

**MINUTES
CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
September 16, 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, Dave Larson and Chris Ross. Also present: City Attorney Eric Eberhardt, City Administrator Mark Grams, 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 – September 2, 2008
- B. Approve Original Operator's License Applications – Chris J. Tews, Angela M. Schepp
- C. Approve Cabaret License Application – Sir James Pub, Inc./Herbert James/316 N. Franklin St./September 27, 2008

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

MAYOR'S BUSINESS

- A. Update On Main Street Program – Mayor Huebner updated the Council on the Main Street Program. He reported that he received the results back from the Visioning Workshop from their facilitator. The Mayor wants everyone who was there to come back and make any changes to the visioning statement. He said we now have a complete board, with Doug McManus filling the last vacancy. We are working with Madison to set up a three to four hour training program for the committees in November.
- B. The Mayor reported there would be a Special City Council Meeting on Tuesday, September 23rd.

OFFICERS'/STAFF REPORT

- A. Update On Projects:
 - 1. Highway 32 Project – City Engineer Vanden Noven said in Phase 2 of the project the seed is in and starting to grow. Streetlights are in up to Dodge Street and the lights should be on by the end of this week or next week. Phase 3 – Started grading the road. Underground work is done and pavement is going in early next week, followed by streetlights and landscaping. Phase 4 has already begun. Completed temporary widening of lanes so they can put traffic on the west side of the street. Underground work started on the east side of the street.
 - 2. The City Engineer received a call from the Department of Agriculture this week. They are wearing orange vests with "EAB" on them and are looking for signs of the Emerald Ash Borer on our street trees. If residents have questions about their trees they are directed to call 1-800-462-2803. This number will also be put on the City's web site.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES – Jack Daehling, 542 Briarwood Lane – Made comments on the trash collection. It would have been useful at the public hearing on trash collection if City officials could have provided the details and advantages of the proposed solid waste and recycling contract and put numbers together for us. Alderman Ross's editorial in the Press was good regarding the proposed trash collection contract.

The fuel surcharge was designed to protect the provider from cost increases and not designed as a revenue stream. I would suggest that our invoices have a separate line item for the fuel surcharge. I would also suggest that charges for items that would be outside the scope of the cart system be consistent for all citizens and should be available to the public and fuel surcharges should not be applied to these numbers. Are fuel surcharges going to be applied to cost increases? Jim Olson, 646 Sauk Dr. – I've seen the senior center presentation and I like what I saw. I think Port Washington needs a magnet to attract people to downtown and I believe a structured building with a multi-use intent could provide that magnet. I hope the Council seriously considers the proposal.

COMMITTEES

A. Finance and License Committee

1. Consider Shared Ride Taxi Proposals – MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN LARSON TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FROM SPECIALIZED TRANSPORT SERVICES TO OPERATE THE CITY'S TAXI SERVICE FOR 2009. **Motion carried unanimously.**
2. Consider Memorandum Of Understanding With Larry Appel – This item was tabled.

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS

A. Commission On Aging

1. Presentation On Senior Center Study – Catherine Kiener, Senior Center Director and Mike Ehrlich of Haag Muller, Inc. gave a presentation to the Council on a study comparing two different approaches to provide senior and disabled accessibility, as well as adequate building space and increased functionality for the Port Washington Senior Center. He was hired to see how we could meet the needs either by 1) doing an addition to the Senior Center or 2) looking at a new facility. He reviewed the options for expanding the Senior Center, by building an addition to the existing facility and a proposed Shared Community/Senior Center (new facility) with the location of a new facility, for purposes of this study, in the coal dock area. The space in the community center could be used and shared by the entire community. He reviewed potential income generation options for the expanded Senior Center, a Shared Community/Senior Center, and the City selling the existing Senior Center to a prospective buyer. Catherine Kiener said the Commission on Aging recommended that a new facility be built, but did not recommend a location because they felt that was in the Council's decision powers. Mike Ehrlich opened it up to questions/comments from the Council.

Alderman Hudson liked the idea of a combined facility, but would like the facility to be located closer to downtown and not the coal dock area. His only question is location. Alderman Neumyer shared the views of Alderman Hudson, but is undecided about what to do or where to go with this. However, in the meantime, he said there are things in the current building that need to be corrected such as minor repairs until we decide where we're going with building. Alderman Babcock certainly wants it to be accessible to everyone, but said you would need a vehicle to get there if the location was at the coal dock area. He likes the current building because of the location, which is the advantage of re-habilitating the existing building. Catherine Kiener said that parking in the existing

location is a concern, as well as for bus loading. Alderman Vollmar asked if anyone considered a private partnership building the structure and leasing space to the City for a Senior Center and then donating the structure to the City after 20+ years if built on City property? This is a concept that should be explored. The West Slip proved to be a failure when they wanted to put new slips in because of a surge from the east. He doesn't feel the coal dock area stimulates development of Franklin Street, which is our immediate goal with the Main Street Program. Alderman Haacke appreciates the thoroughness of the planning by Haag Muller. One thing we have to guard against and be very careful is that we can't easily give up our deep-water port for the sake of additional slips in our Marina. He said the Senior Center needs to be located in an area that is centrally located so it is accessible to all people. He thinks the study is a good start. City Engineer Vanden Noven would like to publicly commend Mike and Haag Muller on the work they did. They went above and beyond in the needs analysis study by understanding the importance of this project to the community. The drawing of the vision of the coal dock area by Haag Muller was completed prior to the Coal Dock Committee coming out with their list of ideas. Mayor Huebner thanked Mike and Haag Muller for going the extra mile. The study was well done and well thought out. The key focus tonight was for the Senior Center itself. The Marina issues are a separate entity that we have to work on in maintaining a deep-water port. It's a great start and now we need to move forward. As we move forward we need to have more direction from the seniors. They made no recommendation on the location, which leaves it broad for the Council. We need more direction on location.

B. Plan Commission

1. Public Hearing To Amend Section 20.29.000 Of The Zoning Code Regarding Revisions To The Regulation Of Signs – City Planner Tetzlaff gave an overview stating that this ordinance would give flexibility to the Plan Commission when reviewing and approving signs. Mayor Huebner declared open the public hearing. MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. **Motion carried unanimously.**
2. Ordinance 2008-15 (Amend 20.29.000 Of The Zoning Code, Revision Of The Sign Regulations) **2nd Reading** – MOTIN BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN NEUMYER TO APPROVE ORDINANCE 2008-15 AS REVISED. 6 ayes, 1 nay (Haacke) **Motion carried.**

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Consideration Of New Refuse Collection System For 2009 – City Administrator Grams reviewed the proposal from Veolia. Alderman Haacke requested that the cart system start in April and we appreciate that Veolia has made a modification to allow us to at least get through the winter. Change is always difficult. Alderman Haacke said our City has unique needs because of the alleys and hills and Veolia has tried to accommodate our citizens. He also recommended that our City Attorney review the contract. Alderman Vollmar said we're subject to the bidding process and the City bid proposals for carts and bags. The key factor was financial. Alderman Hudson said people living along alleys were against carts, as well as people with physical limitations, and both of those concerns have been solved. We're only getting one bid for the bags with no competition to make sure we get the lowest price. Alderman Neumyer said we weighed the

- decisions and understand the problems and the bottom line was the cost. Alderman Larson said he shared the comments of the other aldermen and 1) it sounds like it's inevitable and 2) a 40% increase in recycling in additional rebates that we get back from the State and helps us do that as a community. Alderman Babcock said as a member of the Finance Committee he has no other option but to vote for the carts and a 40% increase in recycling reduces impact on landfills. Also because there was no competitive bidding, we only have no other choice but to take the cost savings. **MOTION BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN LARSON TO GO WITH THE PROPOSAL FROM VEOLIA FOR THE CART SYSTEM STARTING APRIL 1ST WITH REVIEW OF THE CONTRACT BY THE CITY ATTORNEY. Motion carried unanimously.** Mayor Huebner said that Veolia has helped us with our special needs and thanked them.
- B. Public Hearing On Special Assessments For The East Beutel Road, Meadow Court, East Norport Drive, North Lakeview Avenue And Wilson Avenue Road Construction Project. Mayor Huebner declared open the public hearing. Tracy Meyer, 1525 Meadow Court – Said she received a letter about putting in a storm sewer at the end of the driveway. Is this something different than the sump pump connection? Asked if she had to take care of connecting it herself? City Engineer Vanden Noven said she should come to the Engineering Office and he would answer her questions after the meeting. Randall Yokes, 171 E. Beutel Road – Said he shared the discharge of the sump pump with a neighbor so one connection was made. His neighbor agreed to share the expense. Is this possible? The City Attorney said this was billing question and staff will look at it. **MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HAACKE TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. Motion carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve Hours For Halloween "Trick Or Treating" – **MOTION BY ALDERMAN HAACKE SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK TO APPROVE "TRICK OR TREATING" HOURS AS OCTOBER 26TH FROM 4-7 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.**
- B. Approve Closing Of Streets For Port High School Homecoming Parade – **MOTION BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN VOLLMAR TO APPROVE CLOSING OF STREETS FOR THE PORT HIGH SCHOOL HOMECOMING PARADE FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3RD AT 4:00 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.**
- C. Approve The Closing Of Parking Lanes On E. Main Street And Franklin Street For The Harvest At The Market, September 27th – **MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN LARSON TO APPROVE CLOSING OF PARKING LANES ON E. MAIN STREET AND FRANKLIN STREET FOR THE HARVEST AT THE MARKET, SEPTEMBER 27TH. Motion carried unanimously.**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS – Everyone is invited to help at Possibility Playground.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPERANCES

ADJOURNMENT – **MOTION BY ALDERMAN NEUMYER, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN LARSON TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL AT 9:04 P.M. Motion carried unanimously.**