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## **BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

Tuesday, June 11, 2013  
Committee Room #1

PRESENT: Alds. Wilson, Donegan, Tilleson, Dubinski, Birschel - 5

EXCUSED: Ald. Organ, Ewerdt, Hanson

ALSO PRESENT: J. Archambo, City Admin.; A. Kesner, City Atty.; J. Ruggini, Finance Dir.;  
K. Walbrant, Parks & Forestry Supt.; E. Miller-Carter, Asst. City Atty.

Ald. Wilson as Chair called the meeting to order at 8:01 p.m.

### **Funding and construction of a skateboard park at Hart Park**

The committee reviewed a memo from the Public Works Director regarding a recommendation from the Parks and Forestry Commission to support the construction of a skateboard park at Hart Park, and contribute \$80,000 towards the total project cost of \$240,000.

The Hart Park Master Plan includes a skateboard park. It is located along Chestnut Street between 70<sup>th</sup> and 72<sup>nd</sup> streets. Incorporated in 2004, Tosa Skateboarders United (TSU) was formed as a 501(c) 3 non-profit charity organization for the express purpose of constructing a skateboard park in Hart Park.

Mr. Porter introduced Mike and Judy Doyle who have been working many years on this project. The request is for the committee to take action on city funding in the amount of \$80,000 as part of the master plan for Hart Park. Mr. and Mrs. Doyle have made a personal commitment of \$80,000 and asked the City to do the same.

Mr. & Mrs. Doyle presented a PowerPoint and stressed how important a skateboard park would be to the community. There currently is not a safe legal place for skateboarders to go. This community gathering place will help the children build social skills and promotes a healthy and active lifestyle. This is an opportunity for the City to prosper and will bring business to the area.

The Doyle's said they have set aside their portion of the cost for a professionally designed skateboard park which would cost \$240,000. If the City matches the Doyle's \$80,000, TSU will fundraise the remaining \$80,000, of which they have already raised \$33,000. They felt with the City making this investment that people will step up in a big way to help raise the additional money.

Mr. & Mrs. Doyle explained the type of skateboard park that has been designed. A 7,000 square foot park is considered a neighborhood and a 10,000 square foot park is considered a destination park. A challenging plaza style park can be constructed for \$240,000 of approximately 7,000 – 8,000 square feet.

Tom Ertel, 7440 Oak Hill Avenue, Chair of the Parks and Forestry Board, said that Hart Park is a destination park and has become a family attraction which enhances the community reputation. If the City doesn't create a skateboard park, the City will become a skateboard park.

Ken Walbrant said the skateboard park was part of the original 2004 park plan and part of the 2007 final design. He said it will not intrude with any of the other park facilities.

Mr. Ruggini discussed the different options for funding \$80,000. Funds were set aside from Toldt Development for the sale of the public works land for costs associated with Hart Park. He noted that there are a number of significant projects in the pipe line. He felt the funds set aside from Toldt Development should be spent on park improvements and in a way that decreases debt issue.

The City Attorney replied to a question that the City's portion of the skateboard funding would not be paid out until all the other monies came forward. Because it is City land, the City funds would be paid last.

Steve Birney, Program Coordinator with the Wauwatosa Recreation Department and Wauwatosa Youth Commission said this allows for a program with lessons to learn how to skate. He said this age group is a hard group to program for and this is an opportunity to reach them.

Those speaking in favor included: Mary Pruitt-Martinez, 2452 N. 82<sup>nd</sup> St.; Ron and Brad Grimm, 2429 N. 82<sup>nd</sup> St.; Kathy Barry, 608 N. 62<sup>nd</sup> Street; Lauren Roznowski Hayden, 2508 N. 69<sup>th</sup> Street; Bryan Tracey, 1930 N. Menomonee River Parkway; Ingrid Zitzer, 6819 Blanchard Street; Eric Phaff, 11728 W. Garfield Avenue; Val Schleicher, 225 Glenview; Jake Schultz 3143 N. 90<sup>th</sup> Street; Scott McOlash 2431 N 82<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Favorable comments included: these are not a bunch of punk kids, they just want a safe place to play; this is long overdue and fundraising efforts are ongoing; benefit to all children in Wauwatosa and surrounding communities; family destination; the City will become a skateboard park if this is not constructed; there is a need for 'tweens' to go and have fun; this is performance art; skateboarding makes you think outside of the box and to anticipate your next move; great opportunity for the City.

No one spoke in opposition.

Ald. Birschel commented that if the City can designate millions of dollars for underground parking, they certainly can spend the money for the skateboard park.

Moved by Ald. Birschel, seconded by Ald. Tilleson  
to recommend an allocation of \$80,000 from the Toldt  
Development site.

Mr. Ruggini discussed the ongoing operating costs of the skateboard park. Noting that assets degrade he estimated maintenance costs to be less than \$3,000 or \$4,000 and when discussing capital projects this needs to be taken into consideration.

Ald. Donegan commended the Doyle's for their enthusiasm and support. However he had a hard time jumping on this expenditure when the needed funds for the library keep getting denied. Since it was never memorialized how the Toldt Development funds were to be used, he wanted to use his discretion about the lacking library funding as well.

Ald. Donegan requested an amendment to the motion to  
include an allocation of \$15,000 for five years of maintenance  
and transfer of \$40,000 to the library fund.

The motioner accepted the amendment, Ald. Tilleson did not.

Moved by Ald. Birschel, seconded by Ald. Donegan  
to recommend an allocation of \$80,000 from the Toldt  
Development site, \$15,000 from the Toldt Development

site for maintenance and a transfer of \$40,000 to the library fund.

Ald. Wilson requested that the library motion be discussed at a later date and would be happy to support the motion at that time. He did not want to lose any momentum for the skateboard project motion.

Moved by Ald. Wilson, seconded by Ald. Tilleson to recommend approval to allocate \$80,000 in funds towards construction of the skateboard park and \$15,000 in funds for five-years of maintenance, all coming from the funds from the sale of the land at the Public Works yard.

Ald. Tilleson thanked the Doyle's for their donation and strong support of the skateboard park. He felt that this athletic group has fallen through the cracks. He concurred that the library discussion needs to be held at a different time.

Ald. Dubinski noted the item on the agenda is for the skateboard park and although a friend of the library, tonight is for the success of the skateboard park.

Ald. Donegan withdrew his motion under the context that the library item would be placed on an agenda in the near future.

Vote on the motion to allocate \$80,000 in funds toward construction and \$15,000 in maintenance fees all coming from the sale of the public works land. Ayes: 5

### **Architectural and engineering services at City Hall and at the Public Works Building**

The committee reviewed a memo from the Public Works Director regarding proposals received from several firms capable of preparing remodeling plans for portions of City Hall and the Public Works Building. Four proposals were returned, and a selection needs to be made to keep the project on track for 2014.

As part of the 2014 Capital Budget, two projects are programmed that will involve the need for architectural and engineering services. The first project, involves the remodeling of the Administration, Attorney's and Human Resources offices. The second project is programmed to upgrade the office spaces at the Public Works building. Both projects involve the upgrading of mechanical systems.

Mr. Porter explained that the City requested proposals from several firms for remodeling plans of City Hall and the Public Works Building requiring architectural and engineering services. Four bids were received ranging from \$41,975 to \$120,100.

Mr. Porter said that both building projects are budgeted in separate accounts programmed in 2013 and 2014. He said that a total of \$36,000 was budgeted for plan preparation for both projects. Although over the budgeted amount, Mr. Porter said that since construction would not begin until 2014, there are sufficient funds in the 2013 budget to proceed with both projects.

Mr. Porter replied to a question that the recommended firm, Arcint Architects has done the master plans for the Civic Center complex and the Health Department remodeling and is very familiar with the way Wauwatosa does things.

Moved by Ald. Donegan, seconded by Ald. Wilson to recommend approval of the contract to Arcint Architects

for the remodeling of spaces at City Hall and the  
Public Works building in an amount of \$41,975 – Ayes: 4 Present: 1 (Tilleson)

**Exemption from sealed bid process for ladder truck purchase and early approval of capital request**

The committee reviewed a memo from Chief Ugaste requesting exemption from sealed bid process for purchase of a ladder truck, and early approval of 2014 capital budget request of \$927,221.

The Fire Department is scheduled to purchase a replacement ladder truck in 2014. This truck will replace a 1998 3D/HME model that has been experiencing significant maintenance issues.

In order to maintain consistency and remain with a dependable brand, the fire department is requesting the ability to purchase the replacement ladder truck directly from Pierce Manufacturing. The City has purchased three apparatus from Pierce since 2006.

Chief Ugaste requested permission to move forward with the purchase of a ladder truck. There have been significant maintenance issues with this vehicle and has been out of service for several months. There has been a need recently for this ladder truck for use at two fires and it was not available. Chief Ugaste asked to move forward and sign a contract with Pierce Manufacturing. The vehicle would take about nine months to be built. He said that this will be the fourth vehicle purchased from Pierce Manufacturing and they have been very satisfied with them.

Mr. Ruggini said he supported the justification to proceed with the purchase. The older vehicle is past its useful life. Every day the truck remains in service, it is costing the City money. He said although difficult to compare apples to apples, he assured the committee the cost of the new vehicle is within the range of competitive pricing.

The committee expressed concerns using the same vendor and expressed a desire to get back to the sealed bid process after this purchase.

Moved by Ald. Donegan, seconded by Ald. Dubinski  
to recommend approval of the exception to the sealed  
bid process for the purchase of a replacement ladder  
truck from Pierce Manufacturing and approve of the early  
2014 capital purchase allowing the City to sign a contract  
prior to July 2, 2013 – Ayes: 5

**Domestic Chicken Ordinance, Section 9.04.050 of the Wauwatosa Municipal Code**

The committee reviewed a memo from the City Attorney regarding license fees under the Domestic Chicken Ordinance of the Wauwatosa Municipal Code. The trial domestic chicken regulations require a license and separate fee for each chicken license issued. An owner may license and keep up to four chickens per household. The license is non refundable and non transferable. During this trial period, a fee of \$15.00 per chicken has been established administratively, which is far below the estimated regulatory costs for implementation of the ordinance. If the ordinance is extended beyond the first year trial, the license must be renewed and fee paid each year.

The City Attorney said the chicken ordinance was presented and discussed in February, moving quickly to allow residents time to get their coops together and chickens ordered. One thing undecided at the time the ordinance was passed was the amount of license fee to charge per chicken. Mr. Kesner said the fee of \$15.00 which was suggested was less than he wanted. The City Attorney said the initial discussion was to try and

cover the administrative cost and the \$15.00 fee per chicken does not begin to cover this cost. He said there is a one-year sunset and further discussion can be held.

Ald. Wilke felt there needs to be more ongoing discussion and felt the fee was a little high. He noted that at the committee level the Health Department wanted to track every chicken. He felt the cost got set too high and didn't feel that this ordinance needed to be cost neutral. He suggested there be a streamlining of the process and this is part of the learning curve to move forward. He was under the impression that Budget & Finance would have been the place to set the fee. Ald. Wilke provided permit rates of surrounding municipalities and noted that some places only charge an original fee, no annual fee. He felt the costs needed to be looked at to come up with a more appropriate fee. Why is Wauwatosa so much higher than their neighboring communities?

Nancy Smith Watson, 1065 N. 68<sup>th</sup> St. encouraged the City to keep their license fee in line with neighboring communities. She felt that once the licensing process is implemented, the associated staff costs would be minimal. She thought \$60 was a lot to pay for permits to keep four chickens. She said the license cost should be similar to what the cost is for other pets.

Ald. Walz-Chojnacki felt that the regulatory system for the chicken permit is overbuilt and that chickens were put into a special category and felt it was inappropriate. He didn't feel the cost to the City to regulate this should be an issue.

Bill Watson, 1065 N. 68<sup>th</sup> St. didn't feel there was any justification to raise the price. The ordinance is a trial ordinance for one-year and asked why Wauwatosa is the most expensive City to license chickens in the area. He felt it seems ungrounded and appeared to be an attempt to not enable chicken ownership.

The City Attorney clarified that tonight's discussion is not to increase the permit fee. He suggested the City of Milwaukee comparison were a regular part of the initial discussion when designing the ordinance.

Ald. McBride felt that Milwaukee was the standard we were comparing to and advocated that chickens be a little more affordable.

Ms. Miller-Carter explained as part of the basis in making a decision on the fee per chicken in lieu of one cost for a coop was that each dog and cat in a household must be licensed individually as well.

Ald. Birschel commented that he is, and has been, against the ordinance allowing chickens in the city. He felt it is a very poor investment for the amount of revenue gained verses the city expense. We are not a farming community.

The committee discussed and felt that staff should look at this further and try to simplify the process in preparation of the upcoming budget discussions. They questioned what follow-up costs to complaints would be. It was noted that the fee amount was never referred to Budget & Finance for discussion.

**Vouchers**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Dept.</b>	<b>Reason and location</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Laurel Schleimer	Purchasing	NIGP Legal Aspects of Purchasing Class - Brookfield	06/03-06/06/13	650.00
Patrick Kane	Police	Breach Point training - Sheboygan	5/17/13	6.38

Elizabeth Bohren	Human Resources	American Family Training Center - Madison	5/31/13	212.26
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Moved by Ald. Birschel, seconded by Ald. Wilson that the vouchers be allowed and paid. Ayes: 4 Present: 1 (Donegan)

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk  
City of Wauwatosa

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