sympathies. He was a City employee for 37 years – he will be missed. Captain Chrisman reported it was a safe Halloween Night. Peterson was on bicycle patrol last night & was well received.

6. **Approval of Agenda:**

Motion (Gabriel/Schluter) to approve agenda. Passed.

7. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member so requests.

- a) *Accept Minutes from October 4, 2011 Regular Council Meeting;
- b) *Accept Finance Committee Recommendation to approve October, 2011 payables(31037-31164, 2011108, 11090702-11090703, 11092101-11092105, 11100601-11100603, 20110907);
- c) *Accept Municipal Operation Committee and Plan Commission Recommendation to Amend Chapter 86 (Zoning) Article III (Districts) Division 11 (Groundwater Protection Overlay District), City of Spooner Code of Ordinance, 11/01/11;
- d) *Accept Personnel Committee Recommendation to approve 2012 Non Union Wage Increase of 3%;
- e) *Accept Personnel Committee Recommendation to approve Hearing Conservation Program;
- f) *Accept Plan Commission Recommendation to approve Kennel License for Debra Allen- 313 Spruce St;
- g) *Accept Municipal Operations recommendation to deny request to close undeveloped alley west of First St & south of Grant St;
- h) *Accept Personnel Committee Recommendation to approve: Appointment of Election Inspectors;

Chief election inspectors for 2012-2014

Cable Nadene, Hammill Lynda, Krista Lyons

Election Inspectors 2012-2014

PAULSON RUTH, MC LELLAN DEE ANN, CHIDO MARY, RHODES CAROL, RUBESCH JOYCE, CUSKEY JUDY, ROBBINS PAULETTE, ULVILDEN-KLAAS RUTH;

- i) *Accept Safety & License Committee Recommendation to:

Approve Two year Operator's License – November 1, 2011– June 30, 2013; Tamara A Polson; **Picnic Licenses:** 11/05/11 Wis. Heritage Canoe Museum, 11/06/11 St. Francis De Sales;

Motion (Otto/Thompson) to approve the consent agenda. Passed.

8. **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:**

- a) Property Planning & Development Recommendation to offer \$115,000 for property at 1018 First St; Schluter spoke on this as Chair of Property Planning.

Motion (Schluter/Otto) to accept recommendation to purchase property. Passed with roll call vote.

Discussion: Mayor explained property is adjacent to City's park. Street is too narrow & needs to be widened.

Ultimately it would be good for City to purchase. Nothing would happen up there right away, but secure property for future. Could borrow at 4%?

They are asking \$160,000, but we are offering \$115,000. \$93,800 is valuation on last year's taxes. City would loose \$826 in taxes. Cost to move house & a cost for loan are also things to consider.

Dohm is concerned about taking more property off tax roll. In addition he is concerned about grant writer & possible matching funds that we will have to come up with in future.

Thompson felt other things are happening in City that would take up difference in lost taxes. He estimates 20 to 30 games a year between Cardinals & JV use of ball field. He looks at it as adding \$115,000 to a parcel that was free to begin with. Ball field was an exchange between City & School district.

The lot is 250X233 – a good sized lot.

Dohm felt our utilities just went up, the taxes went up & now we are taking property off tax roll. People are hurting in community.

- b) Approval of Amended 2012 Budget;

Format implemented was easy to understand & follow.

Motion (Dunn/Gabriel) total expenditures of \$2,114,510 with a total levy needed of \$1,134,827 to publish. Passed.

- c) Approval of expenditure for safety tubing, First St Ballfield - not to exceed \$1,000;

Tubing is a safety issue so players don't get hung or stabbed by top of cyclone fencing.

Motion (Dunn/Dohm) to approve expenditure for the First Street Ballfield of \$1,000. Passed.

Dohm commented last month City gave Cardinals money & now here is more. He is asking for a plan from Cardinals. He wants to know where they are going.

Marx noted that Cardinals club has put in a lot of their own money into field.

- d) Approval of Farmers Market request to use Front St lot in 2012 & to purchase an in street pedestrian sign- \$300;

Dohm reported on Farmers Market. There should be a more polished farmers market with new signs & barricades that are purchased for them.

Motion (Dohm/Otto) to approve the request to use Front Street. Passed.

- e) Approve Two year Operator's License – November 1, 2011– June 30, 2013 Carey Brabec;

Motion (Schluter/Gabriel) to approve the license for Carey Brabec. Passed.

- f) 2012 Health Insurance Renewal;

Going down 2%, mostly because the City doubled their deductible last year. There was more loss than premiums.

Motion (Gabriel/Thompson) to approve renewal with Health Partners. Passed.

- g) Change date of December Council meeting to December 7th.

Mayor reported that he is on the Police Board for the State of Wisconsin. The first meeting for him in Madison is December 6th.

Motion (Thompson/Otto) to approve moving the Council meeting to December 7th, after the Budget Hearing. Passed.

9. **STAFF REPORTS/COMMENTS/REQUESTS:**
a) Financial Report September, 2011;
 Motion (Schluter/Dohm) to approve the financial report as presented. Passed.
b) Chief's Report - incidents during October 2011;
 They have been working with the new program. Dawn Richter has been off with surgery and Krista Lyons from the City's office has been coming over to assist.
 Calls have slowed down but several sexual assaults in the last month. Several officers have finished an under cover drug class.
c) BID Report;
 Nothing to report.
10. **Adjournment;**
 Motion (Dohm/Schluter) to adjourn. Passed. Meeting adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

ATTEST:

Debbie Koehn

Gary J Cuskey