

These are the minutes of the Regular Session of the City of Adams, WI held on November 2, 2009 in the City Municipal Building.

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Williams. On roll call were Alderpersons Jensen, LaQuee, Manthey, Robinson, Suhr, Mayor Williams, Administrator Ellisor, Chief Hanson, and Street Superintendent Mead. Attorney Pollex and Alderperson Newberg were excused.

**Motion by Jensen, second by Suhr to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2009 meeting as printed. Roll call vote, all voted aye.**

Petitions and Communications: Alderperson Jensen gave an update on the special Fire District meeting on October 22. The meeting was held jointly with the Village of Friendship. Discussion was held on the Village joining the Adams County Fire District.

Report of Standing Committees:

Finance Committee: (The Committee met October 29, 2009)

In Petitions and Communications a discussion was held regarding a customer relations training for \$3,300 and an overcharge on water (hydrant rental). The City was awarded over \$680 in accessibility improvements from the Government Accountability Board. The purpose of the grant programs was to assist municipalities with expenses related to polling place improvements specifically targeted toward increasing access for individuals with disabilities.

A request was made for a Special Finance meeting on Wednesday, November 4, 2009.

Motions were made to authorize Attorney Pollex, Clerk/Treasurer Winters and Administrator Ellisor follow up on collection of delinquent personnel property tax.

Administrator Ellisor presented the 2010 budget and gave an overview on the 5 year capital equipment plan.

Recommendations were made to pay the bills.

Report of City Officers:

**Mayor Williams:** Reported the finance committee will meet Wednesday, November 4. This is a special meeting on the 2010 budget and invited anyone that is interested to attend. He stated there will be no increase to the City's portion of taxes.

Mayor Williams reported that all City employees will be attending a one-day training session on Customer/Public Relations. The training will be offered on two separate days, this allows department heads flexibility scheduling, so that offices continue to be in operation.

He stated a Planning Commission meeting is scheduled Thursday, November 5 at 6:00 p.m. One item on the agenda is the land division for the City Well.

LaQuee commended the Mayor on his approach on the budget, the City taxes will not go up. He stated in the paper over the last few weeks the County Board and School District is going to take their share.

Mayor Williams questioned if the Village of Friendship is being charged for Chlorine. Street Superintendent Mead stated it was discussed but never requested to be placed on the Public Works agenda for action. Mayor Williams stated that he believes a letter was sent to Friendship. Administrator Ellisor concurred.

Mayor Williams reported that Attorney Pollex has three court trials scheduled for Wednesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Administrator Ellisor:** Reported the 2010 budget is still ongoing, he will distribute draft copies for all Council members. He received a letter from the EDA stating they will review the request to remove the municipal well and pump house from the project scope. He will need to make revisions to a

few reports and include a cost breakdown. He feels the letter is encouraging and we are still under consideration.

There will be a special meeting of the Council for the DNR Safe Drinking Water Loan Program November 30<sup>th</sup>. The meeting is needed to close the DNR Safe Drinking Water Loan.

Mayor Williams questioned the start of construction on the Well project. Administrator Ellisor stated the completion date is scheduled for April 2010.

**Chief Hanson:** Reported that he completed instruction from the FBI Law Enforcement Executive Development Association. The course assists departments with the changing of law and community enforcement needs. Winter Parking starts November 15<sup>th</sup> at midnight.

He has completed the changes relating to underage smoking and sale of tobacco to minors. Clerk Winters will draft the ordinance changes along with the requirements for the parades application for the Policy meeting. He and Attorney Pollex have met concerning a property for final inspection and should be completed by the 18<sup>th</sup> court date. He would like Council approval to get a tree for day care children to decorate for the holiday. Mayor Williams would like him to ask other day care facilities in future years. Robinson questioned if Pierce Street can be closed during Trick-or-Treat hours due to the traffic. Manthey stated that there appeared to be more children trick or treating this year. She believes, due to the construction and the roads in Friendship being torn out more kids came to the City.

**Street Superintendent Mead:** Reported the department continues on brush and leaf pickup. Leaves continue to be placed in areas that make it difficult to get at, such as close to trees or mail boxes. He and Administrator Ellisor re-worded the newsletter explaining leaf placement. Last Friday, the plow truck was taken to Madison to have the sander installed, he hopes to get it back this week. He has contacted three companies for quotes for playground equipment. He will schedule a date for them to come give a presentation at Public Works.

**New and Unfinished Business:**

**Motion by LaQuee, second by Suhr to approve the Mayoral Appointment of Donald Ranta, Citizen Member, to the Public Works Committee. Roll call vote, all voted aye.**

**Motion by Robinson, second by LaQuee to approve the proposal for Customer/Public Relations Training, not to exceed \$3500. Roll call vote, all voted aye.**

Dr. Steven LaVallee, District Administrator, Adams-Friendship Schools appeared before Council to discuss the agenda item of cancellation of the Cable Access Channel Operations and Programming Agreement with Adams-Friendship School District.

Mayor Williams stated that we have had constant complaints from citizens not being able to see or hear or if the meetings will be televised or not. The City gave the school all the equipment and \$5,000 when they took over Channel 4. Based on the fact that the City is the only contributor and there had not been any internet exposure, he finds it difficult to justify to the citizens who would be supporting the program. He believes its next year that there would not be any reimbursement from Charter.

Dr. LaVallee stated that this is the first time he has heard of these issues of service or lack of satisfaction. He stated that when the school took over the Channel 4 programming, the equipment was deteriorating. At that time, the City previously had a cost for someone to operate Channel 4 and for equipment replacement. When the City proposed it to the school, they thought it would be a good learning experience for the kids and agreed to take it over.

Dr. LaVallee stated that all of the annual \$3500 is put towards purchasing new equipment; nothing was for salaries, or subsidizing. He understands that with the budget being tight, \$3500 is critical to the City. He stated that as this is such short notice, and if the City is canceling the agreement, questions need to be addressed. Questions such as: what are the Council's plans, where Channel 4 is going, what it means for the students that are involved with it, does the City plan on the school to take it over, or is it being shut down. He would like to discuss it at next week's school board meeting, however, when

this first was introduced the board was very adamant that they did not want the school responsible for the “whole picture” of Channel 4, just the programming and operational part. He also wanted the Council to know that the kids have done a lot of work and extra volunteer work for Channel 4 and the experience has been a benefit to the kids.

Mayor Williams stated that as for the equipment, that is the schools. To keep it going would be up to the school, if they felt it was viable to the school system. The City would be willing to draft a Right to Operation, allowing the school to continue with the programming.

Manthey stated that she does not want the students to suffer from this. She stated Channel 4 has been a learning benefit to the students. She explained that at a Cable Advisory meeting, the Charter Representative acknowledged that the City is in a dead zone, and would be phased out, the cable lines are old and fiber optic would not be feasible. The students were having problems with updating, such as after Chief Hanson was employed for almost a year, Channel 4 still listed Chief Gold, and the same was for the web site. She asked that this be tabled to the next Council, to allow Dr. LaVallee time to address this at the next school board meeting.

Robinson agreed that there were Alderpersons listed that were no longer on Council.

LaQuee stated that all it is is the City getting out of business. Some problems were the school not keeping it updated and a lot were with Charter not wanting to repair the lines.

Mayor Williams stated that the decision tonight is not that important, \$3500 is not that important, we should consider following through on this after the second semester. This will bring continuity to the school system and allow orderly transition. We will bring it up at the next meeting and Dr. LaVallee will let us know what the schools opinion is, we want to work with the school.

**Motion by Robinson, second by Jensen to table the cancellation of the Cable Access Channel Operations and Programming Agreement with Adams-Friendship School District to the next meeting. Roll call vote, all voted aye.**

**Motion by Jensen, second by Suhr to pay the bills. Roll call vote, all voted aye.**

**Motion by Jensen, second by LaQuee to adjourn. Roll call vote, all voted aye.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Janet L. Winters  
Clerk/Treasurer