

**MINUTES
CITY OF PORT WASHINGTON
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
July 7, 2009**

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 Mike Ehrlich, Jim Vollmar, Burt Babcock, Tom Hudson, David Larson and Dan Becker. Also present: City Administrator Mark Grams, City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven, City Planner Randy Tetzlaff, and City Attorney Eberhardt. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited.

Mayor Huebner reported that there will be no Closed Session at the end of the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve Minutes of the Previous Meetings – June 16, 2009 and June 30, 2009
- B. Operator's License Applications – James Blick, Joan J. Meyer
- C. Renewal Operator's License Applications – Diane G. Greene, Ronald Keller, Lisa B. Pauly, Marcia K. Perry, Jamie L. Price, Paul L. Jerdee, Andrew L. Wegner
- D. Original Combination "Class B" Retailer's License (Tavern) – Deano's Portside Pub & Grille, LLC (James Blick) 301 E. Pier Street
- E. Cabaret License – Deano's Portside Pub & Grille, LLC (James Blick) 301 E. Pier Street
- F. Temporary Class "B" Retailer's License Applications (Picnic) – Port Washington Yacht Club/430 N. Lake St./July 18, 2009 (Fish Day), Port Washington Lions Club/Fish Day Grounds/July 18, 2009 (Fish Day)
- G. Temporary Class "B"/"Class B" Retailer's License Application (Picnic) – Christ The King Lutheran Church/Veteran's Park/Band Shell/The Port Washington Community Chicken Roast (July 19, 2009)
- H. Approve Temporary Bartender's License Applications – Christ The King Lutheran Church-Kevin H. Rudser, Jennifer L.R. Rudser, Port Washington Lions Club-Marc A. McFadden, Ralph A. Schmit, Steven K. Hansen, Carl W. Wegner, III, Jeffrey S. Boss, Port Washington Lions Club-Lions Fish Derby/Fest/July 31, August 1-2, 2009-David G. Mueller, Gerald F. Bley, Marc A. McFadden, Lawrence R. Caro, James R. Herman, Merlin J. Mueller

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

MAYOR'S BUSINESS – None

OFFICERS'/STAFF REPORT

- A. City Administrator Grams reported that as it stands now, we would be able to avoid a second meeting in July unless something comes up.
- B. Update On Projects:
 - 1. Public Restrooms In Upper Lake Park And Veteran's Park – City Engineer Vanden Noven reported that since the last meeting, there was somewhat of a delay with the restroom in Upper Lake Park. There was a misunderstanding between the architect and Possibility Playground in putting in the glazed tiles on the building that the children made. The confusion was about the number of these tiles going into the brickwork. The building had to be redesigned and there was a two-week delay. The good news is the mason is back on site and most of the brickwork is done. We're probably looking at a minimum of another 4-6 weeks to finish the building. In Veteran's Park the last of the utility relocations take place tomorrow. The contractor is ready to go after Fish Day.

2. Update on 2009 Street Improvement Projects – The St. Mary’s Hill road reconstruction project is on schedule. City Engineer Vanden Noven said that he would anticipate the majority of water main should be done this week and next week the storm sewer work. Streets around the school should be done before Labor Day.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES – Linda Nenn, 1859 Parknoll – She had concerns with the proposed work to be done in the area of the Light Station. She understands that the plan was to put sidewalks on both sides of the street and is wondering what’s going on? She said we already lost 90% of our historic views as well as 100% of tours to the Light Station. Tour companies called and said it is a lovely place, but most of the elderly people can’t climb up to see everything. She asked what is so important about having double sidewalks when there will not be parking available on both sides because the street is being narrowed? In conclusion, she said she is just disappointed. Again, we’ve got a unique place up there, but she wishes somebody other than a few think so. Alderman Larson asked what is the sidewalk situation about the Light House? City Engineer Rob Vanden Noven said there would be sidewalk on both sides of the street on Powers Street. The DPW took out all the brush – but no trees. The guardrail was taken out in order to make room for a 4 ft. sidewalk. Instead of having it being placed on a retaining wall with a footing and expensive railing, we’re going to have a 4 ft. walkway and a 3-1 taper. Also for safety purposes on Johnson Street, you do need to have a guardrail, curb and gutter, which would serve as your barrier between the street and falling over the edge. The City Engineer thinks it’s a safer situation and aesthetically will be more pleasant. He said in designing this area, he was trying to follow the plan according to what the Light House staff wanted to see done.

COMMITTEES

A. Finance and License Committee

1. Resolution 2009-20 (Preliminary Resolution To Levy Special Assessments Against Benefiting Properties For Improvements To Sunset Road) – MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK TO APPROVE RESOLUTION 2009-20. **Motion carried.** 5 ayes and 1 nay (Alderman Vollmar)
2. Discuss Creation Of Downtown TIF District – Alderman Hudson reviewed some of the plans to create a downtown Tax Increment District and reported that the Committee is recommending approval to go forward. Discussion centered on the potential borders of the TIF District. City Administrator Grams said in creating a TIF District, we looked at properties downtown where we felt there would be improvements made to it. The future TIF District could include Smith Bros. and Lueptow’s as well as several City parking lots and alleys and Harborview Lane. City Planner Tetzlaff said we started with recommendations of the consultant Ruckert & Mielke to assist in developing the creation of a Tax Incremental District with those projects that we feel have the most potential and as well as getting cost projections. The plan would be prepared on the conservative side. In other words, we would probably underestimate the private sector improvements that would be made and we might overestimate the cost that we make. Alderman Ehrlich asked if the lot by the Pebble House is public and could that be included in the plan? City Administrator Grams said we could include the alleyway and the cleaners. Mayor Huebner said with some of the public improvements we have on board, creating a TIF District would help spur development as well as help the City retain the businesses already in the downtown area. The proposal will be

reviewed by the Plan Commission at their next meeting. MOTION BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HUDSON TO APPROVE THE CREATION OF A DOWNTOWN TAX INCREMENT DISTRICT AND INCLUDE E. GRAND AVE., THE CLEANERS AND PEBBLEHOUSE PARKING LOT. **Motion carried.** 5 ayes and 1 abstain (Alderman Vollmar)

3. Discuss Budget Guidelines For Preparation Of 2010 City Budget – Alderman Hudson reported that we are starting budget preparation for the 2010 City Budget. At this time we are trying to keep a close tab on what's going on in the State and how that's going to affect us. City Administrator Grams reviewed his memo on preparation of the 2010 Budget saying that this budget will be a difficult one based on several factors including revenue declines (investment earnings and building permits). We hope to meet all State budget goals of remaining eligible for the State Expenditure Restraint Program and meeting the State levy limit of 3%. By starting early in the budget process, if we have to make adjustments, we'll have time.
4. Consider Special Assessment Payment Plan For Trudy, LLC – MOTION BY ALDERMAN HUDSON, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN BECKER TO PROCEED WITH THE SPECIAL ASSESSMENT PAYMENT PLAN FOR TRUDY, LLC AS DESCRIBED IN THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S MEMO. **Motion carried unanimously.**

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Update On Repairs To Water Park – City Administrator Grams reported that the final bill from Badger Swimpools for all repairs to the Water Park is \$22,962.18. The pool is open and is operating fine.
- B. Update On Port Harbor Investment Building, 122 N. Franklin Street – City Administrator Grams said that the Port Harbor Investment Building was inspected by our Building Inspector Dennis Wiese and Mr. Gary Dickerson from Beeler Construction, Inc. on July 2nd. Dennis took a lot of pictures of the inside of the building so we have good documentation. We should have an inspection report and final repair costs for the building at the next Council Meeting.
- C. Update Of DPW Union Posting – Dave Ewig, Water/Street Superintendent, said there were five postings. These are all lateral moves. The final vacancy is the 3rd Shift Water Treatment Plant Operator. The starting pay would be \$5.09 less than the current 3rd shift plant operator. By having a new plan operator for the first two years, the savings that would be recognized is \$7,300.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve Drug & Alcohol Testing Policy For Shared Ride Taxi Program – MOTION BY ALDERMAN BABCOCK, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN EHRLICH TO APPROVE THE DRUG & ALCOHOL TESTING POLICY FOR THE CITY'S SHARE RIDE TAXI PROGRAM. **Motion carried unanimously.**
- B. Request To Vacate A Portion Of Alley Between Washington And Main Streets, West Of Milwaukee Street – MOTION BY ALDERMAN BECKER, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN EHRLICH TO PROCEED WITH THE VACATION OF THE EASTERN HALF OF THE ALLEY THAT IS WEST OF MILWAUKEE STREET AND BETWEEN MAIN AND WASHINGTON STREETS CONTINGENT ON THE PROPERTY OWNERS COMING FORWARD WITH THE NEIGHBOR'S CONSENT. **Motion carried unanimously.**

FORTHCOMING EVENTS – A reminder of the public hearing with the State Railroad Commission to be held on Wednesday, July 15 at 10:00 a.m. in the Lower Level Conference Room at City Hall. Alderman Hudson said the Garden Walk is this Saturday, July 11th from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Fish Day is Saturday, July 18th. Mayor Huebner challenged the Council after one of the next meetings to go out and mini-golf and help one of the local businesses.

PUBLIC COMMENTS/APPEARANCES – Linda Nenn, 1859 Parknoll – A request from residents is to please speak louder because people can't hear Council Members when they talk. With this proposed TIF District, you are very obviously targeting all properties currently for sale or having trouble being sold. What does that say to someone new coming in and wanting to buy one of the buildings next to the layout in the TIF District? How much assessed valuation will be involved in the TIF that will affect my tax rate down the road as far as that tax money not going to pay for my part of public services? Also she wanted to clarify something that was said. The President of the Historical Society did give her nod to the proposal that you showed her. However, it was not the proposal that you showed Rick Smith and myself. I am not speaking as the Board of Directors. I want to be very clear on that.

Consider Proposed Labor Agreement With AFSCME Local 108 DPW Unit – MOTION BY ALDERMAN BECKER, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN HUDSON TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED LABOR AGREEMENT WITH AFSCME LOCAL 108 DPW UNIT. **Motion carried unanimously.**

ADJOURNMENT – MOTION BY ALDERMAN BECKER, SECONDED BY ALDERMAN LARSON TO ADJOURN THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL AT 8:55 P.M. **Motion carried unanimously.**