

Utilities Committee

Wednesday, February 3, 2021

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1 The Meeting of the Utilities Committee was called to order at 6:48 p.m. on Wednesday, February
2 3, 2021. It was noted that the meeting had been announced and a notice posted at City Hall.

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4 Roll call was taken, with the following members present: Ald. Jim Olson, Ald. Dan Stevens,
5 Ald. Diane Wulf, Village of Holmen Trustee Brandon Cain, Village of West Salem Trustee
6 Leroy Brown

7
8 Also Present: City Administrator Eric Rindfleisch, Mayor Kim Smith, Financial Services
9 Director/Treasurer Fred Buehler, City Engineer Jarrod Holter, Ald. Cari Burmaster, Paul
10 Woodward of Running, Inc., La Crosse Area Planning Committee Transportation Planner Jackie
11 Eastwood

12 **Item 2 – Approval of minutes from the previous meeting**

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15 Motion by Ald. Olson, second by Ald. Wulf, to approve the minutes from the previous meeting
16 as printed and on file in the City Clerk’s Office.

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18 On voice vote, motion carried.

19 **Item 3 – Public Input (limited to 3 minutes/individual)**

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21
22 Ald. Stevens called three times for anyone wishing to provide public input and closed that
23 portion of the meeting.

24 **Consideration and possible action on the following items:**

25 **Item 4 – MASS TRANSIT**

26 A. Shared Ride Transit

27 1. Financials (Justin Running or Paul Woodward/Fred Buehler)

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30 Paul reported the December 2020 statistics:

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- 35 • **West Salem Trips:** 585 (a decrease of 53 from December 2019)
 - 36 • **Holmen Trips:** 552 (a decrease of 457 from December 2019)
 - 37 • **Onalaska Trips:** 2,046 (a decrease of 913 from December 2019)
 - 38 • **Total Trips:** 3,183 (a decrease of 1,423, or 30.89 percent, from December 2019)
 - 39 • **MTU Passes:** 349 (a decrease of 249 from December 2019)
 - 40 • **Agency Trips:** 585 (a decrease of 405 from December 2019)
 - 41 • **Year-to-Date Trips:** 37,230 (a decrease of 16,853 from December 2019)
 - **Revenue:** \$153,450 (a decrease of \$65,658, or 29.97 percent, from December 2019)

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43 Paul noted there has been approximately a 30-percent reduction over the last five to six months.

44
45 Ald. Stevens said he assumes the decreases are primarily due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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47 Paul told Ald. Stevens he is correct and noted it has been very similar to all the systems Shared
48 Ride Transit operates in the state.

49
50 Fred noted he had included a recap of 2020 in committee members' packets and said Shared
51 Ride Transit had logged 4,325.91 fewer hours than the typical 31,604 hours. Fred said
52 \$119,005.78 less was issued to the provider based on a rate of \$27.51 per hour. Fred told
53 committee members he also had included a graph in their packets that shows ridership in 2020.

54
55 Motion by Ald. Olson, second by Ald. Wulf, to accept and place on file the Shared Ride Transit
56 Financials.

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58 On voice vote, motion carried.

59
60 B. MTU:

61 1. Transit Financials 4th Quarter Information (Adam Lorentz)

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63 Fred noted the City of La Crosse had sent him the document that appears in committee members'
64 packets. There were 38,124 City of Onalaska passengers in 2020, compared to 59,816 in 2019.
65 This represents a 36-percent decrease. Route 9 ridership decreased from 16,873 in 2019 to
66 12,247 in 2020. This represents a 27-percent decrease. Combined Route 5 and Route 8 ridership
67 decreased from 41,068 in 2019 to 27,240 in 2020. This represents a 34-percent decrease.

68
69 Motion by Ald. Wulf, second by Ald. Olson, to approve the MTU Transit Financials 4th Quarter
70 Information.

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72 On voice vote, motion carried.

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74 C. Holmen Transit Input (Holmen Rep.)

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76 No report.

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78 D. West Salem Transit Input (West Salem Rep.)

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80 No report.

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82 E. Onalaska Transit Input (Onalaska Rep.)

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Reviewed 02/05/2021 by Fred Buehler

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84 No report.

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86 **Item 5 – UTILITIES**

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88 No report.

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90 **Adjournment**

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92 Motion by Ald. Wulf, second by Ald. Olson, to adjourn at 6:56 p.m.

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94 On voice vote, motion carried.

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97 Recorded by:

98

99 Kirk Bey