

Utilities Committee

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

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1 The Meeting of the Utilities Committee was called to order at 6:49 p.m. on Wednesday, March 3,
2 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. Dan Stevens, Ald. Diane Wulf.
5 Village of West Salem Trustee Leroy Brown participated remotely. Ald. Jim Olson arrived with
6 the meeting in progress.

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

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13 Excused Absence: Village of Holmen Trustee Brandon Cain

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

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

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20 On voice vote, motion carried.

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

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24 Ald. Stevens called for anyone wishing to provide public input.

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26 **Kim Smith, City of Onalaska Mayor**
27 **436 Mayfair Place**
28 **Onalaska**

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30 “I received this call. I was contacted due to being the Mayor. A person was calling on behalf of
31 her son, who has Cerebral Palsy and uses a motorized wheelchair. He’s a regular user of the
32 Shared Ride and has appreciated the service in the past. However, in this particular time he
33 hasn’t been going out because of COVID[-19] and concerns with his health, but he did have
34 somewhere he had to go. He called the Shared Ride taxi, and the person who came and picked
35 him up and was assisting him with getting in the vehicle did not have his mask on properly.
36 Then, when he was picked up for the return trip, the person did not have the mask on at all. I did
37 reach out and leave a message for Paul, but I didn’t have a chance to follow up on that. I just
38 want to let that be noted that we did have a complaint for the drivers not properly wearing masks.
39 I hope that the committee will have some consideration of that, and maybe the Runnings will
40 have a response.”

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42 Ald. Stevens called three times for anyone else wishing to provide public input and closed that

Utilities Committee

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

2

43 portion of the meeting.

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Consideration and possible action on the following items:

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Item 4 – MASS TRANSIT

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A. Shared Ride Transit

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

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Paul reported the January 2021 statistics:

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• **West Salem Trips:** 677 (an increase of 91 from January 2020)

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• **Holmen Trips:** 689 (a decrease of 559 from January 2020)

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• **Onalaska Trips:** 2,067 (a decrease of 1,003 from January 2020)

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• **Total Trips:** 3,433 (a decrease of 1,471, or 30.00 percent, from January 2020)

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• **MTU Passes:** 307 (a decrease of 302 from January 2020)

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• **Agency Trips:** 606 (a decrease of 498 from January 2020)

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• **Year-to-Date Trips:** 3,433 (a decrease of 1,471 from January 2020)

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• **Revenue:** \$14,221 (a decrease of \$6,670, or 31.93 percent, from January 2020)

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Motion by Ald. Wulf, second by Leroy, to approve the Shared Ride Transit Financials.

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On voice vote, motion carried.

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B. MTU:

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

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No report.

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C. Holmen Transit Input (Holmen Rep.)

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No report.

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

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No report.

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E. Onalaska Transit Input (Onalaska Rep.)

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Paul told Mayor K. Smith he had received her message and attempted to follow up with her.

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Paul said, “We became aware of that issue through Kim’s call to my office. It violates our

Utilities Committee

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

3

84 company policy as well as FTA and CDC guidelines for our drivers not to be wearing masks.
85 We are correcting that problem. If there are any further instances of that nature amongst our
86 drivers, there will be disciplinary action taken on behalf of our company.”

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88 Mayor K. Smith thanked Paul for his comments and said she had told the affected parties what
89 had happened was unacceptable. Mayor K. Smith also said she will pass on Paul’s message to
90 the affected parties.

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92 **Item 5 – UTILITIES**

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94 No report.

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96 **Adjournment**

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98 Motion by Ald. Wulf, second by Leroy, to adjourn at 6:56 p.m.

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100 On voice vote, motion carried.

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103 Recorded by:

104

105 Kirk Bey