

**COMMON COUNCIL MEETING**  
**January 8, 2013**

Present: Schraeder, Peabody, Werch, Hansen, Klein, Miller, Will

Absent: Brockman, Becker

Others: City Administrator Rich, City Attorney Wurtz, Public Works Director Drake, Police Chief Lukoski, City Clerk Schommer

Will called meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance/Invocation – Rev. Gary Miller

**Approval of agenda**

Motion made by Schraeder, second by Peabody to approve agenda as presented. Motion carried.

**Public communications and comment**

No one from the public came forward to address council. Will recognized and thanked high school students in the audience for attending the council meeting.

**Consent calendar**

Motion made by Peabody, second by Hansen to approve consent calendar. Motion carried. With this motion the following items were approved.

1. Reports from standing committees and staff
  - a. Historic Preservation minutes – December 4<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Common Council minutes – December 11<sup>th</sup>
  - c. Ripon Taxi – November
  - d. EMS report – December & Annual report
  - e. Fire District report – December
  - f. Police Department report – December-will be distributed at mtg.
  - g. Public Works report – 2012 Accomplishments
  - h. Senior Center report – December
  - i. City Administration reports
    - Treasurer’s report – December
    - Budget report – December
    - Check register – December
2. Resolution – writing off certain uncollectible sewer, water and A/R accounts (Staff note: Periodically, staff brings forth certain sewer and water and A/R accounts deemed uncollectible by City staff and the City Attorney. Staff recommends approval of the attached resolution writing off one account in the amount of \$120.00.)

**Action Item**

Accept the resignation of City Councilmember Aaron Becker and discussion on the process for filling the resulting vacancy.

Motion made by Peabody, second by Werch to accept the resignation of City Councilmember Aaron Becker. Motion carried. Will thanked Becker for running for office and the time he spent on council. Rich outlined the procedure to appoint a candidate to fill Becker’s position until the first Tuesday in April, 2014, where the seat for that position would be placed on the ballot to fill the remainder of Becker’s term. Rich explained the city will advertise for candidates interested in filling Becker’s seat for 2 weeks; residents of District 1 should submit their names for consideration to the City Administrator by January 25, 2013; staff verifies residency of candidate; council will review applications; at the January 25, 2013 council meeting candidates will be given 3 minutes to speak as to why they would make a good

council member, and council will vote by secret ballot. New council member takes office effective February 1, 2013. Werch commented that anyone interested in running for the position and has questions should contact one of the current council members, City Administrator or the Mayor.

### **Discussion Items**

#### **Community garden**

Rich explained results of two surveys, Ripon Commonwealth survey and City of Ripon survey, to council. Klein expressed disappointment in number of citizens who took the surveys and will not pursue subject until item warrants more discussion.

### **Project updates & staff reports**

Hansen inquired if the lighting situation at the Union Street crosswalk had been fixed. Drake stated that Alliant Energy turned the one light so it would be more effective and Ripon College has added lighting. Rich stated a tentative date for the 2013 Board of Review has been established, June 6, 2013 and if the date causes conflict with the board members they should contact her. Two members also need to become certified before the Board of Review can convene.

### **Mayor's communications and appointments**

No Mayoral appointments at this time. Will again thanked Becker for his time served on the council. Will shared that Howard Stibb, President of the local snowmobile club called to thank the council for allowing a snowmobile trail to cross on the west side of the city. Because of this, snowmobilers from Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Upper Michigan are using the trails and by word of mouth telling others what nice trails Ripon and Berlin areas have. Will thanked Howard Hansen for his many hours he worked getting the skating rink up and going. Hansen in turn thanked his son, Casey, for his help.

### **Agenda items for future Council meetings**

Klein thanked William Wallner, Tina Bloch, Gary Durkee, Bret Henning, Karen Engel, Gene Reisen, Gordie Crump, Desiree Bongers and Phil Busse for their years of service.

Adjourn to closed session under WI Statutes 19.85(1)(e) "Deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session."

RE: Extension of Ripon Medical Center, Inc. Lease

Council will also review minutes from the closed session on 12/11/2012 for accuracy.

Motion made by Peabody, second by Klein to adjourn and go into closed session. Motion carried.

With no further business in open session, Will declared meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

Ann Schommer, City Clerk