

**ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL
March 15, 2011**

The Common Council of the City of Richland Center, Wisconsin, met in the Council Room of the municipal building at 450 S. Main Street on Tuesday, March 15, 2011 at 7:30 P.M., Mayor Larry D. Fowler presiding. Alderpersons Marie Rakow, Susan Fruit, Lester Parker, Jay Buchanan Mueller, Steve Deets, Judy Shireman, Bill Kloehn and Lorna Dilley present. Mayor Fowler ascertained from the Clerk that the meeting was properly noticed.

Motion by Dilley, second by Fruit to waive the reading of the minutes of the last meeting (March 1st) in lieu of printed copies and to approve the same. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ON ROUNDABOUTS ON HIGHWAY 14 EAST:

Mr. Ian Winger, Rob Winterton and Joe Johnson were present from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation in LaCrosse. Mr. Winger said every three months the DOT meets with the County for safety concerns on the State highway system within the County. Mr. Winger said that the Highway 14 East safety issues started about 18 years ago due to an incident in the intersection with Starlite Drive and at that time a signal was proposed. He said the DOT looks at what the traffic is doing in the area, pedestrian crossing, the number of vehicles, conflicting points, the number of turns, safety factors, and what meets the Federal guidelines. Mr. Winger said this has been set aside and brought back up several times but in 2009 a project was approved at the DOT to address the issues. He said the Federal financial assistance and guidelines designate what can and will be done on Hwy 14 East and at this time it warrants roundabouts with a median in the middle. Mayor Fowler asked if there were any other options to meet the Federal regulations and Mr. Winger said there were none. Mayor Fowler said he has received many calls from truck drivers with their concerns of taking both lanes in the roundabouts. Mr. Winterton said the roundabouts proposed are larger and designed to accommodate larger trucks. Mayor Fowler then asked why a stop light could not be installed and why the median could not have breaks for left turns. Mr. Winger replied that if there is one break in the median it is detrimental and every business wants the break where their business is located. He said the Federal regulations do not warrant a stop light. He said the project is scheduled for 2014 from the intersection of Peebles Drive to Hwy O and will involve 3 roundabouts. He said the DOT will not be picking up the pavement and reconstruct the road in between the roundabouts. Alderperson Parker asked if the lift station would be impacted and the answer was that it would be with the preferred location of a roundabout but there are a couple of other options to consider. Alderperson Shireman said it does not seem to matter what the area residents want and the DOT will do the project anyway. Mr. Winger said the DOT has the responsibility of traffic safety for the state and they use their resources for the best approach to a situation. He said they do listen to the residents but Federal regulations apply and if a different approach is chosen there is no financial assistance from the Federal Government. Mr. Winger mentioned that any work done outside of the right-of-way is the financial responsibility of the City but the entire project would depend on available funding. Mayor Fowler asked how business relocation works. Mr. Johnson said a property is appraised at the market value for the DOT to acquire it and there are separate

relocation funds to assist them moving to another location. He said the appraisal is done both before the project and after to determine damages. Mayor Fowler thanked them for coming.

CONSIDER CONCEPTUAL PLAN APPROVAL OF NEW COMMUNITY / SENIOR CENTER:

Mr. Bill Ryan from ADCI said the bid for survey work at the site chosen for the new building was awarded to Jewell & Associates and soil borings have been authorized. He said they are now fine tuning the floor plan of the building. He said there would be a 6000 square foot multi-purpose room with a curtain in the middle to separate it into two rooms if needed, there are plans for a storage area, offices, meeting rooms, a vending area, a warming kitchen, rest rooms and a senior center room of about 1700 square feet. Keith Behling from the audience asked what the timeline is for the project. Mr. Ryan said that if the floor plan is approved tonight, tomorrow they would start the design of the building and update the budget this week. He said there is a team consulting meeting scheduled for March 25th. He said on the 29th there is a meeting for the mechanicals, the design development could be approved on April 19th and construction documentation could begin April 20th along with submitting permits to the DNR on April 22nd and construction starting July 18th. Alderperson Deets asked what a warming kitchen was and Mr. Ryan said the kitchen is not intended to cook in but to bring in food prepared in advance to warm up. Motion by Rakow to accept and approve the concept plan as presented. Alderperson Mueller made the second and the motion carried.

PLANNING COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS:

CONSIDER CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION OF JOSH CLARY TO ALLOW FOR A CREMATORY TO BE LOCATED AT 26777 JELLAND DRIVE ACROSS FROM FORMER KOCH TRACTOR PROPERTY:

Mayor Fowler said that both Planning and the ETZ unanimously approved the permit. Motion by Parker, second by Mueller to approve the conditional use permit from Josh Clary for a crematory to be located at 26777 Jelland Drive. Motion carried 8-0.

CONSIDER CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION OF JAMES AND ANNIE EWING TO ALLOW A DAY CARE CENTER WITH UP TO 16 CHILDREN TO BE LOCATED AT 26380 MEADOWBROOK LANE:

Clerk Elliott said City Council approved a day care center under the residential-agriculture zoning in the ETZ to have up to 16 children with a conditional use permit. He said Planning and the ETZ both approved the permit by an 8-1 vote and no one in the audience was opposed. He said the Ewings will have to meet all state licensing and regulations to proceed with a day care center. Alderperson Mueller asked if the playground area would be fenced and the answer was that it will be fenced. Motion by Parker, second by Mueller to approve the conditional use permit for James and Annie Ewing to allow a day care center with up to 16 children, contingent on state approved plans. Motion carried 8-0.

FINANCE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

CONSIDER EMERGENCY LIGHTING AND FIRE EXTINGUISHERS FOR LIBRARY:

Terry Sime said he collected 4 bids from local electricians and the bids were discussed but not voted on at the Park Board meeting last night. He said there was a 5th bid turned in after the meeting that would not be considered at this time. Alderperson Deets said that Finance recommend to approve the bid from Miller Electric for \$3119.96 to be paid from the Library Outlay account and he made that his motion. Alderperson Dilley made the second and the motion carried 8-0.

Mr. Sime said that after looking at building codes, it was determined to replace 4 extinguishers and purchasing an additional 2 for the library. He said they are \$49.00 each for a total of \$294.00 and could be purchased with the remaining funds from the Library Outlay account which is what Finance recommended. Motion by Deets, second by Fruit to purchase 6 fire extinguishers for the library out of the Library Outlay account. Motion carried 8-0.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:

CONSIDER MUNICIPAL LICENSE – TREE CUTTING – BK CROW HILL BUILDERS:

Alderperson Shireman said it was recommended by Public Safety to approve the license and there was proof of insurance at the meeting. Motion by Fruit, second by Rakow to approve the tree cutting license to BK Crow Hill Builders. Motion carried 7-0 with Alderperson Kloehn abstaining.

CONSIDER USE OF TABULATORS FOR SPRING ELECTION – APRIL 5TH, 2011:

Clerk Elliott said he did not think tabulators would be needed but if it looks as though they will be needed he would like approval. Motion by Mueller, second by Shireman to approve the use of tabulators for the April 5th election if needed. Motion carried.

PAYMENT OF MONTHLY BILLS:

Alderperson Parker asked if the payment to M & I Bank was for a credit card and that there be a note in the future stating it is for a credit card charge. Motion by Mueller to pay the bills as presented. Alderperson Parker made the second and the motion carried 8-0.

MAYOR LARRY D. FOWLER: He said there is a DOT meeting from 5-7:00 p.m. on March 29th in City Hall. He said on Tuesday he was at the ribbon cutting for the Family Video store and he wished them well. He reminded everyone on March 23rd from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. there is the get real program at the campus where high school students are education on finance and life.

He said it is a great program. He said there would be a Personnel meeting at 4:00 p.m. on Thursday.

ALDERPERSON BILL KLOEHN: He said there will be an Airport meeting next Monday at 5:00 p.m. here in the small conference room.

ALDERPERSON MARIE RAKOW: She welcomed the new Chinese Restaurant and said they have been very busy.

POLICE CHIEF JOHN ANNEAR: He presented the Police Department's 2010 report that listed 2962 calls, 834 officer reports, and 386 criminal arrests. He said Lucas Clements was promoted to Lieutenant and is the 2nd in command. He stated that Officer Billy Jones received a life saving award. He said Lucas Clements and Daniel Pepich received letters of commendation for the TRACS program which is an electronic records system that they did a lot of work on. He said training is a priority as it produces good decision making skills and it reduces liability to the City. He said the department purchased a radio with a \$3400.00 grant, worked on the slow down campaign, is still working on the cable between the City and County buildings for shared data and utilizes Nixle to alert those that sign up for notices. He said people can sign up for Nixle on the City's or the County's web sites.

CITY CLERK / TREASURER JUDE ELLIOTT: He said the 2010 census information states the City has a population of 5184 and the County has 18,021. He said Public Safety will have to soon consider an amendment to the liquor ordinance to add one more license. He said Absentee Ballots are available, there will be a Planning meeting on March 31st and a Joint Utility / City Council meeting on April 5th. He said the auditors will be here next week.

ADJOURN:

Motion by Parker, second by Fruit to adjourn. Motion carried.
Minutes by Jude Elliott, City Clerk /Treasurer

Mayor, Larry D. Fowler

Attest:

City Clerk / Treasurer Jude Elliott