

**Common Council
of the City of Onalaska**

Tuesday, July 9, 2019

1

1 The Meeting of the Common Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 9, 2019.
2 It was noted that the meeting had been announced and a notice posted at City Hall.

3
4 Roll call was taken, with the following members present: Mayor Joe Chilsen, Ald. Tom Smith,
5 Ald. Dan Stevens, Ald. Boondi Iyer, Ald. Jim Olson, Ald. Kim Smith, Ald. Diane Wulf

6
7 Also Present: City Administrator Eric Rindfleisch, City Clerk Cari Burmaster, City Attorney
8 Sean O’Flaherty, Financial Services Director/Treasurer Fred Buehler, Human Resource Director
9 Hope Burchell, Planning Manager Katie Aspenson, Parks and Recreation Director Dan Wick,
10 Assistant City Engineer Kevin Schubert, Sergeant Shawn Colgan, Fire Chief Billy Hayes, City
11 Attorney Amanda Jackson.

12
13 **Item 2 – Pledge of Allegiance**

14
15 The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

16
17 **Item 3 – Rules of the City of Onalaska Common Council and its Sub Committees –**
18 **Harassment Free Forum**

19
20 Mayor Chilsen read the following: *“City Council, Committee, and Sub-Committee meetings shall*
21 *be conducted in a courteous manner. Citizens, Council, and Committee members shall be*
22 *allowed to state their positions in an atmosphere free of slander, insults, obscene remarks,*
23 *threats of violence, or for the use of the Common Council or any Committee meeting as a*
24 *platform for political positions. Sufficient warning may be given by the Sergeant of Arms at any*
25 *time during the remarks, and in the event that any individual shall violate the rules of decorum*
26 *heretofore set forth, such person may be cut off from further comment or debate.”*

27
28 **Item 4 – PUBLIC INPUT: (limited to 3 minutes/individual)**

29
30 Mayor Chilsen called for anyone wishing to provide public input.

31
32 **Deacon Frank Abnet**
33 **509 12th Avenue North**
34 **Onalaska**

35
36 *“I’m currently assigned to St. Pat’s in Onalaska, and I’m here tonight to share a prayer with you:*
37 *‘Dear Father, we thank you for the gift of this day, which you have so graciously given us.*
38 *Thank you for the many blessings you have given us in our world, our country, our state, our*
39 *city, and as individuals. We humbly ask tonight for your continued blessings on our world, our*
40 *country, the City of Onalaska, and all of us as your people. Guide us always in our decisions in*
41 *planning for the good of your people. God, hear our prayers and petitions, and bless us all this*
42 *day. Amen.’ ”*

Reviewed 7/11/19 by Cari Burmaster

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2

43

44 **Cathy Van Maren**
45 **2815 Highland Street**
46 **La Crosse**

47

48 “I’m a member of the board of the Coulee Region Sierra Club, and I’m also with a group called
49 La Crosse Area Transit Advocates. We have partnered with several other groups around the
50 state under the Coalition for More Responsible Transportation to highlight the importance of
51 public transportation in our state’s transportation mix. My main reason for coming tonight is to
52 invite you to our public transportation open house, which will be tomorrow from 4 to 6 p.m. at
53 the transit center in La Crosse. We’ll be talking about the new buses that are coming online.
54 There was just a little news report before I came here. We are getting electric buses for the MTU
55 system, and that will mean a great savings in cost, and a great savings in greenhouse gas
56 emissions going forward. We’ll also be talking about the numbers in the budget and why we
57 believe public transportation should be better funded at the state level. That’s one of the points
58 on this handout that CMRT provided.

59

60 I’d just like to talk briefly about a few groups that are affected by this. When we think about
61 public transportation, we may drive so we don’t really have to worry about it. But there are
62 groups that do have to take public transportation, and so the way things are now, their lives are
63 kind of restricted by, when does the bus go [and] where does the bus go? I’ve talked to young
64 people who would like to take a job at the ‘Y’ in Onalaska, for example, but they can’t really get
65 there via public transportation. I know someone who had to quit a job because her employer
66 asked her to work different hours [and] it didn’t fit with her bus schedule. She’s not a driver,
67 [so] she couldn’t do it. Then there are those of us who are choice riders. I drive and bike and
68 take the bus because I’m concerned about greenhouse gas emissions. If it’s easier for me to take
69 the bus someplace where the bus goes rather than where it doesn’t go, I’m not going to go where
70 the bus doesn’t go. That’s a consideration for employers, businessowners, and event managers.
71 Then there are actually transit tourists who go places where they have public transportation, and
72 that’s part of their vacation. There are young professionals who, study after study, show want to
73 live where there is public transportation available. They don’t want to own cars. All this to say,
74 it’s very important to have public transportation. I hope you can come to the open house. And if
75 not, I encourage you to take the public transit challenge, and that is, maybe you trip over the cat
76 tonight when you get home and you can’t drive your car for a week or a month. Try and get to
77 wherever you need to go via the bus and see how that works for you. Then see if we need to
78 work together to improve our public transportation. Thank you.”

79

80 **Dennis Bardelmeier**
81 **1008 Fair Meadow Way**
82 **Onalaska**

83

84 “I’m here to give my thoughts about the possible funding of the La Crosse Center by the City of

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85 Onalaska. My only thought or argument is that if the City of La Crosse has not funded the Omni
86 Center both in the past or in the present, I would think that we should take the same approach to
87 the La Crosse Center. I think the Omni Center is a very important asset to the whole community,
88 as the La Crosse Center is. But I think we should take care of what we've got here. If we passed
89 up on some project the Omni Center needed because we're giving \$10,000 to the La Crosse
90 Center, I think we would be remiss. Thank you for your consideration."

91

92 **Ward Keil**

93 **426 4th Avenue North, No. 4**

94 **Onalaska**

95

96 "I noticed a couple ladies smile over here; they say it's been awhile since I've been up here.
97 Alderperson [Kim] Smith, hello. The reason I am here is I heard – and I'm probably behind the
98 times a little bit – that [Police] Chief [Troy] Miller has stepped back [to being Assistant Police
99 Chief]. I just want to take my three minutes and put in my two cents worth. Onalaska was
100 fortunate to have someone like Chief Miller to step up and take charge in a difficult time and
101 situation when he did. He handled it professionally. He had Onalaska to have a superb police
102 department. As some of you may know, I deliver about 400 newspapers a night. I do cover a
103 fair share – or a little bit – of Onalaska, and I do see at least the third shift working. The City of
104 Onalaska can feel very well-served and protected because let me tell you they are doing their job,
105 and they are all over, without a doubt. I also would like to thank them for the job that they do.
106 With the Chief, another different situation appeared here not too long ago. Again, I think he also
107 handled it very professionally, and the City of Onalaska was fortunate to have him as Chief at
108 that time. I want to remind this Council the Police and Fire Commission and the Onalaska
109 community of the superb job that Chief Miller did. I want to thank him. I think the community
110 should thank him, and the community should also thank the Onalaska Police Department. Thank
111 you."

112

113 **Mike Benco**

114 **816 Windhill Street**

115 **Onalaska**

116

117 "I'm here to speak about local bus service to Onalaska as the budget season for next year
118 approaches. In the spirit of "Freedom to Independence: Transit Week of Action," which is
119 coming up, and I believe Alderperson Kim Smith will discuss this in Agenda Item 15, I'm here
120 to urge the Common Council to put the middle back in the No. 9 bus and extend the hours of
121 service later into the evening. The No. 9 bus, which serves Onalaska, does not run between
122 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. This cuts off service to residential and business areas of Onalaska in
123 the middle of the day. Reliable bus service doesn't just mean the buses run on time. It means
124 that they are available when people need them. That's why I urge the Council to consider
125 restoring service in the middle of the day. In addition, the last No. 9 bus leaves the north side
126 transfer point for Onalaska at about 5:25 p.m. This means that I cannot take the bus home from

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127 my south side work location. Although I have flexible hours in my office job, I would have to
128 leave work early in order to ride the bus home. I have to take multiple buses, and the transfer
129 point is after I take a bus from my work location. If the No. 9 had one more bus at the evening
130 end of its schedule, I could take the bus to and from work. The No. 9 bus serves a broad portion
131 of our city. Reinstating service in the middle of the day and extending service by one bus in the
132 evening would enable more people to ride to and from Onalaska. Thank you.”

133

134 Mayor Chilsen called three times for anyone else wishing to provide public input and closed that
135 portion of the meeting.

136

137 **Item 5 – PUBLIC HEARING: Approximately 7:00 P.M. (or immediately following Public**
138 **Input) to consider adoption of a Resolution to vacate and discontinue a portion of**
139 **Crestwood Lane, located in Section 1, Township 16, Range 7 West, City of Onalaska, La**
140 **Crosse County, Wisconsin (Resolution addressed under Non-Consent Agenda Item #13-A)**

141

142 Mayor Chilsen opened the public hearing and called for anyone wishing to speak in favor of the
143 adoption of a Resolution to vacate and discontinue a portion of Crestwood Lane, located in
144 Section 1, Township 16, Range 7 West, City of Onalaska, La Crosse County, Wisconsin.

145

146 Mayor Chilsen called three times for anyone wishing to speak in favor of the adoption of a
147 Resolution to vacate and discontinue a portion of Crestwood Lane, located in Section 1,
148 Township 16, Range 7 West, City of Onalaska, La Crosse County, Wisconsin and closed that
149 portion of the public hearing.

150

151 Mayor Chilsen called three times for anyone wishing to speak in opposition to the adoption of a
152 Resolution to vacate and discontinue a portion of Crestwood Lane, located in Section 1,
153 Township 16, Range 7 West, City of Onalaska, La Crosse County, Wisconsin and closed the
154 public hearing.

155

156 **Item 6 – REPORT FROM THE MAYOR:**

157

158 A. Letter regarding Virnig property, 514 Main Street, Onalaska

159

160 Mayor Chilsen told the alderpersons copies of the letter regarding the Virnig property from Patti
161 Virnig were included in their packets. Mayor Chilsen asked that either City Administrator
162 Rindfleisch or Sean to address the letter in writing to Patti Virnig, and he said he does not
163 believe there is any action to be taken at this time as action already has been taken.

164

165 B. Library Statistics

166

167 Mayor Chilsen reported that 19,936 passed through the library’s doors in June, and also that the
168 year-to-date total is 95,689. Fifty dollars in meeting room rentals was generated, and \$650 is the

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5

169 year-to-date total.

170

171 C. Appointments of Fran Finco and Patty Fitzpatrick to Police & Fire Commission

172

173 Mayor Chilsen told the alderpersons they have biographies of both Fran Finco and Patty
174 Fitzpatrick.

175

176 Motion by Ald. Wulf, second by Ald. Olson, to approve the appointments of Fran Finco and
177 Patty Fitzpatrick to the Police & Fire Commission.

178

179 On voice vote, motion carried.

180

181 D. Proclamation of Thanks to Sean O’Flaherty

182

183 Mayor Chilsen read the Proclamation of Thanks to Sean O’Flaherty and thanked Sean for his
184 12½ years of service to the City of Onalaska.

185

186 E. Proclamation Regarding Pastor Mark Clements

187

188 Mayor Chilsen read the Proclamation Regarding Pastor Mark Clements.

189

190 Motion by Ald. Stevens, second by Ald. Olson, to approve the Proclamation Regarding Pastor
191 Mark Clements.

192

193 On voice vote, motion carried.

194

195 Mayor Chilsen invited Police Sergeant Shawn Colgan to share with the Council the support
196 Pastor Clements has had for the Police Department.

197

198 Sergeant Colgan said Pastor Clements, as well as the Chaplain Organization, has invited all
199 officers from La Crosse County to an annual picnic at which all the food is donated and all the
200 families of law enforcement officers are invited. Sergeant Colgan also said Pastor Clements has
201 provided support by speaking with both officers and citizens after major incidents have occurred,
202 adding, “There’s always a representative available for us.”

203

204 F. Discussion and possible action of request from City of La Crosse Mayor Tim Kabat for
205 funding for the La Crosse Center expansion

206

207 Mayor Chilsen asked that this item be pushed back to the August 13 Common Council meeting.

208

209 Ald. Stevens asked Mayor Chilsen if there is a reason why he is requesting the delay.

210

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211 Mayor Chilsen said, “There is a political reason. It’s a timing reason.”

212

213 **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR APPROVAL AND/OR POSSIBLE ACTION FROM THE**
214 **FOLLOWING COMMITTEES/COMMISSIONS/BOARDS:**

215

216 All items listed under the consent agenda are considered routine and will be enacted by one
217 motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a council member requests
218 removal, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered in the
219 order of business in the non-consent agenda.

220

221 **Item 7 – Consent Agenda**

222

223 A. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting(s)

224

225 **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

226

227 B. Approve 2019 Omni Center Financials

228 C. Approve 2019 General Fund Financials

229 D. Approve bid for upcoming City of Onalaska financial audits to Hawkins Ash, CPAs

230 E. Authorization for Ehlers to assist in the preparation and analyze the Request for
231 Proposals for City Banking

232

233 **PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

234

235 F. Authorization to replace Police Officer

236 G. Approve changes to existing job description for Police/School Liaison Officer/GREAT
237 Instructor

238 H. Approve changes to Policy 2.01 EAP

239 I. Authorization for City Administrator to request quotes for a consultant to review the
240 grading, pay scales and overall compensation plan for non-union employees as part of the
241 Capital Improvement process for 2020

242

243 **JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

244

245 J. Approval of **Ordinance 1648-2019** to amend Title 10 Chapter 1 Section 27 of the Code
246 of Ordinances of the City of Onalaska relating to Parking Restrictions (Mason Street)
247 (Third and Final Reading)

248

249 **ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

250

251 K. Approval of Licenses for 7/10/2019-6/30/2020 for:

252 1. 2019-2020 Combination Class “B” Beer and Liquor License for J&KB

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- 253 HOLDINGS LLC, d/b/a Crooked Pint Onalaska, 9348 State Road 16,
254 Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650
255 2. 2019-2020 Class “B” Liquor Outdoor Venue License for J&KB
256 HOLDINGS LLC, d/b/a Crooked Pint Onalaska, 9348 State Road 16,
257 Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650. Approval of First Amendment to Library
258 Services Agreement
259 L. Approval of Change of Agent for Stoney Creek of La Crosse, 3060 South Kinney Coulee
260 Road, Onalaska to Shaun Lawson
261 M. Approval of Special Events permits for:
262 1. Clearwater Farm for 2019 Taste of Summer Event, September 7, 2019
263 2. Three Rivers Roleo, July 13-14, 2019 at the Great River Landing
264 3. National Night Out, Tuesday, August 6, 2019 from approximately 5-8
265 p.m. at the Quincy Street Park
266 4. Onalaska High School Homecoming Parade, September 13, 2019 from
267 approximately 2-3 p.m.
268 5. YMCA Kids’ Triathlon, Saturday, July 13, 2019 starting at YMCA,
269 Mason Street, Onalaska
270 N. Approval of Class B Picnic License for Clearwater Farm for 2019 Taste of Summer,
271 September 7, 2019
272

BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

- 273
274
275 O. Approval of chemical rehabilitation of well and gravel pack at Well #8 by Municipal
276 Well & Pump in the amount of \$29,530
277 P. Approval of Court Street lift station construction engineering services by Strand
278 Associates in the amount of \$24,300
279 Q. Approval of 2019 Urban Forestry Program Change Order #1 in the amount of \$5,472
280 R. Approval of fiber optic cable install along East Main Street and Theater Road by
281 Lemonweir Valley Telephone Company
282 S. Approval of State/Municipal agreement for State Trunk Highway 16 project (Project #
283 7575-00-01/71)
284

PLAN COMMISSION

- 285
286
287 T. Approval of a Certified Survey Map (CSM) submitted by Laura Olson on behalf of
288 Gundersen Clinic LTD, 1910 South Avenue, La Crosse, WI 54601 to reconfigure two (2)
289 parcels and create an outlot for Kinney Coulee Road South (6.66 acres) at 3015 Kinney
290 Coulee Road South, Onalaska, WI 54650 (Tax Parcels #'s: 18-3649-0 & 18-3650-0)
291 U. Approval of a Landscaping Plan for the construction of an auto dealership and service
292 center (Dahl Honda) at 2520 Midwest Drive / 384 Theater Road / N4375 Theater Road,
293 Onalaska, WI 54650 (Tax Parcel #'s: 18-3568-40, 18-3570-70, & 9-93-0)
294

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295 **UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

296

297 V. Approval of Shared Ride Financials

298 W. Approval to purchase 3 vehicles for the next two years at a cost of \$204,000 using a grant
299 of \$163,200 and 20% being local share of \$40,800

300

301 **PARKS & RECREATION**

302

303 X. Approve bid for installation of water line main in the Fire Department to Coulee Region
304 Mechanical at a cost not to exceed \$9,800

305 Y. Approve bid for City Hall parking lot sealcoating and lining to B&D Sealcoating at a cost
306 not to exceed \$5,900

307 Z. Approve bid for Omni Center concessions arena cabinets to Webstraurant Store at a cost
308 not to exceed \$15,044.12

309

310 **ROOM TAX COMMISSION**

311

312 AA. Approval of Financials

313 BB. Approval of statistics from Omni Center regarding hotel usage

314 CC. Approve 2018 State Room Tax report and methodology to be used on future
315 reporting

316

317 Motion by Ald. Wulf, second by Ald. Stevens, to approve the Consent Agenda, sans Item K-2.

318

319 On voice vote, motion carried.

320

321 **Non-Consent Agenda**

322

323 **Item 8 – RECAP ITEMS PULLED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA**

324

- 325 • Item K-2: Administrative Committee – Approval of Licenses for 7/10/19-6/30/2020 for:
326 2019-2020 Class “B” Liquor Outdoor Venue License for J&KB HOLDINGS LLC, d/b/a
327 Crooked Pint Onalaska, 9348 State Road 16, Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650. Approval of
328 First Amendment to Library Services Agreement

329

330 **Item 9 – FINANCE COMMITTEE**

331

332 A. Vouchers

333

334 Motion by Ald. K. Smith, second by Ald. Olson, to approve the vouchers expended since the last
335 Common Council meeting on June 11, 2019 in the amount of \$2,263,381.31.

336

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9

337 On voice vote, motion carried.

338

339 **Item 10 – PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

340

341 A. Review and consideration of reorganization of Omni Center staffing and filling positions

342

343 Motion by Ald. K. Smith, second by Ald. Iyer, to approve the reorganization of Omni Center

344 staffing and filling positions.

345

346 Ald. Stevens said both the Parks and Recreation Board and the Personnel Committee had
347 discussed changing the job description of the Sales Manager position to include some type of
348 incentive base as it is sales for a production-based position designed to generate revenue for the
349 Omni Center.

350

351 Mayor Chilsen asked Ald. Stevens if he is offering an amendment to the motion on the floor.

352

353 Ald. Stevens said, “At the time, I had requested from staff [to] maybe [present] some
354 alternatives. I had also suggested that we be able to proceed as planned for the current Sales
355 Manager position in an effort to fill the job, as is, through the remainder of the year, but then
356 leave the door open to alter it and have some sort of bonus compensation starting effective 2020.
357 Has there been any movement on that part?”

358

359 Hope said, “I think if we’re going to do something that is going to do a bonus or something like
360 that, I don’t think it should be part of a job description. I think that’s a direction that the Council
361 needs to give us separately from the job description. That’s certainly this group’s purview to do
362 so.”

363

364 Ald. Stevens asked, “If we approve the job description, as-is, today, would we be able to
365 effectively sometime this year change the compensation structure of that Sales Manager
366 position?”

367

368 Hope said, “As long as you’re not looking to do a commission, I think that’s fine. If you’re
369 looking to incentivize with a bonus, then I think there are opportunities to look at that at other
370 meetings.”

371

372 Ald. Stevens told Mayor Chilsen he will not offer an amendment at this time.

373

374 Ald. K. Smith said her motion is to approve the restructuring as it was presented at the July 3
375 Finance and Personnel Committee meeting, and she noted a discussion had occurred at that
376 meeting. Ald. K. Smith said the motion made and carried forward to the Common Council was
377 to approve it.

378

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379 Ald. Iyer asked if compensation may be added at a later date.

380

381 Mayor Chilsen said it may be added at a later date.

382

383 Ald. Iyer said that on Monday she and Ald. Wulf had met with Omni Center staff and told the
384 alderpersons she is “amazed by what they are putting in there.” Ald. Iyer also said she believes
385 the Council should support the Omni Center staff and invest in the facility “in every way we
386 can.” Ald. Iyer further stated she believes both the Sales Manager and Event Coordinator
387 positions should be filled immediately and that the process should not be delayed as the Omni
388 Center staff “is dealing with a lot.”

389

390 Ald. Stevens said, “I think it’s very important that we create the Sales Manager position and also
391 have a separate Event Coordinator. What we have noticed in the past is that when one person
392 had to do both jobs, they were effectively halved at doing each function. If we want somebody
393 to be selling the Omni Center and trying to raise the occupancy rate of the Omni Center as much
394 as possible, we need to have a person who is dedicated at doing that. It’s very important to have
395 a function that can focus on that full time. The problem we were running into is the same person
396 in the past was also responsible for [serving as a liaison for] the event. If you’re at an event at
397 the Omni Center on a weekend, that could tie up 20 hours right there, and that’s making it very
398 difficult to have somebody who has the time to do their job to do sales effectively. That’s where
399 they’re burning out, and that’s creating problems with attrition issues. I’m fully endorsing
400 creating the extra position.”

401

402 On voice vote, motion carried.

403

404 B. Approve changes to existing job descriptions and new job descriptions

405 1. Sales Manager (New Job Description)

406

407 Motion by Ald. K. Smith, second by Ald. Iyer, to approve the new job description for Sales
408 Manager.

409

410 On voice vote, motion carried.

411

412 2. Event Coordinator (New Job Description)

413

414 Motion by Ald. K. Smith, second by Ald. Olson, to approve the new job description for Event
415 Coordinator.

416

417 On voice vote, motion carried.

418

419 C. Review and consideration of authorization to fill any vacant Police Officer, Sergeant,
420 Lieutenant Firefighter/EMT or Firefighter/EMT positions budgeted for 2019 that may

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11

421 come up between now and the end of 2019

422

423 Motion by Ald. K. Smith, second by Ald. Iyer, to approve authorization to fill any vacant Police
424 Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant Firefighter/EMT or Firefighter/EMT positions budgeted for 2019
425 that may come up between now and the end of 2019.

426

427 Ald. K. Smith noted the motion the Finance Committee had approved July 3 was to fill a single
428 vacancy, and she said, "After further review after the meeting and discussion with Human
429 Resources, it was decided to expand this. These are positions that are already budgeted just due
430 to vacancies that have come up or we know will be coming up. It's nothing that will affect the
431 budget or any practice. This is just to be able to go ahead and fill the positions when vacancies
432 arrive."

433

434 On voice vote, motion carried.

435

436 **Item 11 – JUDICIARY COMMITTEE**

437

438 A. Approval of **Ordinance 1649-2019** to annex land located in the Southeast ¼ of the
439 Northwest ¼ in Section 10, Township 16 North, Range 7 West from the Town of Medary
440 to the City of Onalaska (Rockwood Annexation) (First and Second Reading)

441 B. Approval of **Ordinance 1650-2019** to rezone property located in Section 10, Township
442 16, Range 7 in the City of Onalaska, La Crosse County Wisconsin from Neighborhood
443 Business (B-1) to Light Industrial (M-1) (Dahl Dealership Rezoning) (First and Second
444 Reading)

445

446 Motion by Ald. T. Smith, second by Ald. Olson, to suspend the rules and give both Ordinance
447 1649-2019 and Ordinance 1650-2019 their First, Second, Third and Final Reading.

448

449 On voice vote, motion carried.

450

451 Motion by Ald. T. Smith, second by Ald. Wulf, to approve both **Ordinance 1649-2019** to annex
452 land located in the Southeast ¼ of the Northwest ¼ in Section 10, Township 16 North, Range 7
453 West from the Town of Medary to the City of Onalaska (Rockwood Annexation), and **Ordinance**
454 **1650-2019** to rezone property located in Section 10, Township 16, Range 7 in the City of
455 Onalaska, La Crosse County Wisconsin from Neighborhood Business (B-1) to Light Industrial
456 (M-1) (Dahl Dealership Rezoning) (both First, Second, Third and Final Reading).

457

458 On voice vote, motion carried.

459

460 **Item 12 – ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE**

461

462 A. Approval of Operator's Licenses as listed on report dated July 9, 2019

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463
464 Motion by Ald. Wulf, second by Ald. T. Smith, to approve the Operator’s Licenses as listed on
465 report dated July 9, 2019.

466
467 On voice vote, motion carried.

468
469 **The following item was pulled from the Consent Agenda, to be addressed at this time in the**
470 **Non-Consent Agenda.**

471
472 B. Approval of Licenses for 7/10/19-6/30/2020 for: 2019-2020 Class “B” Liquor Outdoor
473 Venue License for J&KB HOLDINGS LLC, d/b/a Crooked Pint Onalaska, 9348 State
474 Road 16, Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650. Approval of First Amendment to Library Services
475 Agreement

476
477 Ald. Wulf said Sean had suggested removing this item from the Consent Agenda as she assumes
478 “Approval of First Amendment to Library Services Agreement” should not be on the printed
479 agenda. The Common Council approved the First Amendment to the Library Services
480 Agreement at its June 11 meeting.

481
482 Motion by Ald. Wulf, second by Ald. K. Smith, to approve 2019-2020 Class “B” Liquor Outdoor
483 Venue License for J&KB HOLDINGS LLC, d/b/a Crooked Pint Onalaska, 9348 State Road 16,
484 Onalaska, Wisconsin 54650.

485
486 On voice vote, motion carried.

487
488 **Item 13 – PLAN COMMISSION**

489
490 A. **Resolution 33-2019** – Final Resolution to vacate and discontinue a portion of Crestwood
491 Lane in the City of Onalaska, La Crosse County, Wisconsin

492
493 Motion by Ald. T. Smith, second by Ald. Iyer, to approve Resolution 33-2019 – Final Resolution
494 to vacate and discontinue a portion of Crestwood Lane in the City of Onalaska, La Crosse
495 County, Wisconsin.

496
497 On voice vote, motion carried.

498
499 **Item 14 – UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

500
501 A. **Resolution 34-2019** – Authorizing the Direct Charge of Public Fire Protection

502
503 Motion by Ald. Stevens, second by Ald. Olson, to approve Resolution 34-2019 – Authorizing the
504 Direct Charge of Public Fire Protection.

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505

506 On voice vote, motion carried.

507

508 **Item 15 – ALDERPERSON KIM SMITH**

509

510 A. Freedom to Independence: Transit Week of Action July 7-14th

511

512 Ald. K. Smith noted Freedom to Independence: Transit Week is sponsored by The Sierra Club,
513 which is asking citizens either to utilize busing or speak to individuals who ride buses so they
514 learn more about the MTU public transportation system in this community. Ald. K. Smith said
515 La Crosse MTU Transit will hold a transit open house from 4-6 p.m. Wednesday at the Grand
516 River Transit Center in the City of La Crosse. There will be information pertaining to the new
517 electric buses, a new app informing riders the location of their bus in real time, information
518 pertaining to how to ride the bus, and how to read the schedule. There also is a commuter
519 calculator for individuals who utilize their own vehicles to commute to work so they may see
520 how much money they may save both in dollars and carbon emissions by utilizing a bus.

521

522 Ald. K. Smith said, “There are community members who have talked to me and others who are
523 concerned that the Onalaska/Holmen/West Salem Shared Ride service, which provides an
524 excellent service that we’ve been happy with for many years in our community ... But it is
525 limited, and it doesn’t meet the needs of all people. And our current busing strategy is also very
526 limited. I know we’ve struggled for years with balancing costs and service. The entire time I’ve
527 been on the Council we’ve looked at this again and again. I was on Council, and I did support
528 reducing the MTU services to what is referred to as ‘a donut hole’ because it leaves the middle of
529 the day empty. But that was around 10 years ago, and our community is changing. I’m asking
530 everyone to please take a moment, especially this week, to think about public transportation.

531

532 Our community is changing. Our society is changing. We can see the signs of it around with
533 large, multifamily residential complexes going up, densifying our community in some areas.
534 And also meeting some people who have come from larger cities, where they rely solely on
535 public transportation. They come here and think it’s very odd. There are also younger people in
536 our community who are thinking it’s just a better way of life not having your own car that you
537 take everywhere. When I reflect about myself, I think I’ve paid as much for a vehicle as what
538 some people make in an entire year of their annual income. I do think we need to just step aside
539 and look to the future. I can see a day where people don’t have their own personal vehicles.
540 Thank you.”

541

542 **Item 16 – COMMON COUNCIL REPORT**

543

544 A. Recognition of years of service for City Attorney Sean O’Flaherty

545

546 Ald. Wulf thanked Sean for his many years of service to the City of Onalaska and said, “I’ve

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547 always personally had a great comfort level when I've known you were going to be at meetings.
548 I've always felt we were in very good hands, and I will miss your presence at our meetings. I
549 will miss you."

550
551 Ald. K. Smith thanked Sean for his years of service to the City of Onalaska and said, "We've
552 really built a strong relationship with you over the years. I've learned so much about legal
553 things, about municipalities, and I've learned about interactions between not only our
554 community, but also our surrounding communities. I think there have been many times on
555 Council where he's definitely not only offered legal advice, but offered just good, sound advice
556 about relationships with our community neighbors and with our employees and different things
557 because it hasn't always been easy. There have been some very difficult times, and through it all
558 Sean has provided us with sound guidance. And for that I thank you."

559
560 Ald. Olson told Sean, "I want to thank you very much for all the advice you've given me in the
561 past and this Council, and your sincerity, your sense of humor, and the great wisdom that you
562 bring to us. It is greatly appreciated, and I will remember you forever. Thank you very much."

563
564 Ald. Stevens told Sean "good legal advice is priceless" and said, "Thank you for protecting the
565 city from liability, and from the Council doing crazy things. That just can't be understated."

566
567 Ald. T. Smith congratulated Sean and thanked him for all his support.

568
569 Ald. Iyer thanked Sean.

570
571 **Item 17 – CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

572
573 A. Review and consideration of the Release of Restrictive Covenant as submitted by Jansen
574 Dahl of CHASE 2010, LLC, 3819 Creekside Drive, Holmen, 54636, on behalf of Judith
575 Rockwood, N9495 Radcliffe Road, Mindoro, WI 54644 to facilitate the construction of
576 an auto dealership and service center at 384 Theater Road, Onalaska, WI 54650 (Tax
577 Parcel #18-3570-70)

578
579 Motion by Ald. T. Smith, second by Ald. Olson, to approve the Release of Restrictive Covenant
580 as submitted by Jansen Dahl of CHASE 2010, LLC, 3819 Creekside Drive, Holmen, 54636, on
581 behalf of Judith Rockwood, N9495 Radcliffe Road, Mindoro, WI 54644 to facilitate the
582 construction of an auto dealership and service center at 384 Theater Road, Onalaska, WI 54650
583 (Tax Parcel #18-3570-70).

584
585 Ald. K. Smith inquire about the timing of this item.

586
587 Katie said this is part of what is necessary in order to construct such a dealership. Katie further
588 explained there is a covenant that when the property was rezoned through La Crosse County,

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15

589 there had to be a rule that it only could be a garden center. Therefore, an automobile dealership
590 would not be allowed. Katie said, “The purpose of the city as the new zoning authority, as
591 you’ve previously done the First, Second, Third and Final Readings for the appropriate rezoning
592 and also for the annexation, this will remove that release, and they are currently under
593 consideration of a Conditional Use Permit to do the automotive dealership. It’s all being tied up
594 together, and we need this covenant released prior to the public hearing in consideration in the
595 next two weeks of the Plan Commission.”

596

597 Ald. Wulf asked Katie if the restrictive covenant had been recently discovered.

598

599 Katie told Ald. Wulf it had been discovered in the last couple of months. Katie also noted the
600 tax parcel this item is relating to is 9-93-0 and 18-3570-61 – not 18-3570-70, as stated on this
601 evening’s agenda.

602

603 Ald. K. Smith referred back to her original question and said, “The reason why is we had to
604 annex the property in first before we could remove the covenants. That’s really what my
605 question was.”

606

607 Katie told Ald. K. Smith yes and said the City of Onalaska is the new zoning authority.

608

609 On voice vote, motion carried.

610

611 **Item 18 – CLOSED SESSION**

612

613 To consider a motion to convene in Closed Session under Section 19.85(1)(e) of the Wisconsin
614 Statutes for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the
615 investing of public funds or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or
616 bargaining reasons require a closed session:

617

- 618 • IAFF, International Association of Firefighters, Local 127
- 619 • OPPA, Onalaska Professional Police Association
- 620 • SORD, Supervisory Officers Relation Division
- 621 • Negotiation strategy for outstanding municipal court tickets

622

623 If any action is required in Open Session, as a result of the Closed Session, the Council will
624 reconvene in Open Session to take the necessary action and/or continue on with the printed
625 agenda.

626

627 Motion by Ald. K. Smith, second by Ald. Olson, to convene in Closed Session.

628

629 On roll call vote: Ald. Kim Smith – aye, Ald. Boondi Iyer – aye, Ald. Dan Stevens – aye, Ald.
630 Jim Olson – aye, Ald. Tom Smith – aye, Ald. Diane Wulf – aye. In Closed Session.

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631
632 Motion by Alderperson Dan Stevens, second by Alderperson Jim Olson to adjourn from closed
633 session at 8:25 pm.

634
635 On roll call vote: Ald. Wulf – aye, Ald. Olson – aye, Ald. T. Smith – aye, Ald. K. Smith – aye,
636 Ald. Iyer – aye, and Ald. Stevens – aye. Motion carried 6-0.

637
638 Recorded by:

639
640 Kirk Bey