

MINUTES

EAU CLAIRE CITY COUNCIL BUDGET ADOPTION

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

City Council Chamber

4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Council President Adler called the meeting to order. The following members were present: Council Members David Adler, Larry Balow, Brandon Buchanan, David Duax, Thomas Kemp, Kerry Kincaid, David Klinkhammer, Berlye Middleton, Jackie Pavelski, Bob Von Haden, and Thomas Vue.

BUDGET MOTIONS

The Council considered various motions to amend the resolutions adopting the 2009 Program of Services and the 2009 – 2013 Capital Improvement Plan.

LEGAL SERVICES

A motion was offered by Council Member Duax and seconded by Council Member Balow “to eliminate outside legal assistance for lead negotiation services with all City bargaining groups and to conduct negotiations using city staff, up to the point of impasse, unless otherwise authorized by City Council, and to reduce the 2009 Human Resources legal services budget by \$8,000 by transferring that amount to contingency.” Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Balow, Buchanan, Duax, Kemp, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue. Nay: Council Members Adler, Kincaid, Klinkhammer, and Middleton.

COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

A motion was offered by Council Member Balow and seconded by Council Member Von Haden “to replace the printed version of the Community Newsletter with an electronic version and transfer the savings of \$8,000 to contingency”. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Adler, Balow, Buchanan, Duax, Kemp, Kincaid, Middleton, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue. Nay: Council Member Klinkhammer.

CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

A motion was offered by Council Member Balow and seconded by Council Member Buchanan “to eliminate publishing the City Council agenda in the newspaper and transfer the savings of \$13,000 to contingency.” Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Adler, Balow, Buchanan, Duax, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue. Nay: Council Members Kemp, Kincaid, Klinkhammer, and Middleton.

CITY PROPERTY

A motion was offered by Council Member Balow and seconded by Council Member Pavelski “to direct the City Manager to dispose of the Parks & Recreation building at 1300 First Avenue in 2009 and relocate city operations to other city facilities by January 1, 2009 or as soon as possible thereafter. The savings in annual building costs to be used for relocating city operations and excess funds transferred to contingency.” Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Balow, Buchanan, Duax, Kemp, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue. Nay: Council Member Adler, Kincaid, Klinkhammer, and Middleton.

A motion was offered by Council Member Duax and seconded by Council Member Buchanan “that the decision to approve the Hobbs Ice Center renovation project in 2009 shall be made by the City Council following review of specific construction bid proposals and a determination that a sufficient and appropriate level of financial participation in the renovation project has been provided by community members of the Hobbs Ice Center Consortium, and that if the renovation project is not approved in 2009, the General Fund subsidy for Hobbs will be reduced or eliminated.” Said motion failed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Balow, Duax, Pavelski and Vue. Nay: Council Members Adler, Buchanan, Kemp, Kincaid, Klinkhammer, Middleton and Von Haden.

Council Members Buchanan, Middleton and Vue left the Council Chamber.

A motion was offered by Council Member Duax and seconded by Council Member Balow “to direct the City Manager to inventory existing city-owned property and present a report and recommendations to the City Council by May 1, 2009 regarding potential sale or disposal of excess property.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

Council Members Buchanan, Middleton and Vue returned to the Council Chamber.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE

A motion was offered by Council Member Pavelski and seconded by Council Member Balow “to eliminate the vehicle registration fee revenue and replace it with a one-time use of fund balance to be offset in 2009 by ongoing reductions in city operational services and expenditures.” Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Buchanan “to amend said motion to delete the words ‘and replace it with a one-time use of fund balance to be offset in 2009 by ongoing reductions in city operational services and expenditures’ and insert the words ‘and cut \$430,000 from the budget to make up for the funds that would have been generated by the fee by reducing the following budgets by the following amounts: Public Works - \$200,000; Police - \$50,000; Fire - \$50,000; Attorney - \$50,000; Human Resources - \$50,000; Transit - \$30,000’.” Said motion failed for lack of a second. The Council then voted on the original motion. Said motion to eliminate the vehicle registration fee passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Adler, Balow, Duax, Middleton, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue. Nay: Council Members Buchanan, Kemp, Kincaid, and Klinkhammer.

RECORDS STORAGE

A motion was offered by Council Member Duax and seconded by Council Member Kemp “to relocate the existing storage operation maintained at former Fire Station #9 on Vine Street and offer the property for sale for redevelopment by May 1, 2009 or as soon as possible thereafter, and to direct the City Manager to prepare a report and recommendations for an alternate storage facility, including the feasibility of joint storage with Eau Claire County.” Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Adler, Balow, Buchanan, Duax, Kemp, Klinkhammer, Middleton, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue. Nay: Council Member Kincaid.

POOL MAINTENANCE

A motion was offered by Council Member Duax and seconded by Council Member Balow “to defer scheduled maintenance projects in 2009 for the Fairfax Municipal Pool and eliminate the 2009 transfer of \$45,000 from the General Fund.” Said motion failed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Balow, Duax, and Pavelski. Nay: Council Members Adler, Buchanan, Kemp, Kincaid, Klinkhammer, Middleton, Von Haden, and Vue.

COUNCIL SALARY & TRAINING

A motion was offered by Council Member Buchanan and seconded by Council Member Kemp “to reserve contingency funding for a salary increase of \$1,000 each for Council Member salaries and \$25 per officially sanctioned meeting.” Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Duax and seconded by Council Member Pavelski “to amend said motion by deleting the words ‘a salary increase of \$1,000 each for City Council salaries and’ and to insert the words ‘restoration of the per diem payment of’.” Said motion to amend failed on the following vote: Aye: Council Member Duax. Nay: Council Members Adler, Balow, Buchanan, Kemp, Kincaid, Klinkhammer, Middleton, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue. The Council then voted on the original motion. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Balow, Buchanan, Kemp, Kincaid, Klinkhammer, Middleton, Von Haden, and Vue. Nay: Council Members Adler, Duax and Pavelski.

A motion was offered by Council Member Buchanan and seconded by Council Member Kemp “to increase the tax levy by \$8,700 and to increase the City Council training budget by \$8,700 thereby providing up to \$2,000 per Council Member and \$3,000 for Council President for annual training expenses unless otherwise authorized by City Council.” Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Buchanan and seconded by Council Member Kincaid “to amend said motion to allocate \$4,300 to Council training and allocate \$4,400 to the Economic Development Fund”. Said motion was accepted by the mover and seconder as a friendly amendment. The Council then voted on the motion as amended. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Balow, Buchanan, Kemp, Kincaid, Klinkhammer, and Middleton. Nay: Council Members Adler, Duax, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue.

TRANSIT – UWEC ROUTE

A motion was offered by Council Member Buchanan and seconded by Council Member Kemp “to increase the Transit budget by \$75,600 to add a fourth “tripper” bus to the UW-EC route. Said route is to be funded 100% by state and federal aids and UW-EC activity fees”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

MOMENTUM WEST

A motion was offered by Council Member Von Haden and seconded by Council Member Pavelski “to eliminate 2009 Economic Development Fund contribution of \$1,000 to Momentum West”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

FIRE BELL RESTORATION PROJECT

A motion was offered by Council Member Duax and seconded by Council Member Klinkhammer “to provide \$1,000 for the Fire Bell Restoration Project from the contingency account”. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Balow, Buchanan, Duax, Kemp, Klinkhammer, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue. Nay: Council Members Adler, Kincaid and Middleton.

Council Member Kemp left the Council Chamber.

STAFF AUTHORIZATION

A motion was offered by Council Member Klinkhammer and seconded by Council Member Von Haden “to ratify and confirm the various motions amending the resolutions adopting the 2009 Program of Services and the 2009-2013 Capital Improvement Plan, approving the related changes in estimated revenues and appropriations, and authorizing the city staff to incorporate the changes in the 2009 Program of Services and the 2009-2013 Capital Improvement Plan. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

Council Member Kemp returned to the Council Chamber.

2009 BUDGETS

The Council considered resolutions adopting the following proposed budgets and appropriations for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2009:

- General Fund
- L.E. Phillips Memorial Public Library
- City - County Health Department.

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Pavelski and seconded by Council Member Vue “to adopt said resolutions”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Council considered a resolution adopting the following proposed budgets for the following agencies and utilities of the City of Eau Claire for fiscal year 2009:

- Economic Development
- Community Enhancement
- Downtown Fund
- Cemetery Maintenance
- Hazardous Materials Response
- Debt Service - General Fund
- Debt Service - TID #6
(Northeast Industrial Area)
- Debt Service - TID #7
(Soo Line Development Area)
- Water Utility
- Sewer Utility
- Storm Water Management
- Parking Utility
- Public Transit
- Hobbs Ice Center
- Outdoor Pool
- Risk Management
- Central Equipment
- Landfill Remediation
- Redevelopment Authority

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Buchanan and seconded by Council Member Kemp “to adopt said resolution”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

TAX LEVIES AND RATES

The Council considered a resolution establishing the 2008 tax levies for taxes collectible in 2009 and setting the tax roll for all governmental units within the City of Eau Claire. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Duax and seconded by Council Member Balow “to adopt said resolution”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The Council considered a resolution levying tax rates for all taxable real and personal property in the 2008 tax roll of the City of Eau Claire located in Eau Claire and Chippewa Counties. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Kincaid and seconded by Council Member Klinkhammer “to adopt said resolution”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS

The Council considered a resolution levying special assessment charges and extending annual installments of 2008 special assessments. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Middleton and seconded by Council Member Von Haden “to adopt said resolution”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Council considered a resolution approving the 2009 - 2013 Capital Improvement Plan for the City of Eau Claire. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Pavelski and seconded by Council Member Vue “to adopt said resolution”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ISSUANCE OF BONDS AND OFFICIAL INTENT

The Council considered a resolution authorizing the issuance of bonds and authorizing an officer to declare official intent for federal income tax purposes. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Buchanan and seconded by Council Member Kemp “to adopt said resolution”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BUDGETS

The Council considered a resolution approving the 2009 Budgets for the Business Improvement Districts within the City of Eau Claire and authorization to levy special assessments:

- Downtown Business Improvement District
- West Grand Avenue Business Improvement District
- Water Street Business Improvement District
- N. Barstow/Medical Business Improvement District

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Duax and seconded by Council Member Balow “to adopt said resolution”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

STORM WATER MANAGEMENT

The Council considered a resolution establishing the 2009 rate for the Storm Water Management Program. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Kincaid and seconded by Council Member Klinkhammer “to adopt said resolution”. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Adler, Buchanan, Duax, Kemp, Kincaid, Klinkhammer, Middleton, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue. Nay: Council Member Balow.

FEES AND LICENSES

The Council considered a resolution approving the revised City of Eau Claire Schedule of Fees and Licenses. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Middleton and seconded by Council Member Von Haden “to adopt said resolution”. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Adler, Buchanan, Duax, Kemp, Kincaid, Klinkhammer, Middleton, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue. Nay: Council Member Balow.

ROOM TAX

The Council considered an ordinance amending Chapter 3.20 of the City Code of Ordinances entitled “Room Tax”. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Pavelski and seconded by Council Member Vue “to adopt said ordinance”. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Balow, Buchanan, Duax, Kemp, Kincaid, Klinkhammer, Middleton, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue. Nay: None. Abstain: Council Member Adler.

VEHICLE REGISTRATION FEE

The Council considered an ordinance creating Chapter 3.25 of the City Code of Ordinances entitled “Annual City Vehicle Registration Fee.” Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Buchanan and seconded by Council Member Kemp “to adopt said ordinance”. Said motion failed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Buchanan, Kemp, Kincaid and Klinkhammer. Nay: Council Members Adler, Balow, Duax, Middleton, Pavelski, Von Haden, and Vue.

RE-INSPECTION FEE

The Council considered an ordinance creating Chapter 1.25 of the City Code of Ordinances entitled “Enforcement – Orders – Inspections” implementing a re-inspection fee. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Duax and seconded by Council Member Balow “to adopt said ordinance”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

DEVELOPMENT REVIEW FEE

The City Council considered an ordinance amending Section 17.24.020 of the City Code of Ordinances entitled “Methods of Financing” implementing development review fees. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Balow and seconded by Council Member Kemp “to adopt said ordinance”. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Duax and seconded by Council Member Kincaid “to postpone consideration of said ordinance and refer the matter back to the Plan Commission. The Plan Commission shall make a recommendation to the Council within 90 days.” Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Adler, Buchanan, Duax, Kemp, Kincaid, Klinkhammer, Middleton, Von Haden, and Vue. Nay: Council Members Balow and Pavelski.

SEWER RATE INCREASE

The City Council considered an ordinance establishing the 2009 rate for the Sewer Utility. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Kincaid and seconded by Council Member Klinkhammer “to adopt said ordinance”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

PAY PLAN

The Council considered an ordinance authorizing amendment to the City Pay Plan, specifically those parts relating to CTSEA. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Middleton and seconded by Council Member Von Haden “to adopt said ordinance”. Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Council Member Duax and seconded by Council Member Balow “that this meeting does now adjourn.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

Adjournment: November 12, 2008

Time: 10:30 p.m.

David J. Adler, President

ATTEST:

Donna A. Austad, City Clerk