

MINUTES

EAU CLAIRE CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING

Tuesday, January 26, 2021

City Council Chamber

4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

Council President Weld called the meeting to order. The following Council Members were present in-person: Jill Christopherson and Terry Weld. The following Council Members were present remotely: Emily Anderson, Kate Beaton, Emily Berge, Catherine Emmanuelle, Jeremy Gragert, David Klinkhammer, John Lor, Andrew Werthmann and Mai Xiong.

UPDATE

Update by Interim City Manager Solberg regarding City operations and local response during the COVID-19 pandemic.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Council considered a resolution adopting the Consent Agenda for the following items of routine business on Tuesday, January 26, 2021:

- Adopting the Consent Agenda.
- Approving the Minutes of the January 12, 2021 Council Legislative Session.
- Granting new bartender licenses.
- Approving the Revolving Loan Fund Annual Report for the EDA CARES Revolving Loan Fund.
- Approving the Revolving Loan Fund Annual Report for the EDA Revolving Loan Fund.
- Authorizing the City of Eau Claire Police Department to apply for a grant from the Office of Preparedness and Emergency Health Care, Division of Public Health in the Wisconsin Department of Health Services to support emergency telephonic-assisted cardiopulmonary resuscitation training.
- Preliminary resolution declaring the City's intention to exercise its special assessment powers under Section 66.0703, Wisconsin Statutes, for street, utility, and sidewalk improvements, and directing the City Clerk to give notice of a hearing scheduled for February 8, 2021, on the following streets:
 - Andy Lane, Jeffers Road to 1000 Feet East (21-100);
 - Barbara Jean Drive, Brookline Avenue to 1219 Barbara Jean Drive (21-101);
 - Harless Road, Drier Road to 4033 Harless Road (21-200);
 - Sundet Road, White Avenue to Lark Avenue (21-202);
 - Abbe Hill Drive, STH 312 to Eddy Lane (21-300);
 - Birch Street, Mt. Nemo Avenue to Galloway Street (21-301);
 - Galloway Street, N. Hastings Place to Birch Street (21-302);
 - Kane Road, Folsom Street to STH 312 (21-112).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Beaton "to adopt the consent resolution." Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

PROCLAMATION

President Weld read a proclamation proclaiming January 29, 2021 as “Thank Your Mentor Day” and urging everyone in Eau Claire to thank their mentors and those who made a positive impact on them while growing up.

President Weld read a proclamation proclaiming February 4, 2021 as “Transit Equity Day” and urging everyone in Eau Claire to remember and celebrate the invaluable work of Rosa Parks and continue to find the means to create conditions for all people to thrive and proactively address disparities in health, social and economic prosperity.

SPECIAL EVENTS

The City Council considered a resolution authorizing the Eau Claire Marathon, LLC to conduct the Bridge2Bridge running event on Saturday and Sunday, May 1-2, 2021 beginning in Phoenix Park and along city sidewalks and trails. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Berge and seconded by Council Member Christopherson “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

DEWEY STREET BRIDGE

The City Council considered a resolution recommending WISDOT approve the bid for the Dewey Street Bridge, Project ID 7995-02-47/48, committing the City of Eau Claire to the project, and reallocating funds to meet the City’s commitment. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Emmanuelle and seconded by Council Member Gragert “to adopt the resolution.” Discussion was held.

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Beaton “to postpone” to the February 9, 2021 Council meeting. Said motion was withdrawn.

After further discussion a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Lor “to postpone” to the February 9, 2021 Council meeting. Said motion failed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Gragert, Lor and Werthmann. Nay: Council Members Beaton, Berge, Christopherson, Emmanuelle, Klinkhammer, Weld and Xiong.

A vote was then taken “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion failed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Gragert and Werthmann. Nay: Council Members Anderson, Beaton, Berge, Christopherson, Emmanuelle, Klinkhammer, Lor, Weld and Xiong.

ANNUAL WORK PLAN

The City Council considered a resolution approving the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee 2021 Annual Work Plan. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Klinkhammer and seconded by Council Member Lor “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ALLEY IMPROVEMENTS

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for improvements on the following alleys:

- Alley South of Broadway Street, Fifth Avenue to Fourth Avenue (21-501);
- Alley South of Broadway Street, Seventh Avenue to Sixth Avenue (21-502);
- Alley South of Broadway Street, Eighth Avenue to Seventh Avenue (21-503);
- Alley South of Altoona Avenue, Enterprise Street to East End (21-504);
- Alley East of Ninth Street, Platt Street to Vine Street (21-505);
- Alley East of Ninth Street, Maple Street to Walnut Street (21-506);
- Alley East of Ninth Street, Cedar Street to North End (21-507);
- Alley East of Eighth Street, Platt Street to Vine Street (21-508);
- Alley East of Bellinger Street, Fifth Avenue to Randall Street (21-509);
- Alley South of Walnut Street, Eleventh Street to Ninth Street (21-510);
- Alley East of Doty Street, Emery Street to Seaver Street (21-511).

Council Member Christopherson requested that the Alley South of Walnut Street, Eleventh Street to Ninth Street (21-510), be considered separately. No objection was voiced and said alley was separated for consideration.

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Werthmann and seconded by Council Member Xiong “to adopt the resolution” with Alley Project No. 21-510 separated. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Werthmann and seconded by Council Member Anderson “to amend the resolution” by adding the following: “Structures, fences and significant trees in the alley right-of-way shall not be disrupted.” Said motion failed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Beaton and Werthmann. Nay: Council Members Anderson, Berge, Christopherson, Emmanuelle, Gragert, Klinkhammer, Lor, Weld and Xiong. A vote was then taken “to adoption the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for improvements on the Alley South of Walnut Street, Eleventh Street to Ninth Street (21-510). Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Beaton “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion failed by unanimous vote.

STREET IMPROVEMENTS

The City Council considered a final resolution approving the project and levying special assessments for street and utility improvements on the following streets:

- Second Street, Cedar Street to Fountain Street (21-110);
- Cedar Street, First Street to Second Street (21-102);
- Platt Street, Oxford Avenue to 150 Feet West (21-108).

Council Member Gragert requested that Platt Street, Oxford Avenue to 150 Feet West (21-108) be considered separately. No objection was voiced. Council Member Werthmann requested that Cedar Street, First Street to Second Street (21-102) be considered separately. No objection was voiced. All three projects will be considered separately.

SECOND STREET

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Berge and seconded by Council Member Christopherson “to adopt the final resolution” approving the project and levying special assessments for street and utility improvements on Second Street, Cedar Street to Fountain Street (21-110). Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Beaton, Berge, Christopherson, Emmanuelle, Gragert, Lor, Weld, Werthmann and Xiong. Nay: Council Member Klinkhammer.

CEDAR STREET

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Emmanuelle and seconded by Council Member Gragert “to adopt the final resolution” approving the project and levying special assessments for street and utility improvements on Cedar Street, First Street to Second Street (21-102).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Werthmann and seconded by Council Member Xiong “to amend the resolution” by adding that the sidewalk on the south side of the street shall be placed at back of curb without a boulevard. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Beaton, Berge, Christopherson, Emmanuelle, Lor, Weld, Werthmann and Xiong. Nay: Council Members Gragert and Klinkhammer.

A vote was then taken “to adopt the resolution as amended.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

PLATT STREET

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Klinkhammer and seconded by Council Member Lor “to adopt the final resolution” approving the project and levying special assessments for street and utility improvements on Platt Street, Oxford Avenue to 150 Feet West (21-108).

Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Gragert and seconded by Council Member Werthmann “to postpone” to the February 8 & 9, 2021 Council meetings. Said motion passed by the following vote: Aye: Council Members Anderson, Beaton, Berge, Emmanuelle, Gragert, Werthmann and Xiong. Nay: Council Members Christopherson, Klinkhammer, Lor and Weld.

SIDEWALK REPAIR

The City Council considered a resolution ordering sidewalk to be repaired in accordance with Wisconsin Statute s. 66.0907 on Second Street, Cedar Street to Fountain Street (21-110). Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Werthmann and seconded by Council Member Xiong “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

ENCROACHMENT

The City Council considered a resolution granting an encroachment to Market & Johnson for the temporary closure of sidewalk and parking stalls on Eau Claire Street, South Barstow Street to 185 feet east, adjacent to 131 South Barstow Street, for construction staging and safety related to the proposed redevelopment through July 31, 2021. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Anderson and seconded by Council Member Beaton “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

TEMPORARY NEW VOTING SITE

The City Council considered a resolution establishing the Masonic Temple, 616 Graham Avenue, as a temporary new voting site for Wards 31 & 32 for the February 16, 2021 Spring Primary. Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Berge and seconded by Council Member Christopherson “to adopt the resolution.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

PARKING

The Council considered an ordinance amending Chapter 10.20 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Eau Claire entitled “Parking Meters and Lots.” Thereupon a motion was offered by Council Member Emmanuelle and seconded by Council Member Gragert “to adopt the ordinance.” Said motion passed by unanimous vote.

FACE COVERING REQUIREMENT

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance amending Chapter 8.04 “Contagious Disease” by creating Section 8.04.031 entitled “COVID-19 Face Covering Requirement” of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Eau Claire.

ZONING

The City Council had first reading on an ordinance rezoning property located at 3406 Melby Street from I-2 to C-3P and to adopt the general development plan with site plan for a convenience store with fuel and truck parking (Z-1681-21).

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned without objection.

Adjournment: January 26, 2021

Time: 7:56 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/ Terry L. Weld
Council President

/a/ Carrie L. Riepl
City Clerk