

**CITY OF ALTOONA, WI**  
**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**May 28, 2009**

**(I) Call Meeting to Order**

Mayor Tom Meyer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. held in the Council Chambers at Altoona City Hall.

**(II) Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Meyer led the Common Council and others in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**(III) Roll Call**

The City Clerk called the roll. Council Persons Brendan Pratt, Ray Henning, Dale Stuber, William Spangler, Colleen Weber and Red Hanks were present. Also present: Mayor Tom Meyer, City Attorney John Behling, City Administrator Mike Golat, Police Chief and Fire Chief Todd Chaney and City Clerk Cindy Bauer.

**(IV) Citizen Participation Period**

There being no Citizen Participation, motion by Stuber/Henning to close Citizen Participation Period. **Motion carried.**

**(V) Approval of minutes.**

Motion by Henning/Hanks to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2009 Regular Council Meeting. Pratt abstained. **Motion carried.**

**(VI) City Officers/Department Heads Report**

City Administrator Golat commented on his visit to Madison to attend a league luncheon. One of the topics of discussion was the reduction of shared revenue. Mayor Meyer and Golat attended a news conference today for Governor Doyle where Doyle announced the Clean Water Fund and Safe Drinking Water Fund American Recovery and Re-investment Act Funds. The City of Altoona is ranked number 4 for the storm water project.

Golat mentioned that the State Budget Committee did pass changes to the prevailing wage law that increased the threshold from \$2,000 to \$25,000. Golat said any infrastructure project constructed by a developer that's given to the City, is subject to the prevailing wage law.

**City Committee Reports** – none.

**(VII) Unfinished Business** – none.

**(VIII) New Business**

**(1) Consider moving forward with the Classification/Compensation Study for City of Altoona non-represented employees. (Discussed at the May 11, 2009 Personnel Committee Meeting).**

City Administrator Golat commented that in normal circumstances, this study would be a true adoption with a resolution. But given the circumstances the City is in beyond certainty of the budget, staff was just asking to move this study forward by looking at the report and making critical policy decisions that need to be made with regard to implementation, if at all, and the timing of the implementation.

Charlie Carlson, Carlson Dettman Consulting, provided a summary of the Classification/Compensation Study for City of Altoona non-represented employees. Carlson said he met with City Staff to briefly outline the study. Carlson said the study covered 14 management, supervisory, professional, and support positions. Dettman Consulting surveyed 12 communities and 7 public libraries. The results found that positions at the upper end of the pay scale were competitive and some positions at the lower end of the pay scale were found to be low relative to the market. Carlson explained that they developed a Compensation Policy Statement as part of their report and provided two pay structures, one for the city and one for the library and recommended pay ranges. Carlson also suggested an 11 step program with annual progressions through those steps. They

calculated the cost of implementation on the assumption of only bringing those people who were currently below the minimum of the new pay range to the minimum. The cost would be approximately \$14,000 to bring four employees to range minimum. City Administrator Golat commented that since the Library range was removed from the entire city employee positions it lowered the cost by approximately \$10,000. Carlson's advice, in consultation with the Administrator, would be to take this under advisement during the budget for the 2010 year for purpose of implementation. City Administrator Golat mentioned that the Personnel Committee recommended addressing the study during the 2010 budget process.

Motion by Spangler/Pratt to take under advisement the Classification/Compensation Study and direct the City Administrator to bring back reasonable recommendations based on the study for the 2010 budget process. Hanks against. **Motion carried.**

**(VIII)(2) Presentation by Mary Mickel regarding work of the Clear Vision Eau Claire County Sustainability Task Force.**

City Administrator Golat introduced Mary Mickel representing the Clear Vision Sustainability Task Force. Mary Mickel explained that the Clear Vision process in general is to explore the concepts of sustainability and eco-communities and briefed Council on sustainability work currently underway. Mickel explained that Clear Vision is a county-wide visioning and strategic planning process.

Meg Marshall also representing Clear Vision Eau Claire explained what Sustainability was and summarized the following:

- Meets the need of the present
- How to begin to be more sustainable
- The Systems approach for sustainability
- Four Natural Step System Conditions
- The A-B-C-D method of applying the natural step framework.
- What is an Eco-Municipality
- Areas of Focus for Sustainability
- Benefits of a Sustainable Community

Rick Becker from Sacred Heart Hospital explained what the hospital has done to be sustainable. Becker gave examples of items that would normally have gone in the landfill but now gets reused as landscape wood chips. Becker commented that the City Council has the opportunity to challenge their vendors to change and work with the municipalities regarding their products.

For more information on the Clear Vision Eau Claire Sustainability Task Force visit the website at [www.clearvisioneauclaire.org](http://www.clearvisioneauclaire.org)

Council Member Weber left at 6:50 p.m.

**(VIII)(3) Presentation by the Altoona Youth Hockey Association Inc. regarding a proposal for the Altoona Hobbs Arena.**

This item was removed from the agenda until a later date.

**(VIII)(8) Consider public notice procedural issue regarding Clint Heiman Certified Survey Map (CSM).**

City Administrator Golat explained that this issue was brought to the attention by a property owner adjacent to the Clint Heiman CSM property saying that he was not provided notice of the CSM public hearing consistent with city code. Golat said there is no provision in Wis. State Statutes for notice to people within 200 feet of affected subject property, only that a class 2 notice be provided. Golat questioned what happens when notice isn't provided to property owners regarding the decision of the Council and Plan Commission.

City Attorney Behling addressed this issue and gave some history regarding procedures of the past. Behling said he also did some case law research regarding city satisfying state statutes on zoning matters but not city standards/code. In reviewing this matter Behling was inclined to advise the City Council that the City

met the state statutes and overwhelming the council voted in support of this CSM. Behling said it was at the Council's discretion if they wanted to hold a new hearing or affirm the Council's earlier decision.

Motion by Spangler/Henning that the council affirms its previous decision approving the Clint Heiman's CSM. **Motion carried.**

**(VIII)(4) Consider Resolution 5C-09 amending 2009 General Fund Budget and 2009 Library Budget.**

City Administrator Golat explained that the City of Altoona recently received three invoices from DCS Netlink for computer services incurred in 2008; however the 2008 financial reports have been finalized, so the expenses must be recognized as 2009 expenses. The current available balance in Council Contingency is \$10,820.66, so the allocation of \$2,054.09 to Police Administration will not deplete the Council Contingency budget. Also, the Library Board passed motions at their meeting of May 21, 2009 to transfer a total of \$3,509.80 from undesignated reserves to the 2009 operations budget with \$1,740.00 to fund a part-time Library Page position for 12 weeks, \$800.00 for a hand-held PDA inventory scanner and \$969.80 for DVD shelving.

Motion by Spangler/Hanks to approve Resolution 5C-09 amending the 2009 General Fund Budget and 2009 Library Budget. Roll call vote 5-ayes, Spangler, Hanks, Stuber, Henning, Pratt, 0-nays. **Motion carried.**

**(VIII)(5) Consider approval of permit and waiving the fee for the Altoona Lions Club to display fireworks on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.**

City Administrator Golat explained that consistent with past practice, the Altoona Lions Club is requesting a permit to discharge fireworks on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. The fireworks are inspected and discharged by the Altoona Fire Department.

Council Member Henning announced that Mega Pick N Save has come forward with a \$5,000 donation to the Lions Club, broken down as follows: \$3,700 for fireworks, \$300 towards the Cinder City Days Parade, and \$1,000 for advertisement for Cinder City Days. Henning said if the economy improves, Mega might someday take over the entire Altoona fireworks budget.

Motion by Spangler/Pratt to approve the permit for the Altoona Lions Club to display fireworks on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and to waive the \$25 application fee for the fireworks permit. **Motion carried.**

**(VIII)(6) Consider approval of Resolution 5D-09 - Passage of Preliminary Resolution on Special Assessments for the 2009 Street and Utility Improvements for Bartlett Avenue from 3<sup>rd</sup> Street West to 7<sup>th</sup> Street West.**

City Administrator Golat explained Resolution 5D-09, a preliminary resolution declaring intent to exercise its police powers pursuant to Wis. State 66.0703 to specially assess for the Bartlett Avenue Street and Utility project. The scope of the project includes reconstruction of Bartlett Avenue from 7<sup>th</sup> Street West to 3<sup>rd</sup> Street West. As in the past, Altoona has used the special assessment process to pay a portion of the project. Golat noted that assessments will be partially reduced on this project due to a reimbursement of \$275,000 from the State Local Roads Improvement Program. The resolution sets the date of the public hearing on the assessment for June 11, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

Motion by Spangler/Pratt to approve Resolution 5D-09, a preliminary resolution to specially assess for the Bartlett Avenue and Street and Utility Project. **Motion carried.**

**(VIII)(7) Consider Mayoral appointments of Harriet Cohen and Sean Szydel to the Complete Count Committee.**

Motion by Spangler/Hanks to approve the Mayoral appointments of Harriet Cohen and Sean Szydel to the Complete Count Committee. **Motion carried.**

**(IX) Miscellaneous Business and Communications**

City Administrator Golat explained why the Altoona Youth Hockey Association item was removed from the agenda. Golat said representatives couldn't be present and the City has been doing research regarding

if there are any deed restrictions on the Hobbs Arena property regarding federal funds that the City received in the past for purchasing any part of the property. Golat said he's working with DNR and indicated that he just received information today saying there are some restrictions. Golat will review the information and report back to Council.

Council Member Spangler directed City Administrator Golat to put on a future Council agenda:  
Discuss/consider revising the ordinance regarding the 200 feet notice requirement.

**(X) Adjournment.**

Motion by Spangler/Hanks to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. **Motion carried.**

Minutes submitted by

Cindy Bauer,  
City Clerk