

**CITY OF RHINELANDER  
FINANCE, WAGE & SALARY COMMITTEE MEETING  
JULY 5, 2011 – 4:00-5:35 PM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman Mark Pelletier, Tom Gleason, Joe Salzer and Alex Young (4:25 p.m.)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Sherrie Belliveau.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Administrator Bill Bell, Ald. Bill Freudenberg, Ald. Tom Kelly, Wastewater Superintendent Tim Kingman, Administrative Assistant Lisa Kuczumski, Mayor Dick Johns, Jim Kumbera of OCEDC, Mike Michalak, Finance Director Julie Ostrander, Clerk/Treasurer Mary Richardson, Police Chief Mike Steffes and Fire Chief Terry Williams.

Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mark Pelletier at 4:00 p.m. The media was notified, the agenda posted, and a quorum present to do business.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION BY GLEASON, SECOND BY SALZER, TO POSTPONE APPROVAL OF THE FINANCE, WAGE & SALARY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2011. 3 AYE, 0 NAY, 2 ABSENT (BELLIVEAU, YOUNG); MOTION CARRIED.

Unfinished Business – None.

New Business

Discuss/Approve Fleet Maintenance Proposal as submitted by Custom Collision, Inc. for the provision of City-wide Fleet Maintenance

MOTION BY SALZER, SECOND BY GLEASON, TO APPROVE FLEET MAINTENANCE PROPOSAL AS SUBMITTED BY CUSTOM COLLISION, INC. FOR THE PROVISION OF CITY-WIDE FLEET MAINTENANCE. 3 AYE, 0 NAY, 2 ABSENT (BELLIVEAU, YOUNG); MOTION CARRIED.

Discuss/Approve City-wide Janitorial Supplies Proposal as submitted by Victory Janitorial, Inc.

MOTION BY SALZER, SECOND BY GLEASON, TO APPROVE CITY-WIDE JANITORIAL SUPPLIES PROPOSAL AS SUBMITTED BY VICTORY JANITORIAL, INC. 3 AYE, 0 NAY, 2 ABSENT (BELLIVEAU, YOUNG); MOTION CARRIED.

### Discuss construction of Young Street Public Landing

Mike Michalak stated that there have been more than three years in research and planning for this project. This would be a big boon to the downtown BID. Mike stated that this can be done cost-effectively, and the payback will not be measured over a long amount of time. There would be a \$30,000.00 initial investment for construction and placement of the dock. Mike stated they already have Trig's blessing for use of the parking lot. This would allow launching of fishing, pontoon and sport boats, opening up 8 miles fishing waters from Hat Rapids down to the dam. Mike noted that you really can't currently launch anything decent from the existing landings. The new landing wouldn't have sufficient room for jet skis, so that won't be a problem. There will be no wake between the bridges. This development opens up the possibility of large fishing tournaments, and would open up a Class A fishery with beautiful scenery and wildlife. Mike stated that from a resource standpoint, to be able to harvest and cull out some of the bigger fish would be good for the Wisconsin River system. User fees would be charged for use of the landing, as we do at Hodag Park.

Bill Bell stated that this is part of the Waterfront Initiative that came out of the original focus groups. There was always a plan for a boat landing; we previously considered the VFW area, but this proposal fits in better with the scheme, with the VFW location to be used for a park/picnic area. Bill stated that as far as financing, we have plenty built into TIF 8; we specifically added the waterfront initiative and this fits into the TIF plan. Bill noted that by using the fee system, we can recoup the money in the TIF District more quickly, to put it to other uses.

Mayor Johns noted that we got \$65,000 for the Hodag Park project through a DNR waterways grant, and asked if a grant might be a possibility for this development. Mike Michalak agreed, and stated he is also thinking of approaching the Cleary Foundation, as we need to get this rolling.

Joe Salzer noted that when the focus groups were taking shape, he talked to members of the community and got lots of comments, and everyone agreed that some type of recreational development to riverfront was a great idea, to get people to start focusing on the river. Joe asked Mike to bring a specific proposal back to the Committee for approval.

### Discuss/approve changes to Rhinelander Police Department telephone and internet systems

Mike Steffes stated they have two primary issues with Frontier. With the new records management system, we need very good connectivity with the Oneida County Sheriff's Department. Frontier provides 6 megabytes, and it's constantly timing out; Frontier is trying to build up its infrastructure, but they're not there yet. Mike stated that our system has to be able to constantly talk to ONSO. Officers writing reports in the Department, plus all mobiles, etc. go through the system; we get kicked off and can't get back on. Mike stated that the only person at Frontier who will talk to us is Greg Werner, but he's a salesman and so he's pushing for us to purchase new software.

Mike stated the other problem is that Frontier's voicemail system crashed back in May, which hid all our voicemails from us. We didn't figure out the problem until the end of June.

Mike stated that the new system he's looking at is similar to the City Hall system. It will allow us to house all voicemails on the server at the Police Department. The internet connection would be through Charter, whose speeds would address all of our connectivity issues. The cost would include a new server and new telephones and switches. We are currently paying \$1,003 per month with Frontier, and will save about \$674 per month by making this change. Mike noted that there is about \$11,000 left in the borrowing that was not needed for the New World transition, and those funds can be applied toward these expenses, as it still applies to New World. Mike noted that we would need \$12,000 from the General Fund. He believes we will see our cost returned in savings within 17 months.

Joe Salzer asked Julie Ostrander how repayment to the General Fund be handled; Julie stated it depends on how the Committee wants to do it. Joe stated he would be more comfortable with a loan. Mike noted that we could also plan on the savings by budgeting only \$329 instead of \$1,000 per month. Bill noted that we usually do loans from the General Fund only to Enterprise Funds. In this case, we would reduce the Police Department budget, which immediately affects the General Fund. Mike noted that with 6 months left in this year, we would see that cost savings immediately; next year's budget would reduce the line item.

(Alex Young arrived at 4:25 p.m.)

Terry Williams stated that he has an upcoming meeting with his IT person for a lot of the same issues. In his initial discussions with IT, it looks like we would be able to cut the budget in half and have much better service. Preliminary figures are about \$7,000 for the overall project. Terry noted that they are having the same issues – missing voicemails, poor connectivity. He noted that with Fire Department and ambulance, as with police, missing calls or voicemails could be critical. Terry noted that this is not on this agenda, but he's letting the Committee know that he's looking at the same type of thing.

Mary Richardson also noted that there will be two special elections this year, and the election budget will probably be short by half. She suggested that perhaps the Committee may want to consider borrowing for the telephone and internet improvements. Bell stated that this is an option.

Joe Salzer stated that he would like to see some kind of combined quote for both the Police and Fire Department to get any savings we can. He asked Mike if Charter would agree to get the improvements started for the funds we have on hand at this time. Mike felt they would if the Council would commit to the entire project. Joe stated that he would be perfectly willing to go to Charter and say, we commit to this, we're working on the best deal possible for both departments.

MOTION BY SALZER, SECOND BY GLEASON, TO AUTHORIZE POLICE CHIEF MIKE STEFFES AND FIRE CHIEF TERRY WILLIAMS TO PROCEED WITH TELEPHONE AND INTERNET SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS. 4 AYE, 0 NAY, 1 ABSENT (BELLIVEAU); MOTION CARRIED.

Discuss/Approve additional TIF #6 Expenditure for Spee-Dee Delivery Project

Jim Kumbera stated that the bids for the Spee-Dee project came in under budget. However, once the project got started, we had to add a manhole, then got caught in winter and had to bring power in and pay for frost charges. In addition, while running water and sewer, we ran into fiber optic cable we didn't know was there, and we had to thaw which cost around \$8,000. There is also some landscaping in front of the building that needs to be done. Jim is asking for \$19,000.00.

Bill Bell recommended this be approved. The work has been done. These were unanticipated expenses, and nothing that Jim could have controlled; he did a good job of managing the project.

MOTION BY PELLETIER, SECOND BY GLEASON, TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL TAX INCREMENTAL FINANCING IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,000 FOR SPEE-DEE DELIVERY SERVICE, INC. FACILITY EXPANSION PROJECT LOCATED IN TIF #6. 4 AYE, 0 NAY, 1 ABSENT (BELLIVEAU); MOTION CARRIED.

Matters of Emergency/Informational Nature

Mary reported that due to construction, the Northern Advantage Job Center will not be available for us to use for the upcoming 7/19/11 Recall Primary and 8/16/11 Recall Election. For those two elections, voters in Districts 3, 6, 7 and 8 will be voting at the VFW.

Approval of Bills and Claims

MOTION BY PELLETIER, SECOND BY SALZER, TO APPROVE BILLS AND CLAIMS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$130,707.46. 4 AYE, 0 NAY, 1 ABSENT (BELLIVEAU); MOTION CARRIED.

Future Agenda Requests and Meeting Date

Future Agenda Requests:

1. Young Street Landing
2. Telephone/Internet Systems for Police & Fire Departments
3. Potential City-Wide Borrowing
4. Update on Payroll Specialist
5. Hiring of City Administrator

The next meeting is set for Monday, August 1, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Executive Session

MOTION BY SALZER, SECOND BY GLEASON, TO ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO §19.85(1)(c) AND (e), WIS. STATS., TO CONSIDER AN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL AS SUBMITTED BY JIM KUMBERA OF THE ONEDIA COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION AND FOR THE PURPOSES OF DISCUSSING DETAILS RELATED TO THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR RECRUITMENT PROCESS AND CANDIDATES. 4 AYE, 0 NAY, 1 ABSENT (BELLIVEAU); MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION BY GLEASON, SECOND BY SALZER, TO ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AND RECONVEN IN OPEN SESSION. 4 AYE, 0 NAY, 1 ABSENT (BELLIVEAU); MOTION CARRIED.

Adjournment

MOTION BY SALZER, SECOND BY YOUNG, TO ADJOURN THE JULY 5, 2011 FINANCE, WAGE AND SALARY COMMITTEE MEETING AT 5:35 PM. 4 AYE, 0 NAY, 1 ABSENT (BELLIVEAU); MOTION CARRIED.

Approved By \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark Pelletier, Chairman

Received By \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk/Treasurer's Office

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