

**MINUTES  
CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
April 3, 2008**

A duly convened meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Scott Huebner in the Council Chambers. Council members present: Aldermen Al Haacke, Paul Neumyer, Jim Vollmar, Burt Babcock, Tom Hudson and Chris Ross. Absent & excused was Alderman Pete Jushka. Also present: City Administrator Mark Grams, City Planner Randy Tetzlaff, City Attorney Eric Eberhardt and City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approve Minutes of the Previous Meeting – March 18, 2008
- B. Approve Original Operator's License Applications – Harm H. Modder and Bethanne M. Scheel
- C. Approve Temporary Class "B" Retailer's License Application – VFW Post #7588/Upper Lake Park-Lion's Pavilion/July 19, 2008 (Fish Day)
- D. Approve Temporary Class "B"/"Class B" Retailer's License Application – Port Washington Lions Club/Kiwanis Pavilion – Port Washington Marina/August 1 to 3, 2008 (Fish Derby)
- E. Approve Temporary Bartender's License Applications – VFW Post #7588-Wesley R. Blumenberg, Daniel S. Pals, Charles J. Ellmauer and Dennis J. Ansay
- F. Approve Cabaret License Applications – Sir James Pub, Inc. (Herbert James) April 19, 2008/316 N. Franklin St. and Port Washington Lions Club/Port Washington Kiwanis Marina Pavilion/August 1 – 3, 2008

MOTION BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HUDSON TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**MAYOR'S BUSINESS**

**OFFICERS'/STAFF REPORTS**

- A. Resolution 2008-10 (Certify Spring General Election Results)-MOTION BY ALDERMAN VOLLMAR, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN ROSS TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 1008-10. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- B. City Administrator Grams indicated that the next City Council Meeting on April 15<sup>th</sup> would be the City Organizational Meeting. There will be no Finance and License Committee Meeting.
- C. Update On Projects:
  1. Hwy. 32 – City Engineer Vanden Noven reported that the Highway 32 Project is moving along. Underground work is a day or two behind schedule. Temporary lighting is up. Alderman Vollmar feels the downtown construction project is going very well. He thanked everyone who is working on this, namely Sara Grover, Rob Vanden Noven and the construction crew. Sara Grover talked about the events and promotions. "Playing in Port Washington" will be on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. It is being held to promote downtown during the road construction. She said merchants and businesses are promoting a coupon package and frequent buyer card. The other event is on Sunday, June 1, 2008 from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. This event is "Celebrating Port Washington, Street Festival, 2008" and is the grand re-opening of Franklin Street after the road construction. She also talked about prizes being drawn for participating in the frequent buyer punch card.

- D. N. Spring Street Project (Public Information Meeting) – City Engineer Vanden Noven reported that there would be a public information meeting for the N. Spring Street Project next Tuesday from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.
- E. City Administrator Grams reported that he and Randy Tetzlaff attended a preview of Discover Wisconsin featuring Ozaukee County. Port Washington is the featured community. It is an excellent show. Everyone is encouraged to watch it. It will be shown on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. on FSN, Channel 31 and on Sunday at 9:00 a.m. on Channel 6. We will get a copy and plan to put it on the City's web site and local access channel.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES-None**

## **COMMITTEES**

### **A. Finance and License Committee**

1. Authorization To File A Water Rate Increase With The Public Service Commission – Alderman Hudson said the Committee sat down and talked with the Water Utility Consultant to go over numbers again. Alderman Hudson said that we have to make sure our water utility is in good financial shape, that we have adequate money to run it, and that we have reserve funds to take care of projects. He said the Committee looked at a smaller rate increase, revised from 15½% to 10½% and a second increase, only if needed, down the road. We are looking at the concept of making yearly adjustments to the water rates so it would be easier for people to budget and less of a shock to them. Alderman Ross said our water rates are way above other communities along Lake Michigan and asked what we can do to get our rates down to that level?

Mr. John Mayer, Utility Rate Consultant, said he can't give us an answer as to why are rates are different. He said water utility treatment plants are built at different times, are funded in various ways, some get grants and low interest loans, and the mixture of businesses can be a factor. Water usage is constantly going down and costs are going up. Wisconsin is the only state that has a declining block rate structure. We're going to need to increase water rates over time because you have to match costs and pay bills. City Administrator Grams said our best hope is maybe at some point in time Saukville or even the Village of Grafton may look to us to resolve their water situation. Mayor Huebner said you have to look at the whole picture when comparing water rates. Some communities put their water utility projects such as infrastructure on tax bills. Alderman Ross said if he were a business looking to locate, he would not come to Port Washington because the water rates are so high in comparison to other communities. Alderman Vollmar said we should encourage businesses to come here and negotiate a rate with the business if no new infrastructure is required for that business that the old infrastructure can only be partially paid by them instead of fully paid to get the water rate comparable to other communities so we don't lose them to communities like Sheboygan. He would like to see the water rate more comparable to the lower end users. **MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK TO AUTHORIZE OUR UTILITY RATE CONSULTANT TO FILE A WATER RATE INCREASE WITH THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION PER THE REVISED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY. Motion carried unanimously.**

2. Approve Payout Of Refunded/Rescinded Taxes (Sentry)-MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN VOLLMAR TO APPROVE THE PAYOUT OF REFUNDED/RESCINDED TAXES TO SENTRY FOOD STORE #101. **Motion carried unanimously.**
3. Consider Policy Regarding Use Of Police Department Employees For Special Events – City Attorney Eberhardt said just to clarify that the not for profit groups bring people into the City and then in addition to that these non-profit groups then later contribute either funds back to the community or make in-kind donations which benefits the community as whole. He would respectfully suggest that if the policy is finalized that it be further defined to include wages and benefits for the officers involved. Alderman Vollmar said the policy has to be uniform for all profit people and not subject to modification. Alderman Hudson said that to define the not for profit group, they would be required to present a letter from the IRS to show non-profit group status. City Attorney Eberhardt had concerns about how it ought to be applied and said the policy should apply uniformity across the board in its implementation. MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HAACKE TO APPROVE THE POLICY REGARDING USE OF POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS. **Motion carried unanimously.**
4. Update On Water Utility Borrowing – Alderman Hudson gave background information on the preliminary schedule for the Water Revenue Bond issue. Carol Wirth, Managing Director of RBC Capital Markets, said applying and establishing a water utility rating with Moody's turned out extremely well. We should expect the rating to be officially released by Moody's by the middle of next week. The next step is to distribute that information to investors via marketing. Then I will be before the Council on the 15<sup>th</sup> to present the actual results of the marketing.

## **BOARDS/COMMISSIONS**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- A. Lease Agreement With Cricket Communications – MOTION BY ALDERMAN VOLLMAR, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK TO APPROVE THE AMENDED LEASE AGREEMENT WITH CRICKET COMMUNICATIONS. **Motion carried unanimously.**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Request From BID District To Close City Parking Lot Behind Lueptow Building For Downtown Promotion, April 12<sup>th</sup> – MOTION BY ALDERMAN HAACKE, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN VOLLMAR TO APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF A CITY PARKING LOT BEHIND ASSOCIATED BANK ON SATURDAY, APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup> FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M. FOR "PLAYING IN PORT WASHINGTON", AN EVENT TO PROMOTE DOWNTOWN DURING THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- B. Request From BID District To Close Franklin Street From Grand Avenue To Jackson Street, June 1<sup>st</sup>, For Street Festival (Re-Opening Of Franklin Street) – MOTION BY ALDERMAN VOLLMAR, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN ROSS TO

APPROVE THE CLOSURE OF FRANKLIN STREET ON SUNDAY, JUNE 1, 2008, FROM 10:00 A.M. TO 5:30 P.M. FOR THE STAGING OF "CELEBRATING PORT WASHINGTON, STREET FESTIVAL, 2008", FOR THE GRAND RE-OPENING OF FRANKLIN STREET AFTER THE ROAD CONSTRUCTION.

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**FORTHCOMING EVENTS** – Alderman Hudson congratulated everyone in the election or re-election as it applies and a thank you to Pete Jushka for his years of service. It's been an honor working with him on the Council and we wish him a happy retirement. Mayor Huebner said when he was out in the nation's Capital, he hooked up with Ed Johnson. Ed sends wishes to the Council and if he were free, he would be happy to give Council members a personal capital tour.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES**-Kimberly McCulloch, Port Pirate Fest, expressed frustration with issues in working with the City on festivals. First, she stated that the BID is neither a 501-C3 nor is it for profit and, secondly, she would like to see the Council put together a comprehensive policy that City departments, such as the Park & Recreation and DPW, could work with everyone in supporting different events

**MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN ROSS TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION** According To Wisconsin State Statute 19.85 (1) (c) to review employee evaluation and compensation. ROLL CALL: Haacke-aye, Neumyer-aye, Vollmar-aye, Babcock-aye, Hudson-aye, and Ross-aye. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Reconvene Into Open Session** – The Council reconvened into Open Session at 9:04 p.m.

**Salary Adjustment For Wastewater Utility Superintendent** – MOTION BY ALDERMAN VOLLMAR, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK TO APPROVE A 3% INCREASE FOR THE WASTEWATER UTILITY SUPERINTENDENT. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT** – MOTION BY ALDERMAN HAACKE, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN ROSS TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AT 9:05 P.M. **Motion carried unanimously.**