

**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 27, 2009

The special meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Council President Singer. MEMBERS PRESENT: Olsen, (arrived at 6:34 p.m.) Taylor, Winship, Binnie, Singer, Kienbaum, Stewart. MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

TAXI CAB GRANT APPLICATION. Finance Director Saubert asked for the annual approval to submit the application for the taxi cab grant. Saubert explained that although the application process occurs in October, grant awards are not made until Spring of the following year. For 2010, Brown Cab estimates their total budget to be \$198,504. It is believed that with proposed grant awards and money received from ridership, the City's share will be approximately \$10,894, which is down from the 2009 budgeted amount of \$11,065. It was moved by Stewart and seconded by Winship to approve the submission of the 2010 Taxi Cab Grant application. AYES: Olsen, Taylor, Binnie, Winship, Singer, Stewart, Kienbaum. NOES: None. ABSENT: None.

2010 BUDGET PRESENTATION. As directed at the October 20th Common Council meeting, City Manager Brunner presented amendments to the budget to reduce the tax levy increase to zero or less. He proposed cuts totaling \$44,477. Brunner explained that there was a \$15,000 reduction in the budget assuming the use of using the Lakeland Animal Shelter for animal control services instead of paying the \$23,000 contract fee with Jefferson County. Walworth County already provides this service for the City of Whitewater through our County taxes. \$7,000 remains in the budget to allow for construction of a kennel at the City Garage and for veterinary services for animals found in the Jefferson County portion of the City. A \$2,919 reduction to the Library budget was proposed; a total of \$10,419 was removed from various Police Department budgets; and Ambulance operating supplies were reduced by \$5,000. In keeping with the motion approved at the 10/20/09 council meeting, Brunner removed \$1,772 for the Alliance of Cities dues from the budget. It was also noted that car allowance reductions in the sum of \$3,200 were to be implemented and CDA transfers of \$1,882 would be forthcoming. Department Heads presented the Public Works budgets, the Park & Recreation budgets, the Planning, Zoning, Neighborhood Services and City building budgets; and Special Revenue Budgets. Tourism and Downtown Whitewater budgets were presented, as well as Solid Waste / Recycling, Taxi Cab Grant, Stormwater, Wastewater and Water Utility budgets. TIF #4 budget and capital project funds were reviewed.

Councilmember Olsen moved to remove the \$25,000 contribution for Downtown Whitewater from the 2010 budget. Motion seconded by Kienbaum. Olsen stated that the City had committed to support this group for a three-year period and that we are now on year five. Olsen stated that although all taxpayers are paying towards this, the group is supporting only *downtown* businesses, and not surrounding businesses. City Manager Brunner stated that one of the main concerns of citizens is developing the downtown. AYES: None. NOES: Olsen, Taylor, Winship, Binnie, Singer, Kienbaum, Stewart. ABSENT: None.

It was moved by Olsen and seconded by Kienbaum to review the salary for the Water Superintendent position to see whether a salary adjustment is necessary, then report back to Council. Olsen indicated he had done some research on the internet and found information that showed Whitewater is underpaying this position. City Manager Brunner felt that choosing one position for review was “cherry picking” and he requested that any review be completed at the time of the Clerical and Management Staff Salary review to be completed in 2011. AYES: Olsen, Kienbam. NOES: Taylor, Winship, Binnie, Singer, Stewart.

In order to correct an error noted by DPW Director Dean Fischer, it was moved by Taylor and seconded by Binnie to remove \$2,250 from the seasonal employee fund for General Buildings and Plants. AYES: Olsen, Taylor, Winship, Binnie, Singer, Kienbaum, Stewart.

It was then moved by Taylor to remove funding from Subscriptions and Dues for a DPW publication being received by Councilmembers. The motion failed for lack of a second.

Additional budget presentations and discussion are scheduled for the November 3, 2009 meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS. Councilmember Singer requested that elimination of the Human Resources/Special Projects position be considered at the next council meeting, with plans for possible replacement of that position with a Deputy City Manager or an Assistant City Manager. Plans to discuss Singer’s proposal will be placed on the 11/3/09 council agenda.

ADJOURNMENT. Being no further business to come before the meeting, it was moved by Taylor and seconded by Winship to adjourn the meeting. AYES: Olsen, Taylor, Winship, Binnie, Singer, Kienbaum, Stewart. NOES: None. ABSENT: None. The meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele R. Smith, Clerk