

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
November 14, 2007**

Meeting called to order at 6:33 p.m. by Mayor Gerald Bauer

Roll Call: Present – Council Member Schofield, Council Member Lieftring, Council Member Weissinger and Council Member Gould. A quorum was present. Administrator Gurney was also in attendance. Council Member Polzer arrived at 6:35 p.m. Council Member Schoonover arrived at 6:36 p.m.

Due and proper notice of meeting was given by the administrative staff.

Motion by Council Member Weissinger, seconded by Council Member Lieftring to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment** – Carla Cargill was present on behalf of the newly established Chamber of Commerce to discuss with the Council the mission, goals and objectives of the Chamber. Specifically, the Chamber discussed the focus on nature tourism and the opportunities for the Durand Area. Several recent programs were also highlighted. The current and future use of the train depot was also discussed.

Terry Yust was present as a representative of the Chippewa Valley Motorcar Association to discuss the past and future use of the depot as well and to restate the interest the Association has in working with the City of Durand to continue to celebrate the history of rail travel in Durand.

Donna Royce was present to introduce herself to the community and to express some concern she has relating to her acceptance in the community. She likes Durand and intends to make it her long term home. Mayor Bauer responded that he hopes the community would be very welcoming and accepting of her much like any of our new residents.

**Scheduled Appearances:** None.

**Administrator's Report:**

Administration-

The Council again considered proposals from two auditing firms for the 2007 Audit. Discussion followed regarding types of services provided and costs. Administrator Gurney reiterated his recommendation to go with Larson Allen at a cost of \$16,000. Motion by Council Member Polzer, seconded by Council Member Lieftring to accept the proposal of Larson Allen for auditing services for the 2007 fiscal year. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of requests for operator's licenses. Six applications were received and backgrounds checks were conducted. Motion by Council Member Schoonover, seconded by Council Member Gould to approve five operator's licenses for Ronald Johnson, Jennifer Daggett, Faith Ulwelling, Stacey Hooker, Larry Dock and to deny the application for Amy Corbecky as recommended. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Due to continued discussions with ALLTEL, no action was taken on the proposed tower lease.

Community Development-

Consideration of application for a City of Durand Economic Development-RLF Loan by S&C Golf Property, LLC and S&C Golf Development, LLC for acquisition funding assistance. Attorney Bob Richardson was present as agent for the purchasers of the Rolling Greens Golf Course. The Council reviewed terms of the loan and discussed the ownership of the real property. Motion by Council Member Schoonover, seconded by Council Member Schofield to approve the loan request in the amount of \$150,000 with conditions. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Finance-

Motion by Council Member Weissinger, seconded by Council Member Lieftring to approve the October Ambulance write-offs in the amount of \$1,290.81. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Consideration of purchase of Gary and Sharon Smith property at corner of Madison and 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. West to be utilized as a permitted parking lot. Background of proposal provided by Administrator Gurney relative to purchase price, potential income for parking permits, and potential users. Motion by Council Member Polzer, seconded by Council Member Weissinger to purchase the property for \$12,000 and to utilize it as a permitted parking lot.

Council Member Schoonover, Chair of the Finance Committee, also noted that Administrator Gurney's six month review was completed.

#### Park Board-

Council Member Gould gave the Park Board report. He indicated that the Tarrant Park RV sites project had been fully completed. The information should be included on the City's web site. The Park Board had a request to utilize the old depot grounds as a potential location for the tractor pull. The site could be used for Fun Fest, as well as hold several other events each year. No decisions were made. The Council discussed replacing the diving board at the pool and what other options were available. The request for a skateboard park was also discussed.

#### Public Safety-

Police – a letter thanking the Police Department for a job well done was read from Paul Hoch.

Consideration of authorizing a grant application for the Click It Enforcement program. The grant can be used to offset overtime costs and also for equipment purchases. Police Officers Josh Christensen and Charles Pollock were in attendance to answer questions. Motion by Council Member Gould, seconded by Council Member Weissinger to authorize the application for the grant. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Ambulance/Fire – The new ambulance arrived October 30<sup>th</sup> .

The Public Safety Committee will next meet on Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### Public Utilities-

Consideration of proposed changes to the water and sewer utility billing practices for 2008. Discussion regarding past billing practice for sewer billing with coupon books. Proposal to bill sewer collectively with water on a monthly basis as determined by actual metered usage in 2008. Also discussed the proposed garden metering program which would then go along with the new billing practice that would provide property owners the option of purchasing an additional meter from the city that would separate out water usage for outdoor uses from uses that result in sewage flows. The cost of the meter from the City would be \$95 and would require each property owner to hire a licensed plumber to properly install. A monthly maintenance service fee of \$3 would then be charged. Motion by Council member Schofield, seconded by Council Member Weissinger to approve the changes to the sewer and water billing practice and to create the Garden Metering Program as proposed. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Public Works-

Consideration of Three-Party Contract with the City of Durand, Cedar Corporation, and the Wisconsin DOT for design work on the proposed Chippewa Riverwalk Project in the amount of \$63,170.64. The process of selecting a consultant was discussed along with the project parameters. Motion by Council Member Schoonover, seconded by Council Member Lieftring to approve the Three-Party Contract. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Zoning-

Consideration of CSM for Dan Acker to combine several parcels into one lot. Plan Commission had recommended approval. Motion by Council Member Schofield, seconded by Council Member Weissinger to approve the CSM as presented. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried unanimously.

**Engineer's Report:**

Kevin Myers of Cedar Corporation was present. He indicated that work on the USH 10 Turn Lanes project had been completed. Final payment on the project will be forthcoming.

**Mayor's Report:**

Mayor Bauer discussed information from a recent conference he attended relative to Downtown Revitalization and Promotions. Presentations were made from Warrens, Wisconsin and Pella, Iowa at the conference which highlighted several small communities efforts to promote tourism. The festivals held in Viroqua were also discussed.

Mayor Bauer also announced the plans for a Community Bike Ride with the City of Menomonie on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in May in 2008. The ride would run from Durand to Menomonie and vice versa. Planning efforts and coordination are underway with the Friends of the Bike Trail Association.

**Old Business:**

Administrator Gurney discussed information he gathered from a recent conference he attended in Dubuque, Iowa. The conference was hosted by the American Planning Association and the focus was on riverfront revitalization and development. River trails and festivals were discussed.

**Previous Minutes:**

Motion by Council Member Weissinger, seconded by Council Member Schofield to approve the Council minutes from October 10<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

**Other Business:**

Also discussed at the last Park Board meeting was the idea of having a wildlife/nature center at Tarrant Park and perhaps also a visitor's center. Potential sites for the centers were discussed. Additional discussion will follow.

Administrator Gurney provided the Council an update relative to the Reiland/Bauer access efforts. The site visit with both landowners resulted in an agreement on the location of the access. The next step will be to work with Xcel Energy to obtain an easement. A site visit is planned with the DOT on Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.

Motion to adjourn by Council Member Schofield, seconded by Council Member Weissinger at 9:33 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Lance Gurney  
Administrator/Clerk