



City of Racine Meeting Minutes

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Finance and Personnel Committee

*Chairman James T. Spangenberg, Vice Chair Thomas Friedel,
Alderman Pete Karas, Alderman Sandy Weidner,
Alderman Aron Wisneski*

Monday, November 13, 2006

5:00 PM

City Hall, Room 103

Call to Order

PRESENT: 5 - James T. Spangenberg, Thomas Friedel, Pete Karas, Sandy Weidner and Aron Wisneski

Alderman James Spangenberg called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Approval of the minutes for the October 23, 2006 meeting. to Approve the Minutes

1. [06-2773](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 6th District submitting a communication on behalf of Sharon Baldukas, president of the Cemetery Commission, requesting the City to have an appraisal and preserve the City-owned Civil War cannon located at Mound Cemetery.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: The Purchasing Agent be directed to investigate appraisal service cost, to include Mr. Wayne E. Stark and any others, for the two Civil War cannons located at Mound Cemetery and West Racine and to report back to the Finance & Personnel Committee.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Sharon Baldukas, president of the Cemetery Commission, and Donnie Snow, Director of Parks & Recreation and Cultural Services, appeared before the Committee. Sharon discussed the history of the Civil War cannons located at Mound Cemetery and in West Racine. She received information from Mr. Wayne Stark, a civil war gun expert, that the value of the cannon at Mound Cemetery is estimated at \$100,000. The West Racine cannon is possibly a rare specimen of an Austrian or Auto-Hungarian Field Howitzer. Sharon's request is to have both cannons appraised and examine the proper preservation of these two cannons. The Committee's concern is the cost and availability of funds.

Deferred

2. [06-2638](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Compassionate Friends organization requesting use of Mound Cemetery Chapel on December 10, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. and waiver of fees.

Recommendation of the Cemetery Commission: Approve the request of the Compassionate Friends for use of the chapel on December 10, 2006 and further recommends that it be referred to the Finance and

Personnel Committee for consideration of waiving the fee.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: Permission be granted for the Compassionate Friends organization to utilize the Mound Cemetery Chapel on December 10, 2006 at a flat fee of \$100.

Fiscal Note: Revenues will be placed in the Cemetery's Maintenance Fund.

Donnie Snow, Director of Parks & Recreation and Cultural Services; Sandy Weidner, Alderman of the 6th District; Peg Rousar-Thompson and Sharon Baldukas, President of the Cemetery Commission appeared before the Committee. The Racine/Kenosha Chapter of the Compassionate Friends is open to all grieving parents in the southeastern Wisconsin area regardless of their religious affiliation, ethnicity, political boundaries or child's cause of death. The group has utilized the chapel at no cost in the past because a City staff volunteered their time. The Committee's concern is to have an amendment to the ordinance allowing nonprofit groups at a lower rate for the chapel use.

Recommended For Approval

3. [06-2747](#)

Subject: Communication from the Chief of Police requesting to amend the 2006 Asset Forfeiture Spending Plan, as adopted by Council, to include \$20,000 for the purchase of 20 tasers.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: Permission granted to the Chief of Police to amend the 2006 Asset Forfeiture Spending Plan to increase capital outlay by \$20,000 to be utilized for the purchase of 20 tasers.

Recommendation of the Public Safety & Licensing Committee on

11-13-06: That permission be granted to amend the 2006 Asset Forfeiture Spending Plan to increase capital outlay by \$20,000 for the purchase of 20 tasers.

Fiscal Note: \$20,000 appropriated in account 241.000.5770 Machinery & Equipment.

Art Howell, Deputy Chief, appeared before the Committee. Initially there was a 5-year plan to replace tasers that began in 2004. Because of the success of the device, the Department will be accelerating the replacement so that every officer will have their own.

Recommended For Approval

4. [06-2748](#)

Subject: Communication from the Chief of Police requesting permission to accept the in-kind donation of decal application services, offered by the Sign Shop, Inc., for the Racine Police Department's marked canine squad car. No matching funds from the City are required.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: Permission granted to the Chief of Police to accept the in-kind

donation for the decal application services for Racine Police Department's marked canine squad car from Sign Shop, Inc. and an appropriate letter of thanks be sent.

Recommendation of the Public Safety & Licensing Committee on

11-13-06: That permission be granted to the Chief of Police to accept the in-kind donation for the decal application services for Racine Police Department's marked canine squad car from Sign Shop, Inc. and an appropriate letter of thanks be sent.

Fiscal Note: No match required on the part of the City.

Art Howell, Deputy Chief, appeared before the Committee.

Recommended For Approval

5. [06-2664](#)

Subject: Communication from Stephen T. Nenonen, City Administrator and Scott Letteney, Assistant City Attorney, requesting the opportunity to present an amended contract for the operations of the Civic Centre and Memorial Hall.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

10-23-06: The item be deferred.

Recommendation of Civic Centre Commission on 10-25-06: That the amended contract be approved and accepted.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: The Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to enter into an amended contract with Compass of Racine, LLC for Civic Centre and Memorial Hall to take effect on January 1, 2007.

Fiscal Note: NA

Scott Letteney, Deputy City Attorney, appeared before the Committee. The amendment to the contract includes a one 5-year term with commencement of January 1, 2007; the fixed management fee increases based upon the same formula as the original contract; and the variable management fee formula changes.

Recommended For Approval

6. [06-2766](#)

Subject: Communication from the City Attorney submitting the claim of PAMA, LLC for consideration.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: The claim of PAMA, LLC for sanitary sewer wye connection failure adjacent to 1219 Layard Avenue be settled in the amount of \$7,882.50.

Fiscal Note: There are sufficient funds available in account 101.160.5910,

Judgment and Claims for the settlement.

Rob Weber, City Attorney, appeared before the Committee. The City's Maintenance and Repair Policy reads that the City is responsible for the main line of the sanitary sewer and the wye fittings. The branch of the wye fittings were broken and the lateral began to drop at the property adjacent to 1219 Layard Avenue. The recommendation is payment be made in the amount of \$7,882.50 for settlement of the claim.

Recommended For Approval

7. **06-2744** **Subject:** Communication from the City Attorney submitting the claim of Mya Haessig for consideration.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: The claim of Mya Haessig, of 1612 Thurston Avenue, for the request of reimbursement for car and chimney repairs allegedly caused from a fallen branch of a tree located in the parkway be denied.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Rob Weber, City Attorney, appeared before the Committee. Mya Haessig is requesting reimbursement in the amount of \$2,949.42 for car and chimney repairs caused by a fallen branch from a tree located in the parkway. The City Forester states that the fallen limb found in her yard was not in direct proximity of her chimney. Rob's recommendation is to deny the claim.

Recommended For Denial

8. **06-2651** **Subject:** Communication from the City Attorney submitting the claim of Mary Ann Glassen for consideration. The recommendation of the Common Council on 11-08-06 was to refer back to the Finance & Personnel Committee.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

10-23-06: The claim of Mary Ann Glassen be paid in the amount of \$50,000.00.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: The item be deferred so that it be brought back to the Committee under closed session.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Scott Letteney, Deputy City Attorney, appeared before the Committee. This item should be deferred so it can be presented again under closed session.

Deferred

9. [Res.06-7276](#) Settlement of Claim

Subject: Recommendation of the Common Council on 11-08-06 was to refer Resolution 06-7276 to the Finance & Personnel Committee.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: The item be deferred so that it be brought back to the Committee under closed session.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Resolved, that the claim of Mary Ann Glassen relating to a fall in the crosswalk at the intersection of 15th Street and Grove Avenue be settled in the amount of \$50,000.

Fiscal Note: There are sufficient funds available in Account 101.160.5910, Judgment and Claims, to cover the cost of this settlement.

Scott Letteney, Deputy City Attorney, appeared before the Committee. This item should be deferred so it can be presented again under closed session.

Deferred

10. [06-2652](#)

Subject: Communication from the City Attorney submitting the claim of Laurence Miller and Cynthia Miller for consideration. Recommendation of the Common Council on 11-08-06 was to refer back to the Finance & Personnel Committee.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

10-23-06: The claim for Laurence and Cynthia Miller in the amount of \$9,470.00 be denied.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: The claim for Laurence and Cynthia Miller requesting reimbursement for connecting the sanitary sewer service adjacent to 1219 Layard Avenue in the amount of \$9,470.00 be denied.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Scott Letteney, Deputy City Attorney, and Larry Miller, of Miller Construction, appeared before the Committee. The contractor built a residence at 1608 Carlisle Avenue and was given information that a sewer connection was installed in the year 1919 at the vacant lot. The connection was laid to the east instead of the west. The City gave the information based on information available to the City plumber. The City denies liability under Municipal Code Section 18-530. The additional cost of \$9,470 was incurred by Miller Construction to install a lateral to the main.

Recommended For Denial

11. [06-2771](#)

Subject: Communication from the Public Health Administrator requesting permission to apply for and accept funding and the Mayor and City Clerk sign a contract with the State of Wisconsin, Department of Health and Family Services for the CDC WIC Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program in the amount of \$1,400.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: The City apply for and the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to enter into a \$1,400 agreement with the State of Wisconsin, Department of Health and Family Services for the CDC WIC Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (Grant Control No. 2007-047).

Recommendation of the Board of Health 11/14/06: The City apply for and the Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to enter into a \$1,400 agreement with the State of Wisconsin, Department of Health and Family Services for the CDC WIC Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program (Grant Control No. 2007-047).

Fiscal Note: No match required on the part of the City.

Thelma Jones, Director of Nursing, appeared before the Committee. Her request is to apply for and accept the grant. The funds will be utilized for lead testing of children who are not covered by health insurance.

Recommended For Approval

12. [06-2770](#)

Subject: Communication from the Public Health Administrator requesting permission to apply for a grant in the amount of \$3,640 from the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin to fund the Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs. The contract period is January 1, 2007 to December 31, 2007.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: Permission granted to the Public Health Administrator to apply for the \$3,640 grant with the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Inc. (Grant Control No. 2006-046) to be utilized for Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs Program.

Recommendation of the Board of Health 11/14/06: Permission granted to the Public Health Administrator to apply for the \$3,640 grant with the Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Inc. (Grant Control No. 2006-046) to be utilized for Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs Program.

Fiscal Note: No match required on the part of the City.

Thelma Jones, Director of Nursing, appeared before the Committee.

Recommended For Approval

13. [06-2769](#)

Subject: Communication from the Public Health Administrator requesting to apply for funding from the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program for a project titled Determination of Ambient Indicator Levels in Fresh Water Environments by Real-Time PCR.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: Permission granted to the Public Health Administrator to apply for a \$30,000 grant with the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (Grant Control No. 2006-048) to be utilized for the Determination of Ambient Indicator Levels in Fresh Water Environments by Real-Time PCR Program.

Recommendation of the Board of Health on 11/14/2006: Permission granted to the Public Health Administrator to apply for a \$30,000 grant with the Wisconsin Coastal Management Program (Grant Control No. 2006-048) to be utilized for the Determination of Ambient Indicator Levels in Fresh Water Environments by Real-Time PCR Program.

Fiscal Note: There is a soft match above grant amount of \$46,282 on the part of the City.

Thelma Jones, Director of Nursing, appeared before the Committee. The funds will be utilized for beach testing that covers students working, supplies and indirect costs.

Recommended For Approval

14. [06-2703](#)

Subject: Communication from the Assistant Director of City Development requesting discussion on the Home Improvement Loan Program Agreement with the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: The Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to enter into a Home Improvement Loan Program agreement with the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA) enabling the City to disburse home improvement loans on WHEDA's behalf and the City earn a sponsor fee.

Fiscal Note: The sponsor fee will be \$350 per loan closure to be placed into the Housing Department's revenue account.

Joe Heck, Assistant Director of City Development, appeared before the Committee. The City entering into the Home Improvement Loan Program agreement will allow the City to originate, close, and disburse home improvement loans on WHEDA's behalf and earn a sponsor fee of \$350 per loan closure. The WHEDA underwriters will examine the paperwork.

Recommended For Approval

15. [06-2743](#)

Subject: Communication from the Director of City Development requesting to discuss the agreement with Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission for City of Racine Smart Growth Plan

Also referred to the City Plan Commission

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: The Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to enter into a City of Racine Smart Growth Plan agreement with Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC)

Fiscal Note: The City's cost will be approximately \$10,000 appropriated in account 986.913.5100, 2006 capital budget.

Brian O'Connell, Director of City Development, appeared before the Committee. The City and County of Racine have joined in an intergovernmental Smart Growth Plan that covers all the municipalities in the County. There is an option to have a separate City comprehensive plan document that will satisfy the mandate that there be a Smart Growth Plan by 2010 for the City to be able to retain zoning. An agreement will be entered into with Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) to have the document completed. \$10,000 is the estimated cost appropriated in the 2006 capital budget.

Recommended For Approval

16. [06-2729](#)

Subject: Communication from the Director of City Development requesting to discuss the 2007 Operating Plan for Business Improvement District No. 1, Downtown Racine.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: Approval of the 2007 Operating Plan for Business Improvement District No. 1, Downtown Racine.

Fiscal Note: It is estimated that \$187,500 will be raised through bid assessments to be placed into the Downtown Bid's revenue account.

Brian O'Connell, Director of City Development, appeared before the Committee. Annually the Business Improvement Districts have to submit an updated operating plan for the coming year including the assessments. The Business Improvement District No. 1, Downtown Racine is proposing to raise \$187,500 through bid assessments.

Recommended For Approval

17. [06-2681](#)

Subject: Communication from the Director of City Development to amend the Development agreement with Key Bridge Group for the Pointe Blue redevelopment project.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: The Mayor and City Clerk be authorized and directed to enter into an amended contract with Key Bridge Group for the Pointe Blue Redevelopment Project to amend the date of closing to April 11, 2007 on the former Walker property and related terms.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Brian O'Connell, Director of City Development, and Scott Fergus, President of Key Bridge Group, appeared before the Committee. The agreement of closing with Key Bridge for the purchase of the Walker Site and other properties was to occur on October 15, 2006.

Because of financing, the request is to amend the contract to a closing date of April 11, 2007. Scott Fergus discussed the environmental cost cap policies.

Recommended For Approval

18. [06-2221](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Mayor requesting that the North Beach Oasis contract be amended to provide for payment by concessionaire for designated North Beach improvements in lieu of revenues to the City.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

07-24-06: The item be deferred.

Recommendation of the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural

Services on 8-9-06: The request be deferred.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

09-11-06: The item be deferred.

Recommendation of the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural

Services on 09-13-06: That the contract not be amended. Further recommends that the contract between the City of Racine and the North Beach Oasis be reviewed in totality to implement possible changes in light of strong concerns of constituents in the neighborhood.

Recommendation of the Finance & Personnel Committee on

11-13-06: The item be received and filed.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Donnie Snow, Director of Parks & Recreation and Cultural Services, and Jim Rooney appeared before the Committee. Jim Rooney spoke of past discussions regarding Oasis' contract for the past four years. The North Beach Oasis contract is up for renewal to be presented to the Board of Parks & Recreation and Cultural Services. When the renewal contract is submitted the amendments can be done at that time. The recommendation of the Committee is to receive and file the item.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

Miscellaneous Business

None

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting adjourned at 7:18 p.m. The next scheduled meeting of this Committee is at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 27, 2006 at City Hall, Room 103.

Respectfully submitted,

**Alderman James Spangenberg, Chairman
Finance & Personnel Committee**