

# City of Stoughton

## Common Council Minutes

### April 19, 2011

Mayor Donna Olson presided at a Reorganizational 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, April 19, 2011. Mayor Olson noted a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

The American Legion Post 59 Honor Guard posted the Colors and Mayor Olson led the Pledge of Allegiance. City Clerk Kelly Michaels provided the following Alderpersons their certification of election prior to swearing them into office for a three year term. District 1 – Tim Swadley; District 2 – Paul Lawrence; District 3 – Greg Jenson; District 4 – Larry Peterson.

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

City Clerk Kelly Michaels called the roll noting the following 11 Alderpersons were present: Swadley, Swangstu, Lawrence, Christianson, McKichan, Chenoweth, Jenson, Scovotti, Olstad, Hohol, Peterson. The following Alderperson was excused: Weiss.

#### **Council Elections - President:**

Motion by Chenoweth, second by Olstad to cast secret ballots. Motion carried unanimously. It was the consensus of members that a majority vote of 11 members present or 6 votes would be required to carry the election.

Alderperson Jenson nominated Alderperson Chenoweth, Alderperson Olstad nominated Alderperson McKichan, Alderperson Chenoweth nominated Alderperson Scovotti, Alderperson Swangstu nominated Alderperson Hohol. Nominations were closed.

Council President Nominees:

Carl Chenoweth    Dave McKichan    Ross Scovotti    Eric Hohol

Following three rounds of secret ballot voting, Alderperson Carl Chenoweth was duly elected by a majority of six votes to the position of Council President.

#### **Council Elections – Vice President:**

Alderperson Chenoweth nominated Alderperson McKichan. Alderperson Jenson nominated Alderperson Hohol. Nominations were closed.

Vice President Nominees:

Dave McKichan    Eric Hohol

Following one round of secret ballot voting, Alderperson Dave McKichan was duly elected by a majority of six votes to the position of Council Vice President.

**R-37-2011 Confirmation of Mayor's Appointments to Standing Committees:**

Mayor Olson introduced her appointments to standing committees and read a statement which detailed the methods and perimeters for making the selections she did. .

Motion by Jenson, second by Hohol to confirm the Mayor's Appointments as presented.

Aldersperson Chenoweth acknowledged the challenge for the Mayor's office to appease 12 Alderspersons in these circumstances. He felt they would best served if they had more time to communicate between themselves through the districts. He noted with the limitations of 1 aldersperson from each district on each committee, they could decide amongst themselves. It would serve the district more if the process didn't start in the Mayor's Office with a private a memo to individual council members. Christianson agreed and stated he did not feel the strengths of Alderspersons were being played to.

Attorney Dregne reviewed the ordinance for committee appointments and noted the Mayor is charged with the responsibility to appoint members, while the council is charged with the responsibility to confirm. He opined that it would be inappropriate for council to offer amendments to the Mayor's appointments as presented. Hohol questioned whether they could they could make a motion to change membership contingent on the Mayor's approval. Dregne opined that the Mayor could make changes if she chooses, but the motion to amend is problematic.

Mayor Olson noted the preparation of these appointments require some effort to put together and changes to one will affect the balance of the whole similar to a game of Sudoku.

Motion by Chenoweth, second by McKichan to postpone to a date certain set for the next council meeting (April 26, 2011). Motion failed 4-7.

Postpone R37	Yes	No
Chenoweth	1	
Jenson		1
Scovotti	1	
Olstad		1
Hohol		1
Peterson		1
Swadley		1
Weiss	0	0
Swangstu		1
Lawrence		1
Christianson	1	
McKichan	1	
Result	4	7

The main motion to confirm the Mayor's Appointments as presented carried on a roll call vote of 7-4.

Confirm R37	Yes	No
Jenson	1	
Scovotti		1
Olstad		1
Hohol	1	
Peterson	1	
Swadley	1	
Weiss	0	0
Swangstu	1	
Lawrence	1	
Christianson		1
McKichan		1
Chenoweth	1	
Result	7	4

**R-38-2011 Confirmation of Mayor's Aldermanic Appointments to Non-Standing Boards, Committees and Commissions:**

Motion by Lawrence, second by Jenson to confirm the Mayor's appointments as presented. Motion carried on a roll call vote of 8-3.

Confirm R38	Yes	No
Scovotti		1
Olstad	1	
Hohol	1	
Peterson	1	
Swadley	1	
Weiss	0	0
Swangstu	1	
Lawrence	1	
Christianson		1
McKichan		1
Chenoweth	1	
Jenson	1	
Result	8	3

**R-39-2011**

Motion by Scovotti, second by Swangstu to designate the Official Newspaper. Motion carried 11-0.

R-40-2011

Motion by Lawrence second by Jenson to designate local depositories and authorized signatures – City of Stoughton and Stoughton Electric, Water and Wastewater Utilities.  
Motion carried 11-0.

Motion by Lawrence, second by Swangstu to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Michaels, WCMC, CMC  
City Clerk/Personnel Director