

**ABSTRACT/SYNOPSIS OF THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE OFFICIAL
ACTIONS OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WHITEWATER,
WALWORTH AND JEFFERSON COUNTIES, WISCONSIN.**

October 20, 2009

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Council President Singer. MEMBERS PRESENT: Olsen, Taylor, Binnie, Winship, Singer, Kienbaum, Stewart. MEMBERS ABSENT: None. LEGAL COUNSEL PRESENT: Attorney Wallace McDonell.

It was moved by Olsen and seconded by Taylor to approve the Council minutes of September 1, 2009 and October 6, 2009; and to acknowledge receipt and filing of the following: Financial Reports for September, 2009; Seniors in the Park Senior Forum Minutes of 9/14/2009; the Report of Manually-Authorized Checks for September, 2009; Park & Recreation Minutes of 9/9/2009; Plan Commission Minutes of 8/17/2009; and the Irvin L. Young Memorial Library Minutes of 9/14/2009. AYES: Olsen, Taylor, Binnie, Winship, Singer, Kienbaum, Stewart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF INVOICES. It was moved by Olsen and seconded by Taylor to approve payment of city invoices in the total sum of \$112,711.99. AYES: Olsen, Taylor, Binnie, Winship, Singer, Kienbaum, Stewart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

STAFF REPORTS: Senior Coordinator Weberpal announced that the Whitewater Seniors in the Park has been accredited by the Wisconsin Association of Senior Centers. Weberpal explained the process and requirements to become accredited.

RESOLUTION EXEMPTING WHITEWATER FROM JEFFERSON COUNTY LIBRARY TAX. Request for approval of the annual resolution exempting the City from being charged County Library tax was presented.

RESOLUTION REQUESTING EXEMPTION FROM COUNTY LIBRARY TAX

WHEREAS the Jefferson County Board has established a county library service and levies a county library tax as authorized under Section 43.57 (3) of the Wisconsin Statutes, and

WHEREAS Section 43.64 (2) (b) of the Wisconsin Statutes provides that a village or city is exempt from the county library tax if it levies a tax for public library service and appropriates and expends for a library fund as defined by s. 43.52 (1) during the year for which the county tax levy is made a sum at least equal to the county library tax rate in the prior year multiplied by the equalized valuation of the property in the city or village for the current year, and

WHEREAS the City of Whitewater will, in 2010, appropriate and expend an amount of that calculated above,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the City of Whitewater hereby requests of the Jefferson County Board of Supervisors that the City of Whitewater be exempted from the

payment of any tax for the support of the County Library Service as provided in Section 43.64 (2).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be forwarded by the city clerk to the following parties:

ADMINISTRATOR
Jefferson County Library Council
Dwight Foster Public Library
102 E. Milwaukee Ave.
Fort Atkinson, WI 53538

COUNTY CLERK
320 S. Main St., Room 109
Jefferson, WI 53549

Fiscal Note:

Estimated Municipal 2010 Library Appropriation \$582,919

Resolution introduced by Councilmember Olsen who moved its adoption. Seconded by Councilmember Taylor. AYES: Olsen, Taylor, Binnie, Winship, Singer, Kienbaum, Stewart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

Kevin M. Brunner, City Manager

Michele R. Smith, City Clerk

APPROVAL OF CLASS C WINE LICENSE FOR THE CRAZY LEUCA CHICKS LLC.

The Crazy Leuca Chicks, LLC, Dawn Hunter, Agent, has applied for a license to sell wine by the glass at their new business, The Guild on the Triangle Gallery, located at 141 B Whitewater Street. The establishment will also be selling desserts. It was moved by Olsen and seconded by Winship to approve the Class C Wine License for Crazy Leuca Chicks LLC, Dawn Hunter, Agent. AYES: Olsen, Taylor, Binnie, Winship, Singer, Kienbaum, Stewart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

RELOCATION OF POLLING PLACE FOR WARD 10 TO CAMPUS POLLING PLACE.

Councilmember Singer brought forth a request to remove Ward 10 from the traditional Aldermanic District set up, and separate out the Ward where Wells, Wellers, Knilans and Tutt Halls are located. It was noted that voter turnout in these Wards is very small in all but Gubernatorial, Presidential, and Presidential Primary elections. WSG President Tim Scully indicated that WSG is willing to raise funds to pay for the capital costs (additional voting machines and accessories) and is close to raising the \$12,155 needed to do this. Common Councilmember Taylor felt that voter turnout would increase if this polling place were established. Lengthy discussion ensued. It was moved by Singer and seconded by Taylor to express support for the relocation of Ward 10 to the UWW campus, and direct the City Clerk to bring forth a Resolution moving Ward 10 for elections after September 10, 2010 and to modify the existing Memorandum of Understanding between the University and the City, relating to the polling place for Aldermanic District 2. Approval is contingent upon the UW-Whitewater Student Government raising the \$12,155 needed for the polling place. It was also understood that the Common Council reserves the right to move the voting location for Ward 10 in specific elections, with the understanding that the default location is the UWW campus. Additional poll

worker wages as a result of this change will come from the contingencies account. AYES: Olsen, Taylor, Winship, Binnie, Singer, Stewart. NOES: Kienbaum. ABSENT: None.

REVIEW OF PROPOSED 2010 BUDGET. The process of reviewing the 2010 operating budget began. City Manager Brunner presented his proposed budget, which calls for spending which is up about 1.3% from the 2009 budget. Brunner provided statistics indicating that even though the economy is suffering, needs for city services are on the rise. Brunner stated that he has proposed a 1.5% tax levy increase, which is exactly one-half of the increase allowed by the State of Wisconsin. Brunner stated that even with the slight increase, Whitewater's municipal tax rate still ranks within the lowest 12th percentile of all cities with over 5,000 population in the State of Wisconsin. Some proposals in Brunner's budget are:

- 1) Continuation of maintenance of a fund balance in the amount of at least 20% of the total budget;
- 2) Increases in the Emergency Medical Service / Crash Rescue fees, the Park & Recreation Fees, and the building permit fees and charges;
- 3) Numerous inter-fund transfers, including reduction of \$15,000 from the sick leave severance fund, reduction of \$50,000 to the Solid Waste/ Recycling Fund, reduction of \$4,800 to the Forestry fund; reduction of \$26,000 to the DPW equipment replacement refund, increase of \$21,000 to the Fire/Rescue equipment fund (to reflect the higher than anticipated cost of the recently approved Crash/Technical rescue truck as well as future fire pumper replacement costs), increase of \$8,500 in transfers from the Cable TV fund to the General Fund, and reduction of \$7,000 for the Squad Car replacement fund (one less vehicle to be replaced in 2010 and sufficient funds to meet 2010 planned replacement).
- 4) Reorganization of city management staff in that the City Planner position is removed from the budget, the Finance Director will be the lead person for grant financial compliance and reimbursement, the Information Technology Administrator's job title will be changed to Chief Innovation / Technology Officer to reflect that he will be more fully involved in all efforts to apply technology wherever we can to improve services and reduce costs, change current Cable TV Coordinator's responsibilities to include more city-wide communications, including oversight of the City website and other citizen communications, and the current Human Resources Coordinator position should be re-titled to Human Resources/Special Projects Manager. That position would assist the City Manager with special projects, assist with election administration, be responsible for Rental Registration data base maintenance, and complete a refuse/recycling service analysis.
- 5) Union employees will receive their contracted 2.5% wage increase effective 1/1/10, while non-represented employees will have their 2010 wages frozen until 12/31/10, at which time they will receive a 2.5% increase. 4th of July contributions remain the same, although the celebration will receive a \$5,000 cash contribution and another \$5,000 contribution towards needed electrical system improvements for Cravath Lakefront Park. Brunner recommended retaining \$6,000 of money received from Room Tax, to be used to cover 4th of July, Downtown Whitewater and hanging flower basket expenses. Brunner also proposed an "adopt a basket" program to maintain flower baskets in the City. Brunner reported that professional development budgets have been cut across the board, and no out-of-state travel (with the exception of Chicago and Minneapolis/St. Paul) will be allowed in 2010. Brunner stated it his belief that well-run municipal organizations can not only survive economic downturns, but can create the momentum

required to excel after these turbulent times have subsided. Brunner believes the budget shows fiscally sound long-range planning and community marketing, coupled with a high level of public accountability and management oversight. General Fund Revenue budgets were presented, as well as the Administration, Information Technology, Finance, and Special Revenue fund budgets. Brunner also reported that the annual employee recognition luncheon has been removed from the budget.

Councilmember Olsen requested that car allowances be reviewed. Olsen stated that at minimum, the Neighborhood Services Director should be driving a city-owned vehicle with a city emblem on the side. Councilmember Olsen also expressed concerns about the Human Resources position, which was hired at a 50% position. Olsen suggested that that position be reduced back to half-time. Brunner argued that he will need additional assistance for administration of the many grants the City has received. Councilmember Singer stated that the Census project Brunner has proposed as a special project will end in July of 2010. Olsen stated that he understands that the City Manager enjoys working with the Community Development Authority. However, he (Olsen) feels this function should be handled by someone other than the City Manager. It was agreed that any personnel changes would not be voted on at this meeting, but would be delayed until the November 3, 2009 council meeting. Councilmember Kienbaum expressed concern over the high cost of wage and benefit packages for city employees. Councilmembers expressed a strong interest in a 0% tax rate increase, which would require the cut of another \$41,000 from the budget. Councilmember Olsen stated that the City Manager's restructuring proposal is minimal compared to what he thought it would be. Councilmember Singer requested the review of the city payroll calendar, suggesting that pay days be bi-monthly instead of bi-weekly. Councilmember Taylor felt that the City could discontinue their membership in the Alliance of Cities since it will be merging with the League of Municipalities in the future anyway. It was noted that City Manager Brunner serves on the Board for the Alliance, and cancellation of the membership would mean he would have to resign from the Board. It was moved by Taylor and seconded by Olsen to remove the Alliance of Cities membership dues (\$1,772) from the budget. AYES: Olsen, Taylor, Winship, Singer, Kienbaum. NOES: Binnie, Stewart. ABSENT: None. It was then moved by Stewart and seconded by Winship to instruct the City Manager to develop a budget with no more than a 0% levy increase. AYES: Olsen, Winship, Singer, Kienbaum, Stewart. NOES: Taylor, Binnie.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS. Councilmember Kienbaum requested that information be brought to the Council regarding the status of the Main Street/Cottage Street / Whiton Street intersection improvements. Councilmember Olsen requested information relating to additional lighting on W. Main Street, near the University property.

ADJOURNMENT. It was moved by Olsen and seconded by Taylor to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 10:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele R. Smith, Clerk