

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL

March 1, 2011

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, met in the Council Room of the municipal building on Tuesday, March 1, 2011 commencing at 7:30 P.M., Mayor Larry D. Fowler presiding. Alderpersons Marie Rakow, Susan Fruit, Lester Parker, Jay Buchanan Mueller, Steve Deets, Judy Shireman, Bill Kloehn, and Lorna Dilley present. Mayor Fowler ascertained from the Clerk that the meeting was properly noticed.

Motion by Fruit, second by Rakow to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting (February 15, 2011) in lieu of printed copies and to approve the same. Motion carried.

EAGLE SCOUT PROCLAMATION: Mr. Gregory Atnip said he has been working in the park expanding on the canoe ports, platforms, hiking trails and signage projects along the Pine River started by Aaron Black, Shaun Kenefick, and Jeff Manglish-Burns. He said these projects attract people to see the beauty of the river so that they can enjoy it safely. He said he raised \$1200.00 for the project and to maintain it and worked 185 hours. Parks & Grounds Supervisor Terry Sime said that it is enjoyable to work with all of the Eagle Scouts because they are willing to get out and get the job done. He said they are a great group of people. Mayor Fowler read the proclamation and thanked Mr. Atnip.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Jude Elliott presented the General Fund Report for February, 2011. The complete Treasurer's report follows:

GENERAL FUND:

Treasurer's balance at start of month	176,425.48
Receipts	1,706,938.46
Disbursements	440,186.39
Treasurer's balance end of month	1,266,752.07
Money Market Tax Acct.	20,761.96

INVESTMENTS:

State Pool - Account # 1	555,230.35
State Pool - Account #2 Long Term Care	526,390.37
State Pool - Account # 4 - Project Carryover	501,353.91
State Pool - Account # 6 - TIF - 2-5	1,098,768.58

SPECIAL ACCOUNTS

CDBG - Housing RLF	114,941.80
Cemetery	3,853.57
Revolving Loan Fund- Savings	454,402.65

Revolving Loan Fund – Checking	9,324.71
Park / Community Center	23,042.32
Park and Rec Checking	3,766.55
Recycling	20,387.01
Landfill Care – CD	476,147.38
Landfill Closure	88,497.89
Room Tax	27,915.80
Library Checking	119,662.20
RDA Checking	107,591.40

ELECTRIC UTILITY FUND:

Treasurer’s balance at start of month	65,275.24
Receipts	837,463.52
Garbage Receipts	18,234.16
Public Benefit	5,292.75
Telecom Utility	5,064.00
Disbursements	846,982.64
Treasurer’s balance at end of month	84,347.03
Investments	1,390,596.72

WATER UTILITY FUND:

Treasurer’s balance start of month	110,589.42
Receipts	77,672.35
Disbursements	155,070.22
Treasurer’s balance end of month	33,193.55
Investments	1,511,232.65

SEWER UTILITY FUND:

Treasurer’s balance start of month	120,039.67
Receipts	283,286.93
Disbursements	301,871.03
Treasurer’s balance end of month	101,455.57
Investment	5,345,060.11

LOANS:

Telecom from Elect	67,720.08
Electric advance to TIF	0.00
Water advance to TIF	257,932.16
Water advance to TIF	0.00
WWTP advance to TIF	18,351.00
WWTP advance to TIF	32,311.58
WWTP advance to TIF	139,480.31
Total due TIF	448,075.05

City loan from WWTP 400,000.00

PARK BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS:

CONSIDER BIDS FOR CEMETERY WALL.

Terry Sime reviewed 5 bids he received noting that they all met specifications and that the Park Board and Finance recommended the low bid from Mindham Construction for \$21,619.29. He said the deadline to have the wall finished is 2 weeks before Memorial Day. Mr. Sime said that Finance recommended \$20,000.00 from the budget for this project and the additional cost could be paid for with funds from the 2011 monument repair line item. Motion by Dilley to approve the contract with Mindham Construction for \$21,619.29 with \$20,000.00 coming from the Parks Outlay account and \$1619.29 from the 2011 monument repair account. Alderperson Kloehn made the second. Motion carried 8-0.

CONSIDER BIDS FOR REPLACING TWO BACK STOPS AT NORTH PARK:

Mr. Sime said that the Parks Department estimated the replacement of the backstops last fall to be \$30,000.00 but only \$20,000.00 was put in the budget. He reviewed the bids and mentioned that the Park Board and Finance recommended the low bid from Century Fence in the amount of \$18,830.00 with the park department employees taking down the old fences. Motion by Deets, second by Fruit to approve the low bid from Century Fence in the amount of \$18,830.00. Motion carried 8-0.

CONSIDER WORK ON BIG POOL AT KROUSKOP PARK.

Mr. Sime said that there was \$20,000.00 put in the budget for pool resurfacing repairs. He said Dirda Pools did the repairs to the wading pool last year. He said the original bid was \$40,200 which he told them was too much money and the bid was revised to \$24,000.00 if three people from the Parks Department help with scraping and hauling away material. Mr. Sime stated that most of the complaints about the pool last year were from people scraping their feet. Alderperson Parker asked if this project was bid. Mr. Sime said the City had been spending \$4,000 each year and it had to be redone each year to reseal and paint the pool. He said this product seems to work well and that no one else uses it. Clerk Elliott said the City has purchasing guidelines, not a policy. He said there are situations where it is very difficult to bid and this is one of those situations. Motion by Deets to proceed with the \$24,000.00 bid from Dirda Pools and use the \$20,000 from parks outlay, \$1,170.00 from the budget for the backstops, and the balance of \$2830.00 from the 2011 pool repairs line item with a completion date no later than June 1st. Alderperson Rakow made the second and the motion carried 7-1 with Alderperson Parker voting against.

CONSIDER EXPENSES FOR CANOE PORTS:

Mr. Sime said there are some platforms along the Pine River for canoes made from 2' x 12's but they do not work well and are very slippery when they get wet. He said \$9831.00 has been set aside for canoe ports. He said these canoe ports would be taken out for the winter months

plus they float up and down to the water level. He mentioned the Park Board recommended approval but Finance recommended trying one of each type and if they work well to purchase the other 3 later, contingent on the same pricing. Motion by Fruit to purchase one of each of the two canoe ports presented and purchase the other three later this fall, contingent on them working well and the 15% discounted price applies. It was also recommended the port with the dock section be placed at the AA site and the other at Krouskop Park North. Alderperson Mueller made the second and the motion carried 8-0.

CONSIDER EXPENSES FOR MILL POND PROJECT:

Mr. Sime said this project was voted on at Council previously and approved with 9 holes of disc golf. He said after reviewing the project, he noticed the existing 9 cages were in very poor shape and falling apart so he would like to replace the existing 9 holes as well as do the rest of the project. Mr. Sime said the City is listed in the National Register for Disc Golf. He said there will be a disc golf tournament scheduled in July. He said the equipment is all being purchased with employees doing the installation. He said the Park Board and Finance recommended approval. Motion by Kloehn, second by Mueller to approve the prairie project as presented not to exceed a project cost of \$15,770.00 with the money coming from the Prairie and Mill Pond budget in State Pool #4. Motion carried 6-2 with Alderpersons Parker and Deets opposed.

CONSIDER BIDS FOR GARDEN TRACTOR:

Mr. Sime said the bid specifications were for a gas mower with a 48" cut because a smaller mower is needed to get in between head stones and there will be a trade in of a 13 year old Simplicity. Mr. Sime said the Park Board and Finance recommend purchasing the Simplicity from Hoffer's which is the lowest bid. Motion by Mueller to trade in the old Simplicity and approve the purchase of a new Simplicity garden tractor from Hoffer's Small Engines at a cost not to exceed \$7750.00. Alderperson Kloehn made the second and the motion carried 8-0.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

CONSIDER AWARDING CONTRACT FOR DESIGN PHASE GEOTECHNICAL SERVICES FOR NEW SENIOR / COMMUNITY CENTER:

Mayor Fowler said ADCI accepted proposals for soil borings which is a necessary part of the new senior / community center project. He said the low bid and recommendation is to approve Chosen Valley Testing and it will be paid for out of the grant. Motion by Deets, second by Rakow to recommend to Council to approve the contract with Chosen Valley Testing for \$1815.00. Motion carried 8-0.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE PROHIBITING BIKES AND SKATEBOARDS ON SIDEWALKS IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA.

Motion by Mueller to introduce the ordinance and waive the reading. Alderperson Fruit seconded and the motion carried. Alderperson Shireman said that Public Safety saw this tonight for the first time and she encouraged everyone to read it carefully and look at the streets that the ordinance pertains to. Attorney Robb said that Chief Annear came to him about this and it could be changed if the Council desires. Alderperson Parker said he has concerns about taking things to do away from kids when there is not an alternative such as a skateboard park. Attorney Robb said there is an ordinance for the downtown and one for the business district that already prohibits skateboards and bicycles on the downtown sidewalks and the proposed ordinance is setting better boundaries. Mayor Fowler asked if the old ordinance could be presented at the next meeting showing the changes. No action was taken.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS:

The bills were reviewed. Motion by Mueller, second by Dilley to approve the bills as presented. Motion carried 8-0.

MAYOR'S CORRESPONDENCE AND COMMENTS: He said he received an invitation from the League of WI Municipalities for their regional dinner in May. He said he was at the DOT meeting last week on roundabouts. He said he has received more negative than positive feedback and encouraged the public to give a written response. He said there are things to think about yet and he would like to have discussion at the Council on the next agenda. He said he was at Vetesnik's last Friday with the Community Business Outreach group and it is far more than meets the eye. He said they have 35 employees and a rental program. He said he will be at a ribbon cutting tomorrow at 2:00 p.m. at the Family Video. He said a Personnel and Insurance meeting has been scheduled for tomorrow at 4:30 p.m.

ALDERPERSON MARIE RAKOW: She said she was at Vetesnik's and did not realize their ads bring in so many people from so many different states.

ALDERPERSON SUSAN FRUIT: She said congratulations to Mr. Atnip.

ALDERPERSON LESTER PARKER: He said the Street Department did a good job of getting the ice off the roads.

ALDERPERSON JAY BUCHANAN MUELLER: He thanked the Scouts for all their work in the parks. He said he was sitting in his car when an ambulance was paged and EMTs went past him but he was surprised that people did not pull over to let them respond to the call. He encouraged citizens to pull over when they see our emergency volunteers on their way to a call with a red light flashing on their personal vehicles.

ALDERPERSON JUDY SHIREMAN: She said it is true that a lot of people do not pull over when they respond in their own vehicles. She said when EMS and the Fire Department are responding to an emergency it is important for the public to pull over in cooperation so they can respond as quickly as possible.

ALDERPERSON BILL KLOEHN: He said he also attended the DOT meeting and is glad there will be discussion at Council as he is not sure the roundabouts are what Richland Center needs.

ALDERPERSON LORNA DILLEY: She said she was at the DOT meeting and also thinks the Council needs discussion on it. She said she is concerned how the State and Federal budgets will impact this project.

CITY CLERK / TREASURER JUDE ELLIOTT: He said he is not sure how the State and Federal budgets will impact the City but he is looking into it. He said there is a voter ID bill proposed that will require residents to show an ID and sign the poll book.

PARKS & GROUNDS SUPERVISOR TERRY SIME: He said the City is fortunate that the Council has approved the 2011 project and future projects. He said he has been working with civic organizations and they join together for larger projects.

DEPUTY CLERK / TREASURER MELINDA JONES: She said she attended a redistricting meeting last week and that work will begin soon. She said she will attend training next month.

ATTORNEY JAY ROBB: He said there are roundabouts in Lake Delton on Hwy 12 if anyone wants to try them out.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Kloehn, second by Rakow to adjourn. Motion carried at 8:50 P.M.
Minutes prepared by Melinda D. Jones, Deputy Clerk / Treasurer

Larry D. Fowler, Mayor

Attest:

Jude Elliott, City Clerk / Treasurer