

PLATTEVILLE COMMON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
August 13, 2024

The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Platteville was called to order by Council President Pro-Tem Kathy Kopp at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building.

ROLL CALL

Present: Kathy Kopp, Bob Gates, Lynne Parrott, Tom Nall, and Ken Kilian.

Absent: Barbara Daus and Todd Kasper, excused.

PUBLIC HEARING

- A. *Resolution 24-08 – Petitioning the Secretary of Transportation for Airport Improvement Aid* – William J. Kloster, 975 Highbury Circle, Chair of the Airport Commission provided information to the Council about the petition and answered questions. Motion by Gates, second by Nall to close the public hearing. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote. Motion by Parrott, second by Kilian to approve Resolution 24-08 Petitioning the Secretary of Transportation for Airport Improvement Aid. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

CONSIDERATION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Motion by Gates, second by Parrott to approve the consent agenda as follows: Council Minutes – 7/23/24 Regular, 7/30/24 Special; Payment of Bills in the amount of \$941,744.65; Appointments to Boards and Commissions: Doug Bartlett to Airport Commission; Marvin Packer and Barbara Stockhausen to Commission on Aging; Robin Fatzinger to Community Safe Routes Committee; Melissa Kelly to Housing Authority Board; Melissa Gormley to Museum Board; Terry Malliet, Michael Breitner, Deborah Rice and Deb Jenny to Tourism Committee; One-Year Operator Licenses – Kayla A Klotz, Joshua M Perkins; Two-Year Operator Licenses – Brianna N Gartner, Ondre P Hill, Rylie G Lear, Jaena Michalak ; Change of Agent for “Class A” Combination Beer and Alcohol License and Cigarette, Tobacco, and Electronic Vaping Device License to Kwik Trip Inc., La Crosse, WI (Travis J Johnson, Agent), for premises at 1805 Vision Drive, Platteville, WI (Kwik Trip #1196); Bike Permit - Platteville Public Library’s Fall Community Bike Ride on Saturday, September 21, from 11:00 AM – 1:00 PM on Mound View Park Paved trail; Street Closing Permit - Hickory Street between West Pine Street and Greenwood Avenue on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM for the Newman Block Party. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS, OBSERVATIONS AND PETITIONS, if any.

REPORTS

- A. Board/Commission/Committee Minutes – Plan Commission, Historic Preservation Commission, Community Safe Routes Committee, Parks, Forestry, and Recreation Committee, Museum Board, Housing Authority Board
- B. Other Reports
1. Water and Sewer Financial Report – July
 2. Airport Financial Report – July
 3. Department Progress Reports

ACTION

- A. *Resolution 24-09 Authorizing the Issuance and Sale of Up to \$42,535 Taxable Private LSL Replacement Loan Program Revenue Bonds, Series 2024, and Providing for Other Details and*

Covenants with Respect Thereto, and Approval of Related \$170,140 Financial Assistance Agreement – Motion by Gates, second by Kilian to approve Resolution 24-09 regarding the final FAA and authorize the Common Council President and City Clerk to sign the agreement. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

- B. *Asbestos Abatement Contract for O.E. Gray* - Motion by Kilian, second by Parrott to award the Asbestos Abatement Contract for OE Gray to MRD Group at the Bid Price of \$179,180.00. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION

- A. *Overnight Parking on Jefferson Street between Cedar and Lewis Streets* – Public Works
Director Howard Crofoot presented that a resident of Jefferson Street between Cedar and Lewis Street requested that the restriction on overnight parking on this block be removed. Director Crofoot explained the current parking restrictions and street specifications. He provided that a reason behind these restrictions is to allow snow plow trucks and fire trucks access to the area. Five options were presented to Council members with Staff recommending no change be taken. Council consensus was to leave the current parking regulations on Jefferson Street unchanged, so no action will be needed at the August 28th meeting.
- B. *Chapter 5 Health and Property Maintenance Code Revisions: Creeping Charlie* – Public Works
Director Crofoot stated the Platteville Municipal Code, Chapter 5, Health and Property Maintenance, was last revised and approved in January 2022. The revision pertained to the code regarding weeds and the maximum height of grass allowable under code. Additionally, a paragraph was included that prohibited the growth of Creeping Charlie (*Glechoma hederacea*) within ten (10) feet of any property containing a residential dwelling unit. Crofoot presented information about Creeping Charlie along with the results of a survey conducted of city residents. Crofoot explained options for Council consideration and conveyed staff and Plan Commission recommendations to eliminate section 5.01 6) of the municipal code.
- C. *Chapter 5 Health and Property Maintenance Code Revisions: No Mow May*- Public Works
Director Crofoot explained that “No Mow May”, “Slow Mow May” or “Slow Mow Spring” have been started in a number of communities to show support for pollinators. The intent is to allow the grass to grow to sufficient height to grow pollen heads to feed the pollinators – generally 6 – 8 inches high. Not mowing allows vermin to proliferate and makes the neighborhoods look terrible. Code Enforcement Inspector Rodell conducted a survey. A plurality of people would participate in “No Mow May” and a slightly smaller plurality would like the City to implement “No Mow May”. A slight majority think a policy of “No Mow May” would have a positive effect on the Community. Since the start of this discussion, there has been additional research that shows no discernable positive effect on pollinators of letting grass grow long, finding that it is better to have more flowering plants than tall grasses. Research also indicates that if grass is allowed to grow long, then is abruptly cut short, it stresses the grass. The City of Appleton was the pioneer in the US for “No Mow May” and has now rescinded its Ordinance. Four options were presented to Council members with Staff and the Plan Commission recommending no change be made to the ordinance. Council consensus was to leave the ordinance unchanged, so no action will be needed at the August 28th meeting.

WORK SESSION

City Manager Clinton Langreck presented the concept for the City's annual strategic planning process, for Council review.

Motion by Gates, second by Parrott to go into a Closed Session. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

CLOSED SESSION per Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(g) - Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved – Runde Chevrolet Buick

Motion by Nall, second by Parrott to return to Open Session. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

ACTION FROM CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Gates, second by Parrott to enter into a settlement agreement regarding the alleged impacts from Business 151 safety reconstruction project, and to release payment of \$60,000 to Runde Chevrolet Buick GMC as referenced in Grant County Circuit Court Case No. 22CV309. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Gates, second by Parrott to adjourn. Motion carried 5-0 on a roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nicola Maurer, Administration Director