Present: Kramer, Luskey, Miller, Pape, Peabody, Schraeder, Schueler, Stoeberl. Brockman arrived at 7:15 p.m.
Absent: None
Others: City Administrator Barg, City Attorney Wurtz, Public Works Drake, Police Chief Lukoski

Mayor Kramer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Pastor Don Deike gave the invocation.

**Public communications and comment – none**

**Presentation – LEGO Team (Pedestrian Safety Project)**
Six Ripon Middle School students and their advisor (Kat Griffith) made a brief presentation outlining the importance of pedestrian safety, and requested the City’s support for a new project addressing this issue. The Council thanked this group and directed the matter to Police Chief Lukoski for review and recommendation at the February 9th Council meeting.

**Resolutions recognizing Police Captain Stieber and Mayor Kramer**
Schraeder moved and Luskey seconded a motion commending Captain Stieber and Mayor Kramer for their outstanding service to the community. Motion carried 7-0.

Brockman moved and Luskey seconded a motion to approve the two resolutions as presented. Motion carried 8-0.

**Comments from Mayor Kramer to the Council for his final Council meeting**
Mayor Kramer read a statement summarizing his thanks to the Council, staff and others for their support and hard work during his 6 ½ years as mayor, and challenging everyone to continue moving forward on some important issues facing the community.

(At 7:24 p.m. a short break was taken for refreshments and visiting with Police Captain Stieber and Mayor Kramer, Kramer then reconvened the meeting at 7:41 p.m.)

**Consent calendar**
Schraeder moved and Luskey seconded a motion to approve the consent calendar, except for #2, #4 and #5. Motion carried 8-0.

After discussion regarding the possible impact on residential developers, Schueler moved and Brockman seconded a motion to approve an ordinance requiring sidewalks to be constructed in new subdivisions at the same time that street, water and other infrastructure improvements are built. Motion carried 7-1, with Luskey opposed.

After clarification on certain provisions, Schueler moved and Stoeberl seconded a motion to approve an ordinance amending Chapter 12.68 of the Ripon City Code concerning possession of firearms to bring the City’s requirements into compliance with a recent ruling by the State’s Attorney General. Motion carried 8-0.
After discussion, Schraeder moved and Miller seconded a motion to accept staff’s request to withdraw a proposed resolution increasing the fee for “Class A” intoxicating liquor licenses from $200 to $250, and agreeing that this issue will not be revisited during 2010. Motion carried 8-0.

With these motions, Council approved the following items.

1. Reports from standing committees and staff
   a. Fire District – September 10th, October 6th, November 3rd, December 1
   b. Historic Preservation minutes – November 2nd
   c. Plan Commission minutes – November 18th, December 16th
   d. Common Council minutes – November 23rd (2 sets) & December 18th
   e. Park & Recreation Committee minutes – December 2nd
   f. Ripon Public Library Board minutes – November 24th
   g. Loan Review Board minutes – December 21st
   h. Ripon Taxi - November
   i. Building Inspector’s report – November, December
   j. Public Works report – November, December
   k. EMS report – November, December
   l. Police Department report – November, December
   m. Fire District report – November, December
   n. Senior Center report – November, December
   o. City Administration reports
      1. Treasurer’s report – November, December
      2. Budget report – November, December
      3. Check register – November, December

2. Ordinance – amend Chapter 22.10.030 (sidewalk construction)
   (Staff note: On November 23rd, the Council directed that the City Attorney prepare an ordinance requiring developers of residential subdivisions to install sidewalks at the same time as all other infrastructure, unless the Council grants an exception. Staff recommends approval of the attached ordinance.)

3. Ordinance – amend Chapter 13.20.030 (declaration of “snow emergency”)
   (Staff note: Prior to the snowstorm of December 8-9, staff discovered that the City didn’t have a mechanism to require that vehicles be removed from streets for effective plowing. The attached ordinance grants this authority to the mayor pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes, Chapter 166.23. Staff recommends approval.)

4. Ordinance – amend Chapter 12.68 (possession of firearms)
   (Staff note: The State Attorney General ruled that the open carrying of firearms cannot be regulated under current statutes, and that prosecuting these cases as “disorderly conduct” is unconstitutional. Upon reviewing Chapter 12.68 of the City Code, the City Attorney recommends adopting the attached ordinance to allow firearms possession, subject to the restrictions of private landowners.)

5. Agreement for cable TV programming services – Video Age Productions, Inc.
   (Staff note: The City contracts with Video Age to produce cable programs. The Cable TV Advisory Committee recommends approving the attached agreement for 2010 under the same terms as 2009, with addition of a clause on streaming video rights. Staff finds this agreement acceptable, and recommends approval.)

6. Right-of-way dedication – Steve/Jenny Machkovich (CSM for Agnesian)
   (Staff note: Last year, the City’s Plan Commission approved a Certified Survey Map carving out a 3-acre parcel for the new Agnesian clinic. Because the CSM included right-of-way dedication for new streets off Highway 23 and Douglas Street, Council approval is needed, but this never occurred. Staff recommends approval of the right-of-way dedication shown on the attached CSM.)
Ordinance - Establishing standards and guidelines for tree preservation
Following discussion, Schueler moved and Miller seconded a motion to grant conceptual approval to an ordinance modifying the City’s requirements regarding tree preservation, provided that staff and the city attorney revise the language regarding the “forester” position, such that it’s clearly advisory to the public works director. Motion failed 5-3 with Schueler, Miller and Pape voting in favor.

Schraeder moved and Peabody seconded a motion directing staff and the city attorney to work with Mr. Sakrison to re-work the portions regarding the forester position, put the proposal into the City’s standard ordinance format, and place this on the Council agenda for approval on February 9th. Motion carried 7-1, with Luskey opposed.

Agreement to allow use of sidewalk for outdoor seating - Roadhouse Pizza
Schraeder moved and Miller seconded a motion to allow Roadhouse Pizza to use a portion of sidewalk in front of its business for outdoor customer seating, subject to a use agreement, “hold harmless” agreement, and certificate of insurance. Motion carried 7-0.

Right-of-way dedication – second CSM for East Town Development
Pape moved and Peabody seconded a motion to accept dedication of two sections of right-of-way shown on a CSM to carve off three lots totaling approximately 15 acres from a 151-acre development site located south and east of Highway 23 and Douglas Street. Motion carried 8-0.

Ordinance – amending Chapter 18.28.110 (dangerous/abandoned signs)
Luskey moved and Brockman seconded a motion to approve an ordinance requiring that all signs related to businesses ceasing operation must be removed within 45 days of the close of business. Motion carried 8-0.

Staff report – addressing room tax revenues and community promotions budget
After a brief presentation by Barg, Schraeder moved and Stoeberl seconded a motion to approve staff’s proposed plan for addressing an anticipated $16,600 shortfall of room tax revenues in 2010 as follows:
- Reduce allocations to Chamber ($3,000) and Main Street ($2,000)
- Solicit contributions for 4th of July fireworks ($2,000)
- Assign pro-rated portion of shortfall to benefiting TIDs ($3,600)
- Take funds from contingency to cover balance ($6,000)

Motion carried 8-0.

Review concerns regarding the City’s snowplowing policies and procedures
Brief discussion occurred on snowplowing policies and procedures, based largely upon concerns raised during the December 9th snowstorm. Members agreed that the public works department has generally done a very fine job of clearing the streets during and following snow events.

Proposed restructuring of Community Development Authority
Schraeder moved and Pape seconded a motion to endorse proposed bylaws changes for the Community Development Authority and to refer these to CDA for their review and approval. Motion carried 8-0.

Proposed solicitation of possible candidates for position of City Attorney
Luskey moved and Schraeder seconded a motion directing that no efforts be made to solicit candidates for the position of city attorney and that the matter be considered closed at this time. Motion carried 8-0.

Elect acting Council President to replace Councilmember Miller
Brockman moved and Schraeder seconded a motion to elect Schraeder as acting Council President so someone is authorized to assume the role of acting Mayor, if acting mayor Miller is unavailable at some point. Motion carried 7-0, with Schraeder abstaining.

**Mayor’s communication and appointments** –
Pape moved and Luskey seconded a motion to approve committee appointments proposed by Mayor Kramer, subject to acceptance by appointees. Motion carried 8-0 with this action, the Council approved the following appointments.
- Board of Zoning Appeals – David Sakrison and Marv Stark - terms ending 12/31/12
- Historic Preservation – Ryan Prellwitz replacing Billy Hutton – term ending 10/31/12
- Library Board – Julie Mathias, Jane Schueler, Bill Woolley – terms ending 6/30/12
- Loan Review Board – Jim Werch – no specified term
- Park & Recreation – Howard Hansen – term ending 4/30/12
- Ripon Medical Center – Jeff Bumby – term ending 10/31/12

**Agenda items for future Council meetings**
Mayor Kramer asked that the January 25th agenda include appointing a team to study options regarding assuming ownership of Russell Manor in November 2011 and to make a recommendation to Council.

With no further business before Council in open session, Brockman moved and Luskey seconded a motion to adjourn to closed session under Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(e) “Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session”
- RE: Request to modify terms of lease for City-owned property
- RE: Possible new developer’s agreement for TIF District #7

Adjourn to closed session under Wisconsin Statutes 19.85(1)(g) “Conferring with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written evidence concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved”
- RE: Possible litigation involving another governmental jurisdiction

Motion carried 8-0. Kramer declared the meeting adjourned to closed session at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Barg, City Administrator