



**CITY OF BURLINGTON**  
**Committee of the Whole Minutes**  
**Jeannie Hefty, Mayor**  
**Diahnn Halbach, City Clerk**  
**Tuesday, February 7, 2017**

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call**

Mayor Jeannie Hefty called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. starting with roll call. Aldermen present: John Ekes, Ed Johnson, Bob Grandi, Ruth Dawidziak, Jon Schultz, Tom Preusker and Todd Bauman. Excused: Tom Vos

Also present: City Administrator Carina Walters, City Attorney John Bjelajac, Finance Director Steve DeQuaker, Police Chief Mark Anderson, Fire Chief Alan Babe, DPW Director James Bergles, and Building Inspector Gregory Guidry.

Student Representatives - Present: Gabriel King, Ryan Werner. Excused: None

**2. Citizens Comments and Questions**

There were none.

**3. Approval of Minutes from January 17, 2017**

A motion was made by Alderman Preusker with a second by Alderman Bauman to approve the minutes from December 20, 2016. With all in favor, the motion carried to approve the minutes.

**4. Topic: Discussion regarding possible City sponsored special events in 2017, specifically:**

- **Ice Festival**
- **Community Block Party**
- **Clue Scouting**

Mayor Hefty introduced the topic. Alderman Dawidziak stated that she hopes to see the Community Block party continue to grow and looks forward to the 2017 event.

Mayor Hefty stated that there is already interest in the 2017 Ice Festival and that there could potentially be double the participation. Hefty also added that she has been in contact with someone who is interested in adding lighting to the box stands for the sculptures. Alderman Johnson felt there should be more security to prevent vandalism of the ice sculptures.

Mayor Hefty explained that the City had been contacted by a volunteer with the Three Harbors Council of the Boy Scout of America, requesting to hold a scouting event in downtown Burlington, called Clue Jr., on October 7, 2017. This event would draw much attention to the City of Burlington and its downtown businesses.

**5. Topic: Discussion to discuss thoughts and opinions regarding implementing an At-Large Council.**

Walters reviewed the background as to why this topic was being brought to Council for discussion and laid out the three potential options for them to consider.

Alderman Johnson replied that he liked the option of half At-Large and half District. Alderman Dawidziak stated that she sees value in having district representation, but also likes the option of having At-Large seats.

Alderman Schultz stated that At-Large councils work well with smaller communities, whereas most issues are citywide and not district specific. Schultz felt an At-Large council would encourage more participation and promote healthy competition among the aldermanic seats. Schultz added that rarely are the phone calls he receives strictly from his district and that he would never not talk to someone just because they aren't in his district.

Alderman Ekes stated that he disagrees with having a mixed council and that if there is interest in having an At-Large council, then all seats should be At-Large. Ekes also stated that he felt the number of members should be reevaluated and suggested six members rather than eight.

Alderman Grandi felt that lack of interest among residents to get involved with their community has to do with lack of education and the City should start taking a more aggressive approach to citizen engagement and suggested events such "Coffee with your Alderman", or holding community discussions on an on-going basis.

Student representative Ryan Werner stated that he didn't feel it was necessarily a lack of education, but just a lack of interest and suggested that council get more involved with community service projects as a way to reach out at a younger age. Student representative Gabriel King added that he and Werner, whom are both part of the council through the Partners 2 program, are examples of getting students involved. King also felt the community would benefit from an All At-Large Council.

Alderman Bauman said he both agreed and disagreed with Ekes, in that politics itself has a bad a reputation and that volunteers throughout the City are difficult to find.

Alderman Preusker stated that he is open to an At-Large Council.

Resident, Steve Rauch, 333 S. Oakland Avenue, was a previous Alderman for the Third District and was interested in becoming involved with the Council again; however, because he lives in the third district and didn't want to run against the current incumbent, he would have liked the opportunity to run for First District.

Alderman Bauman suggested if the number of members were to be reduced, to reduce it to an odd number, which would alleviate the Mayor from needing to be a tie-breaking voting member.

Attorney Bjelajac stated that he would draft a Charter Ordinance depicting an At-Large Council and present at a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

- 6. Topic: Resolution 4812(31) to consider approving a contract extension for a term of three years with John's Disposal for refuse and recycling collection services.**

Jim Bergles provided background history and presented an alternate proposal of a three year agreement versus the original four year agreement.

Walters responded to the request to explore adding weekly recycle pick up. Walters stated that 84% of the people that responded to the question posted via Facebook, wanted to keep the bi-weekly pick up and suggested for those that wanted the weekly service, to purchase an additional bin for \$40.

Alderman Schultz suggested that the City should encourage recycling and possibly purchase the extra bins for the residents who need one.

7. **Topic: Resolution 4813(32)** to consider approving a preliminary resolution declaring intent to exercise special assessment powers under §66.0703, Wisconsin Statutes, for reconstruction of sidewalks at various locations.

Bergles explained that this resolution is the annual sidewalk reconstruction program and is the same as last year.

Alderman Schultz asked if this project was separate from the Kendall Street project. Bergles responded that this is a separate project and is not part of the sidewalk assessments. Gregory Governatori, Kapur & Associates, confirmed that the Kendal Street project does not include sidewalk replacement, however, any damage done to the sidewalks during the construction, will result in being fixed which may also include some spot repair.

8. **Topic: Resolution 4819(38)** to consider approving a preliminary resolution declaring intent to exercise special assessment powers under §66.0703, Wisconsin Statutes, for the installation of municipal sanitary sewer on the east side of South Pine Street from 928 S. Pine to 1008 S. Pine.

Walters reviewed the background history explaining that when the water and sewer was extended along Pine Street south to the water treatment plant, the east side of the street was not included as it was in the Town of Burlington. It was not until Packaging Corporation (PCA) approached the City for annexation that utility connections were discussed. When PCA annexed, they brought in five properties located on the east side of S. Pine Street from 928 to 1008 S. Pine Street. Walters went on to explain that in early 2016, a business owner was looking to expand, which included the need to connect to the City's sewer connection; however the connection was not under Pine Street to the east, therefore not financially viable as all costs would be born to the business owner. Walters further stated that during the Budget Workshop, staff was directed to allocate dollars in the 2017 budget towards this economic development initiative and this resolution is the first step in the assessment process.

9. **Topic: Resolution 4820(39)** to consider Task Order Number 101 with Kapur and Associates for Engineering Services regarding the City of Burlington Municipal Landfill.

Attorney Bjelajac explained that this Task Order is the bi-annual contract with Kapur and is required by the DNR.

10. **Topic: Resolution 4821(40)** to consider authorizing assessment fees for Weights and Measures license holders from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

City Clerk, Diahnn Halbach, explained that this is the repayment process for the annual state invoice for Weights and Measures, which requires Council approval. There was no further discussion.

11. **Topic: Motion 17-862** to consider approving a Lease Agreement with Baseball 2000 for the operation of Beaumont Field from December 1, 2016 to November 30, 2018.

Bergles reviewed the background history with Baseball 2000, stating the City has been in a lease agreement with them since November 16, 2000 and that this agreement is the two year renewal.

Alderman Schultz suggested having a longer lease. Alderman Ekes agreed and suggested four years. Alderman Dawidziak recommended waiting until the next renewal and change it then. There was no further discussion.

- 12. Topic: Motion 17-863** – to consider approving a Memorandum of Understanding with Baseball 2000 for the new netting and backstop at Beaumont Field.

Bergles reviewed the MOU and explained that Baseball 2000 has asked the City to pay for a new back stop and field netting at Beaumont Field. The cost of the project is \$66,184 and Baseball 2000 has agreed to contribute 25% (\$16,546) towards the total cost. Bergles further stated that the new MOU states that Baseball 2000 shall pay \$3,309.20 yearly, over the course of 5 years, starting in 2017; however, could potentially pay off sooner if the proceeds from fundraisers allows them to.

- 13. Topic: Motion 17-864** – to consider approving a new snowmobile trail starting at the AmericInn at 2709 Browns Lake Drive, north to the City of Burlington limit. The trail will operate along the east side of Browns Lake Road for 95’ and then enter into the Village of Rochester.

Bergles reviewed the background history of the motion and then introduced Wayne Ball, president of the Sno-Snoopers snowmobile club. Ball reiterated that the trail will help increase the use of the Racine County trails with the addition of the AmericInn and also provide overnight accommodations for tourists that partake in long distance rides. Ball also stated that the average snowmobile season in this area, lasts only about 2 weeks.

**14. Adjourn**

A motion was made by Bauman with a second by Grandi to adjourn the meeting. With all in favor, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

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Diahnn C. Halbach  
City Clerk  
City of Burlington