

**MINUTES
CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 15, 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, Jim Vollmar, Burt Babcock, Tom Hudson, Dave Larson and Chris Ross. Absent & excused was Alderman Paul Neumyer. Also present: City Administrator Mark Grams, City Attorney Eric Eberhardt, City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven and City Planner Randy Tetzlaff. The Pledge of Allegiance to the flag was recited.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Minutes of the Previous Meeting – July 1, 2008
- B. Approve Original Operator's License Applications – Nancy A. Schlegel, Cheryl D. Snook, Paul L. Jerdee, Kellie A. Barber, Alexander A. Clay, Harm H. Modder, Michael V. Wittemann, Joseph B. Griffin, Jacqueline M. Murphy, Richard A. Fulop, Andrea A. Voulgaropoulos, Virginia R. Lee, and Joshua D. Proefrock.
- C. Approve Temporary Class "B" Retailer's Licenses (Picnic) – Port Washington Yacht Club/Tent outside of building premises/July 19, 2008 (Fish Day)
- D. Approve Temporary Bartender Licenses – Port Washington Lions Club – Merlin J. Mueller

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

MAYOR'S BUSINESS

- A. Mayor Huebner read a proclamation honoring Eric Gardner for earning the Eagle Scout Award and presented the proclamation to him.

OFFICERS'/STAFF REPORT

- A. Update On Projects:
 1. Highway 32 Project – Contractors are working late hours trying to catch up because of all the rain we had. Phase 3 begins August 1st. The deadline for Phase 2 is August 15th.
 2. Beutel Road Project – Project suffered because of the rain, but finally being graded today and paver will be in tomorrow morning, followed by lawn restoration, manholes and the final surface scheduled for August 1st.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES – Julian Rogers, 1121 Crestview Dr., Commented on proposed trash collection change. Who pays for the carts? Who is responsible for damage to the same when they collect the trash? A major concern for my wife and me is in winter with snow-filled driveways. How do you get your cart over 4 feet of snow? If you put the cart out the night before, what happens when they plow snow? He feels it would be worthwhile to have a public hearing on this subject to get more input from people who would like to express their concerns about the possible change.

COMMITTEES

A. Finance and License Committee

1. Effective Date For New Water Rates – MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK TO HAVE NEW WATER RATES BECOME EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1ST, WHICH WOULD THEN APPEAR ON A CUSTOMER'S DECEMBER BILL.
Motion carried unanimously.

2. Update on 2008 City General Fund Budget – Alderman Hudson and City Administrator Grams gave a rundown on the deficits in the 2008 General Fund budget. Their concerns were cost overruns in several accounts and some revenue accounts that will experience shortages. City Administrator Grams recommended that Department Heads cut their operating budget by 1%, as well as looking at borrowed funds to purchase capital outlay items and possible capital projects that may have to be cut back.

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS

A. Board of Public Works

1. Consider Solid Waste Collection System – City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven reviewed his memo regarding bids that were received for the solid waste and recycling contracts, as we are at the end of our 5th year cycle. Veolia bid a “status quo” contract with the City of Port Washington. In Saukville they bid on a similar contract, but they offered an alternate bid for carts for both recycling and solid waste. Contrary to what Veolia had indicated earlier, the cart contract came in cheaper than bag collection. Veolia said they would offer the same bid prices for carts as they have offered to Saukville. The City Engineer also indicated that he received two calls from people who live on alleys and were concerned about how alley pick-up would be handled. He said that because of the width of the alleys, trees and wires, Veolia indicated that they would only be able to pick up from City streets. This issue was not brought up at the Board of Public Works Meeting. Dennis from Veolia was present to answer questions. He said that carts were included in the bid and guaranteed for 10 years, unless damaged by the homeowner. Recycling would be picked up every other week, as it is done now, and they would use a single stream recycling system where you could place cardboard, paper, plastic and glass all in one container.

Alderman Vollmar called and checked how other communities handle garbage and recycling. He indicated that some communities put garbage/recycling collection as a line item on the tax bill. Veolia said the reason they are offering the cart system is to eliminate back injuries, saves time and restricts residents from doing remodeling projects and putting it in with their garbage. He said because cart prices are going up, he can't guarantee that they will be the same and needs to know our decision by the end of the month. Alderman Larson asked if Port was the first City that Veolia had to deal with alleys and Veolia said yes. Alderman Haacke feels this is a major decision for the City and thinks a public hearing would be important. He said Port is a City of seven hills and we have a lot of subdivisions where driveways are built on an incline and it would be difficult to maneuver carts down the driveways during 6 months of the year. Also, space to store the carts in your garage may be a concern for some people. There are a lot of questions that we have to ask and 15 days is not a lot of time to resolve this issue and he is not comfortable to vote on it at this time. Alderman Babcock who is familiar in dealing with contracts and bids, questioned the City Engineer as to why we would only have 15 days to make a decision. Alderman Ross said that we were initially told to believe that bags were cheaper than carts, but then bids came in the other way. Both of them are substantial increases

from what we did this year alone so at this point I don't think we have enough information to move forward. I think this should be tabled so that we can pursue some of the things that Alderman Vollmar brought up regarding other alternatives and also what Mr. Rogers brought up as far as getting more input from the public. Dennis from Veolia said that as far as the 15 days, maybe he came across it the wrong way. What he was trying to say is that if the City decides to move forward with the cart issue, we should do that as soon as possible, but if you need another month, that's fine. He said that's the way our agreement is set up and everyday we come into town, we're losing money because of the big increase in fuel to run our trucks and that is the reason for the substantial increase in the contract bid. City Administrator Grams said that the big issue here is the alley issue, which has not been addressed by the Board of Public Works. We can't make a decision until we figure out what to do with the homes on alleys. Alderman Vollmar asked how the cost of living is calculated? Rob read the contract language and said there is a cap of 3% per year, as well as a fuel surcharge adjustment. A discussion was held about when to have a public hearing as it would have to be published in the paper. MOTION BY ALDERMAN HAACKE, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN VOLLMAR TO MOVE TO TABLE THIS ITEM UNTIL THE 1ST MEETING IN SEPTEMBER WITH A PUBLIC HEARING PRIOR TO THE MEETING. 5 ayes; 1 nay (Alderman Ross) **Motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Ordinance 2008-11 (Service Fees For Municipal Court) **2nd Reading** – MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN ROSS TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2008-11. **Motion carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval Of Well Permit – MOTION BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN VOLLMAR TO APPROVE THE WELL PERMIT FOR MR. DALE HAAS, 1237 W. GRAND AVENUE. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- B. Ordinance 2008-12 (Annexation Of Witzlib Property) **1st Reading**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS – Mayor Huebner reminded everyone that Fish Day is this Saturday. Also, he said that a group calling themselves the Main Street Group is having a meeting on July 21st. He said this group is not part of the Main Street initiative through Madison. It is a separate group that has taken the Main Street name and gone forward with it, which is somewhat confusing. I believe their intention is to help make Port Washington a better place and that's always good.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES – None

MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HAACKE TO GO INTO CLOSED SESSION According To Wisconsin State Statute 19.85 (1) (g) to confer with legal counsel who is rendering legal advice concerning strategy to be adopted with respect to litigation regarding former City Assessor and RLF loan guarantor. ROLL CALL: Haacke-aye, Vollmar-aye, Babcock-aye, Hudson-aye, Larson-aye, and Ross-aye. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Reconvene Into Open Session – Open session reconvened at 8:48 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT – MOTION BY ALDERMAN LARSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN VOLLMAR TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AT 8:49 P.M.
Motion carried unanimously.