Common Council

335 South Broadway
De Pere, WI 54115
http://www.de-pere.org

Special Meeting

Final Minutes

Tuesday, February 28, 2017 **5:00 PM** **De Pere City Hall Council Chambers**

1. Call to order. The Common Council meeting was called to order on February 28, 2017 at 5:00 PM, De Pere City Hall Council Chambers, 335 S. Broadway Street, De Pere, WI.

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Michael J. Walsh	Mayor	Present	
James Boyd	Alderperson	Present	
Dan Carpenter	Alderperson	Present	
Scott Crevier	Alderperson	Present	
Michael Donovan	Alderperson	Present	
Ryan Jennings	Alderperson	Present	
Larry Lueck	Alderperson	Present	
Dean Raasch	Alderperson	Present	
Lisa Rafferty	Alderperson	Present	

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Projects for Use of Stadium Tax Surplus

Mayor Walsh explained that each Council member was instructed to identify their top two choices for funding consideration from the submitted project recommendations. The following 16 items were selected:
Mayor Walsh - #18, the De Pere public art initiative, and #8, the City-wide document management system.
Alderperson Crevier - #17, funding the establishment of a City vision/brand, and #19, the De Pere streetscape project.
Alderperson Raasch - #40, funding a splashpad facility, and #38, improvements to the Southwest Park playground equipment.
Alderperson Lueck - #2, the project proposal for the former Claude-Allouez bridge approach, and #7, the re-write of City zoning code.
Alderperson Boyd - #41 and #42, a new amphiteater/stage and playground equipment improvements at Voyageur Park.
Alderperson Jennings - #47, creating a micro or revolving loan fund.
Alderperson Rafferty - #36, design of the proposed aquatic center, and #21, the purchase of a new ambulance.
Alderperson Donovan - #14, the establishment of an annuity fund for youth programs.
Alderperson Carpenter - #20, funding future City debt payments, and #43, Downtown pedestrian and place keeping improvements.

Discussion followed on the items identified, and the Mayor requested a vote by show of hands for each proposal in order to determine which items would remain on the list.

#2 Project proposal for the former Claude-Allouez bridge approach. Discussion included potential costs, and possible alternatives with a smaller price tag. Item defeated with one in favor.

#7 re-write of City zoning code. City Attorney Judy Schmidt-Lehman and Economic Development and Planning Director Kim Flom answered questions about funds that have been budgeted to date, project timeline, and gaps in the current code. Item retained with 6 in favor.

#8 Citywide document management system. Discussion followed regarding efficiencies to be gained from implementing this system, scope of the system, timelines, and cost projections. Item defeated with 1 in favor.

#14 Annuity fund. Alderperson Donovan explained that City-funded subsidies for youth programs have gone away due to budget cuts over the years, and this initiative would provide some financial support from the City. Discussion followed regarding current bond rates and investment options, as well as alternative ways to provide for youth programs. Item defeated with 1 in favor.

#17 Establish a City vision/brand. Alderperson Jennings recused himself from the discussion on this item as an officer of Definitely De Pere.
Alderperson Raasch moved, seconded by Alderperson Boyd to open the meeting. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.
Definitely De Pere Executive Director Tina Quigley and City Economic Development and Planning Director Kim Flom answered Council members' questions. Tina also stated that the letter addressed to city officials that was included in the packet was intended to endorse a proposal created by Kim Flom (item #46 in the packet), and that Definitely De Pere would not be the owner of this project.
Alderperson Raasch moved, seconded by Alderperson Crevier to return to regular order. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously. Item retained with 7 in favor.

#18 Public art initiative. Discussion centered on potential locations for art installation, and the opportunity this project would provide to make the City stand out. Item retained with 6 in favor.

#19 De Pere streetscape project. Council members noted similarities between this proposal and the prior one, and discussed the merits of combining the two. Item retained with 7 in favor.

#20 Funding future City debt payments. Item retained with all members in favor.

#21 Purchase of new ambulance. Council members debated the benefit of using stadium tax refund dollars for items that are typically included in the budget. Item defeated with 3 in favor.

#36 Aquatic center design. Parks Director Marty Kosobucki answered questions about the project timeline, design viability if not immediately implemented, and the remaining lifespan of the existing pools. Item retained with 5 in favor.

#38 Southwest Park playground equipment. Marty reported that a De Pere resident recently proposed and received Parks Board approval to conduct a fundraising project to install a "signature" playground at Southwest Park, which would come at a higher cost than the City's typical budget for playground equipment. Discussion followed regarding funding options, timeline, and comparative cost projections of the two playground styles. Item retained with 7 in favor.

#40 Splashpad facility. Item retained with 5 in favor.

#41 Voyageur Park amphitheater/stage. Discussion followed regarding concerns about restricting usability of the park, its candidacy as a potential site for the future aquatic center, and the project's potential to bring more people downtown. Item retained with 5 in favor.

#42 Voyageur Park playground equipment. Parks Director Marty Kosobucki responded to questions from Council members. Item retained with 7 in favor.

#43 Downtown pedestrian and place making improvements. Council members noted that this item is similar to other proposed downtown projects and could be combined. Item defeated with 3 in favor.

#47 Micro or revolving loan fund. Economic Development and Planning Director Kim Flom answered questions about the differences between this proposal and the federally funded program administered by the City. Item defeated with 2 in favor.

Discussion followed on the ten items that remained.

Alderperson Crevier moved, seconded by Alderperson Lueck to accept the ten items as currently presented. Discussion followed.

Alderperson Rafferty moved, seconded by Alderperson Carpenter, to amend the original motion by removing #40 (splashpad project), reducing funding for #18 (art initiative) to $50,000, reducing funding for #19 (streetscape project) to $75,000, and providing $425,000 toward future City debt payments. Discussion followed. Upon vote, amendment failed with Alderpersons Rafferty, Donovan and Carpenter voting aye.

Alderperson Jennings moved, seconded by Alderperson Crevier, to amend the original motion by removing items #18 and 19 and considering them separately. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

The Mayor requested a vote on the original motion as amended for items #18 and 19. Upon vote, motion carried with Alderpersons Rafferty and Carpenter voting nay, and Alderperson Jennings abstaining.

The Mayor then requested a vote on the original motion as amended for items #7, 17, 20, 36, 38, 40-42. Upon vote, motion carried with Alderperson Rafferty voting nay.

4. Adjournment.

Alderperson Raasch moved, seconded by Alderperson Lueck to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m. Upon vote, motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carey Danen, Deputy Clerk-Treasurer