

# City of Stoughton

## Common Council Minutes

### February 8, 2011

Mayor Donna Olson presided at a Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Stoughton, Dane County, Wisconsin, held in the Council Chambers located in the Public Safety Building, on Tuesday, February 8, 2011. Mayor Olson noted a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

#### **Roll Call / Proclamations/ Presentations:**

City Clerk Kelly Michaels called the roll noting the following Alderpersons were present: Tone, Swangstu, Lawrence, Christianson, McKichan, Chenoweth, Jenson, Olstad, Hohol, Carter. The following Alderpersons were excused: Weiss, Chenoweth, Scovotti.

Alderperson Carter congratulated the Green Bay Packers for their win in the Super Bowl. Alderperson Jenson wished Mayor Olson a Happy Birthday.

Alderperson Tone indicated that there was a name of a local hotel that is delinquent on the Room Tax listing and asked that the City take the same action as it had previously in this matter.

No proclamations or presentations were made.

#### **Reports / Claims / Communications:**

The following were presented and placed on file: 2010 Room Tax Report, Financial Summary November 2010-YTD – Utilities, Statistical Information 2010 Useage – Utilities, Minutes of the Arts Council, Commission on Aging, Finance Committee, Personnel Committee, Tree Commission and Utilities Commission.

Mayor Olson reported a request for mediation of union contract had been filed and will be scheduled for Tuesday, April 19, at 5:30 pm. She noted that Personnel Committee would meet at 5:00 pm., with the mediation following

Olson thanked the Street Department for the excellent job in clearing snow during the recent blizzard. She noted they are currently cleaning up corners and intersections so we can all travel safely. She indicated this would take some time, however if you see an area that needs immediate attention feel free to call.

Olson thanked the Fire Chief for opening the fire station for anyone who may have needed shelter from the storm. She acknowledged the fine work of the Police Department in responding during the storm as well.

Alderperson Carter questioned the financial summary of the Stoughton Utilities with reference to the operating income for 2010 in the financial summary. Kardasz indicated he did not expect a significant change however they are trying to clear the books for year end. Carter questioned the Electric Utility rate of return. Utilities Director Kardasz

responded it was anticipated to decline from the 6.22% experienced in November. Carter questioned if the 2011 Electric Utility rate of return increased above 6.5%, would a credit be refunded to the customers. Kardasz pointed out the summary presented is for November 2010 and is difficult to predict, however if there is an excess it doesn't come back to consumer. He explained that when rates are adjusted, normally the rate of return begins its cycle of decline again.

Carter pointed out the summary of funds on page 4 noting a \$280,000 line item reserve for a bucket truck in 2013. He questioned whether they had just purchased two new ones. Kardasz acknowledged the purchase and indicated they are planning for another purchase in 2013 but are also trying to conserve their current fleet so that the funds may not be needed. He noted they do try to stretch as many years as possible out of their equipment. Carter questioned what happens to the funds if they are not needed. Kardasz indicated the funds are invested and would be carried over to 2014. Alderperson Hohol stated it was his assumption that any surplus would delay any future increase needed.

**Public Comment:**

None

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion by Lawrence, second by Olstad to adopt all items on the consent agenda as presented. Alderperson Carter requested the minutes be removed from consent to address a correction. The motion and second was withdrawn.

Minutes of a previous meeting: January 25, 2011 (moved to old business)

**Old Business:**

Minutes of a previous meeting: January 25, 2011

Alderperson Carter explained that his comments with reference to the Pleasants Hills Plat needed clarification. He noted that 50% of the property is owned by the developer and the other 50% by individual property owners. He asked the minutes to reflect that 100% of individual property owners were opposed. The correction was read into the record and accepted by Alderperson Carter.

Motion by Tone, second by Olstad to adopt the minutes of the previous meeting as corrected on the council floor. Motion carried unanimously.

**New Business:**

**R-7-2011**

Motion by Tone, second by Olstad to adopt a resolution of the Finance Committee authorizing and directing the proper city official(s) to pay the claim of Mary Erickson. Motion failed 0-9.

**R-8-2011**

Moved by Tone, second by Olstad to adopt a resolution of the Finance Committee authorizing and directing the proper city official(s) to pay the claim of Mary K. Martinson. Motion failed 0-9.

Motion by Lawrence, second by Carter to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Michaels, WCMC, CMC  
City Clerk/Personnel Director