

# City of Stoughton

## Common Council Minutes

### February 18, 2011

Mayor Donna Olson presided at a Special 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 Friday, February 18, 2011. Mayor Olson noted a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

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

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

Mayor Olson indicated she had called the special meeting to honor a request by the Stoughton Civilian Employees Association (WPPA/CERD Local #431) which consists of the Street Department Employees, Water, Wastewater and office employees in the Utilities Department, employees at City Hall, the Senior Center, EMS, Opera House and Fire Department.

She reported she had received notification yesterday afternoon from Gary Anderson, the Business Agent for the Wisconsin Professional Police Association that the Stoughton CEA was requesting a contract extension. They indicated they are willing to drop the petition for mediation/arbitration that is currently filed and scheduled for April 19, 2011. The Stoughton CEA would extend the contract without any changes to the existing language or wage scales other than dates. She noted they are requesting at least a one year extension but would be willing to extend for longer.

Mayor Olson stated it was her belief that our employees are our most valuable asset. She praised staff by noting they are knowledgeable, experienced, caring and committed employees. Approving this extension request reflects the value placed on staff.

She acknowledged there are many unknowns at this time. She referenced the activities taking place in Madison over the past week but stated we do not know all the implications of the proposed bill or what amendments, if any will be included. She reported that Governor Walker announced he was delaying his budget presentation until March 1st. Until that time we will not know the extent of budget cuts or reduced aids to Stoughton.

Mayor Olson summarized that we have come to the table over the years and successfully bargained with each union to respectfully come to an agreement that serves both the city and employees. Amid all the uncertainty, the one thing we do know is that things will be different, however her hope was that the city and employees would continue to work together to meet budget challenges, both current and in the future.

#### **Consent Agenda:**

None

#### **Old Business:**

None

#### **New Business:**

##### **R-15-2011**

Motion by Jenson, second by Hohol to suspend the rule for the standing committee process outlined in the City of Stoughton Municipal Code Section 2-66(b), c(5), for the purpose of taking council action on the following measures (as listed) without a recommendation from standing committee. (This vote requires 2/3 of council members present to pass)

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to State Statute 19.85(1)(e), for the purpose of deliberating on or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session and then to reconvene into open session for possible action on same.

Consider Contract Extension for Agreement between the City of Stoughton and the Stoughton Civilian Employees Association CERD #431

Roll Call Vote to Suspend the Rules. Motion Failed 4-7. No action taken on measures listed.

	Yes	No
Swangstu	1	
Lawrence	1	
Christianson		1
McKichan		1
Chenoweth		1
Jenson	1	
Scovotti		1
Olstad		1
Hohol	1	
Carter	NP	NP
Tone		1
Weiss		1
Result	4	7

Motion by Chenoweth, second by McKichan to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.  
Meeting adjourned at 6:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly Michaels, WCMC, CMC  
City Clerk/Personnel Director