

Utilities Committee

Wednesday, February 6, 2019

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1 The Meeting of the Utilities Committee was called to order at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February
2 6, 2019. 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. Jerry Every, Ald. Jim Olson, Ald.
5 Kim Smith, Village of Holmen Trustee Brandon Cain, Village of West Salem Trustee Leroy
6 Brown

7
8 Also Present: City Administrator Eric Rindfleisch, Financial Services Director/Treasurer Fred
9 Buehler

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

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

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16 On voice vote, motion carried.

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

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

22
23 **Consideration and possible action on the following items:**

24
25 **Item 4 – MASS TRANSIT**

26
27 a. Shared Ride Transit Financials (Justin Running or Jeff Burckhardt/Fred Buehler)

28
29 Fred reported the December 2018 Shared Ride statistics:

- 30
31
- 32 • **West Salem Trips:** 574 (a decrease of 5 from December 2017)
 - 33 • **Holmen Trips:** 1,101 (a decrease of 161 from December 2017)
 - 34 • **Onalaska Trips:** 2,877 (a decrease of 83 from December 2017)
 - 35 • **Total Trips:** 4,552 (a decrease of 249, or 5.19 percent, from December 2017)
 - 36 • **MTU Passes:** 561 (a decrease of 113 from December 2017)
 - 37 • **Agency Trips:** 1,009 (an increase of 71 from December 2017)
 - 38 • **Year-to-Date Trips:** 56,559 (a decrease of 2,150 from December 2017)
 - 39 • **Revenue:** \$194,405 (a decrease of \$8,447, or 4.16 percent, from December 2017)

40 Fred noted he also had graphed the final statistics showing ridership since the Shared Ride
41 Program began in 1994 in the City of Onalaska and included them in committee members’

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42 packets.

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44 Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Leroy, to accept the Shared Ride Transit Financials and place
45 them on file.

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47 On voice vote, motion carried.

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49 b. MTU Transit financials (Adam Lorentz)

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51 No report.

52

53 c. Holmen Transit Input (Holmen Rep.)

54

55 Brandon said he had discussed parking for Shared Ride Transit with the Village of Holmen
56 Board and told committee members, “We had a facility. We don’t have anything available that’s
57 ... Where the old library was at, we have that. That’s torn down. They’re welcome to park
58 there, but there’s no building. That’s all we have.”

59

60 d. West Salem Transit Input (West Salem Rep.)

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62 Leroy said he had spoken with Village of West Salem Administrator Teresa Schnitzler and told
63 committee members, “It wasn’t promising on the first pass, but I’ll check again.”

64

65 e. Onalaska Transit Input (Onalaska Rep.)

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67 No report.

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69 **Item 5 – UTILITIES**

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71 a. Update regarding the La Crosse Area Metropolitan Sewerage District

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73 City Administrator Rindfleisch said this item likely will be appearing on Utilities Committee
74 meeting agendas for some time. City Administrator Rindfleisch said, “The only update I can
75 give [is] if you recall, the last time we were still waiting from the DNR for a hearing to be
76 scheduled, which was to occur 30 days after they received that. We were able to at least confirm
77 from the DNR that ... They requested us to resubmit everything since, quite frankly, I think they
78 couldn’t locate it. We have done so. We still do not have a date on the 30 days yet. However, I
79 think progress is likely being made on reaching an agreement.”

80

81 City Administrator Rindfleisch referred to a recent La Crosse Tribune article in which City of La
82 Crosse Mayor Tim Kabat was quoted on some of the issues, including the fact it was a mistake
83 for La Crosse to waive its own hookup fees. City Administrator Rindfleisch promised to notify

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84 Utilities Committee members when the meeting with the Wisconsin Department of Natural
85 Resources has been scheduled.

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87 Ald. Every asked City Administrator Rindfleisch if he is the City of Onalaska's representative on
88 the La Crosse Area Metropolitan Sewerage District.

89

90 City Administrator Rindfleisch said the district has not been created yet, noting a hearing must
91 be held first. City Administrator Rindfleisch said all public members, including himself, will be
92 invited to speak at the hearing to determine whether or not the Wisconsin DNR creates the
93 district.

94

95 Ald. Every asked City Administrator Rindfleisch if he is the city's representative.

96

97 City Administrator Rindfleisch said he will serve as the city's representative.

98

Adjournment

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101 Motion by Ald. Smith, second by Ald. Olson, to adjourn at 7:07 p.m.

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103 On voice vote, motion carried.

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106 Recorded by:

107

108 Kirk Bey