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Office of the City Administrator

PUBLIC WELFARE COMMITTEE

Tuesday, July 12, 2016

6:00 PM

South Conference Room

Minutes

1. Call to Order, Roll Call

Present:

Alderman Dale Mayr

Alderman Mark Gierl

Alderman John Wirth

Also Present: Alderman Pukaite (6:05 pm), Mayor Abendroth, (6:10 pm), City Administrator Jones, Deputy City Clerk Fochs, City Attorney Sajdak, Executive Assistant Prosser

2. Approval of June 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes

RESULT: Accepted [Unanimous]

MOVED BY: Alderman Gierl

SECONDED BY: Alderman Mayr

AYES: Alderman Mayr, Alderman Gierl

NOT PRESENT: Alderman Wirth

3. Discussion Items

a. Review and Discussion of the City's Current Policy Concerning the Televising of Meetings Involving the Mequon Common Council

City Administrator Jones stated the Committee received a memorandum within their meeting packet to address the issue regarding the review and possible modification of the City's current policy regarding the broadcasting of meetings on channel 25. Mr. Jones stated the current policy with respect to channel 25 includes a stipulation that all meetings of the Common Council, Planning Commission and Appropriations Committee be televised. Mr. Jones pointed out the cost to televise the meetings in 2015 was \$9,000. Mr. Jones went on to say a contract has been renegotiated with the City's videographer, Mike Gross, for 2016 at a fixed cost of \$275 per meeting.

City Administrator Jones informed the Committee that staff is currently working on converting to a new agenda management system which will allow the taped meetings to be available on the City's website. Mr. Jones pointed out that the system will have the capability of providing meeting videos on demand and will be indexed according to the meeting agenda. Deputy City Clerk Fochs provided a demonstration of the new agenda management system.

The Public Welfare Committee went on to discuss what other meetings should be televised. Alderman Gierl mentioned he would like to see a set of standards with regards to when videos will be uploaded, as well as how to find the meeting videos on YouTube. City Administrator Jones stated staff has recently set a schedule for broadcasting videos on channel 25. Mr. Jones noted in the event additional meetings need to be televised, the schedule will be changed accordingly. Alderman Gierl mentioned he would like to have meetings of the Board of Appeals be televised. The Committee did not reach a consensus with regard to televising meetings of the Board of Appeals.

Alderman Wirth moved to televise all meetings that require the entire Common Council to be present other than closed sessions.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**
MOVED BY: Alderman Wirth
SECONDED BY: Alderman Gierl

AYES:	Alderman Mayr, Alderman Gierl, Alderman Wirth
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b. Consideration of An Ordinance Amending the City's Ethics Code to Include An Honesty Provision

City Attorney Sajdak stated at the Committee's May meeting, amendments to Sections 2-136(2) and 2-137(b)(9) of the Mequon Municipal Code in connection with establishing an honesty definition and provision with the City's Ethics Code was approved and forward on to the Ethics Board for review. Attorney Sajdak stated the Ethics Board did meet to review the proposed amendments and has provided the Public Welfare Committee with their recommendation. Attorney Sajdak noted he was notified by several members of the Public Welfare Committee that the language submitted to the Ethics Board was different than what was recommended by the Public Welfare Committee.

Attorney Sajdak stated the Ethics Board based their decision on three reasons: 1) adding honesty to the Ethics Code would be difficult to administer; 2) changing the Ethics Code would be a departure from the State ethics code; and 3) the proposed changes bring an element of politics to the Ethics Code. Alderman Mayr inquired whether the Ethics Board would have had a different determination if they had received the correct code amendment. City Attorney Sajdak stated the Ethics Board did discuss extensively ways that would solve some of the issues of uncertainty. Attorney Sajdak noted the Ethics Board preferred to keep the language simple.

Alderman Wirth moved to send the original code amendment approved by the Public Welfare Committee to the Common Council and members of the Ethics Board to give them the opportunity to submit written comments to the Common Council.

Alderman Gierl moved to not offer the Ethics Board the opportunity to submit written comments to the Common Council. There was no second to the motion. Alderman Wirth stated the Ethics Board should have the opportunity to comment. Alderman Gierl seconded the original motion moved by Alderman Wirth.

Alderman Wirth requested that the item be placed on the Common Council's August meeting agenda.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**
MOVED BY: Alderman Wirth
SECONDED BY: Alderman Gierl

AYES:	Alderman Mayr, Alderman Gierl, Alderman Wirth
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c. Boards and Commissions Review: 2016-17 Proposed Work Plan (Draft)

Alderman Wirth provided a copy of his memo dated May 11, 2016 to the Committee and staff regarding review of boards, commissions and committee.

City Administrator Jones stated a draft work plan to review the city's boards and commissions has been provided to the Committee. Mr. Jones went on to review the work plan with the Committee noting the plan is broken into various categories and into various work groups by quarter including a review of the membership and eligibility requirements, a financial review of any budgets or needs of the city's boards and committees, a review of the infrastructure and composition relative to sizing, possible elimination of any committees or boards and legislative considerations. Mr. Jones concluded stating staff is open to the Committee's feedback, any comments, suggestions or additions to the proposed work plan.

Alderman Wirth expressed concern for the overall length of time to complete the project noting the change in standing committee assignments may delay the process. Alderman Wirth requested that the review of the city's boards and commissions be completed by next April. Alderman Mayr suggested the Committee meet twice a month. The Committee agreed to meet at 5:00 p.m. on August 10th.

4. Information Items

a. Public Welfare Committee FY2016-2017 Work Plan

City Administrator Jones stated the Committee's work plan will be an item on every Committee's agenda for review. Mr. Jones stated next month's agenda will include discussion of the City's boards and commission, and review of a proposed ordinance regarding short-term rentals.

5. Adjourn

The meeting of the Public Welfare Committee adjourned at 6:48 PM.

RESULT: **Approved by Voice Acclamation [Unanimous]**
MOVED BY: Alderman Wirth
SECONDED BY: Alderman Gierl

AYES:	Alderman Mayr, Alderman Gierl, Alderman Wirth
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