

Utilities Committee

Wednesday, May 5, 2021

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1 The Meeting of the Utilities Committee was called to order at 6:45 p.m. on Wednesday, May 5,
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. Tom Smith, Ald. Jim Olson, Ald.
5 Diane Wulf, Village of Holmen Trustee Micah Wyss. Village of West Salem Trustee Leroy
6 Brown participated remotely.

7
8 Also Present (either in person or remotely): City Administrator Eric Rindfleisch, Mayor Kim
9 Smith, Financial Services Director/Treasurer Fred Buehler, City Engineer Jarrod Holter, Ald.
10 Dan Stevens, Paul Woodward of Running, Inc.

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

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

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17 On voice vote, motion carried.

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

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

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

25
26 **Item 4 – MASS TRANSIT**

27
28 A. Shared Ride Transit

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

30
31 Paul reported the March 2021 statistics:

- 32
33 • **West Salem Trips:** 612 (an increase of 116 from March 2020)
34 • **Holmen Trips:** 674 (a decrease of 203 from March 2020)
35 • **Onalaska Trips:** 2,274 (an increase of 274 from March 2020)
36 • **Total Trips:** 3,560 (an increase of 187, or 5.54 percent, from March 2020)
37 • **MTU Passes:** 292 (a decrease of 146 from March 2020)
38 • **Agency Trips:** 654 (a decrease of 142 from March 2020)
39 • **Year-to-Date Trips:** 10,144 (a decrease of 2,704 from March 2020)
40 • **Revenue:** \$41,285 (a decrease of \$12,194, or 22.80 percent, from March 2020)
41

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42 Fred noted he had participated with an APAR representative in an April webinar hosted by the
43 Wisconsin Department of Transportation, and he told committee members the City of Onalaska's
44 Shared Ride Program must go out for a Request for Proposal as this is the final year of the five-
45 year contract. Fred told committee members he and his assistant work closely with WisDOT,
46 which he said has a lot at stake. Fred said, "We want to make sure that we do it properly when I
47 go out for an RFP to follow all rules and regulations and federal registries. This is about the
48 sixth time I've done it, so I think we'll do just fine within this threshold of time here. ... I'm
49 hoping that we can have this all put together by the close of July and going out so we would have
50 the state-approved RFP. Then we go out and list it as such and hopefully have someone in
51 place."

52
53 Fred said there also had been a discussion with WisDOT regarding the State of Wisconsin being
54 close to finishing the appropriations for 2021. Fred said he hopes to know by June where the
55 City of Onalaska stands regarding appropriation funding both from federal and state. A date for
56 the Program of Projects public hearing would be established at that time, and Fred said he hopes
57 to have a signed contract that, once it is in place, will allow the city to file a 2021 grant with the
58 Federal Transit Administration. Fred added the State of Wisconsin contract will be coming in at
59 the same time.

60
61 Motion by Micah, second by Ald. Olson, to approve and place on file the Shared Ride Transit
62 Financials.

63

64 B. MTU:

65 1. Transit Financials (Adam Lorentz)

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67 Fred told committee members they have a copy of an email he had received April 27 from Tim
68 Koterwski of La Crosse MTU that provides the first quarter statistics, and he said he will relay
69 any questions they might have to MTU. There were 3,727 passengers on Route 9 during the first
70 quarter of 2021, compared to 16,873 during the first quarter of 2020. There were a total of
71 11,027 Onalaska passengers during the first quarter of 2021, compared to 59,816 during the first
72 quarter of 2020.

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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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84 Ald. Wulf asked if the committee should vote to accept and place on file the MTU Transit
85 financials.

86

87 Fred said the committee probably should do so.

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89 Ald. Wulf said she does not believe the committee voted to approve the Shared Ride Transit
90 financials.

91

92 Ald. T. Smith asked the committee for a motion to accept the MTU Transit financials.

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94 Motion by Ald. Wulf, second by Ald. Olson, to accept and place on file the MTU Transit
95 financials.

96

97 On voice vote, motion carried.

98

99 Ald. T. Smith returned to the Shared Ride Transit financials, which Micah had made a motion to
100 accept and place on file, and Ald. Olson had seconded.

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102 On voice vote, motion carried.

103

104 **Item 5 – UTILITIES**

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106 No report.

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108 **Adjournment**

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110 Motion by Ald. Olson, second by Micah, to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.

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112 On voice vote, motion carried.

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114

115 Recorded by:

116

117 Kirk Bey