

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**  
**October 8, 2008**

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Gerald Bauer  
Roll Call: Present – Council Members Gould, Schofield, Lieffring, Polzer, Weissinger, and Schoonover.  
A quorum was present. Administrator Gurney and Sergeant Silberhorn-Anderson were also in attendance.

Due and proper notice of meeting was confirmed by the administrative staff.

Motion by Council Member Gould, seconded by Schofield to adopt the agenda as submitted. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Public Comment** – None.

**Public Hearings:**

Mayor Bauer called a public hearing to order at 6:35 p.m. for issuance of alcohol/liquor licenses within the corporate limits of the City of Durand. Administrator Gurney reviewed the applications for Class C Wine License by Reflections Spa and Salon. Gurney stated that the applications had been reviewed and approved by the Police Department and that no objections or claims had been filed with the City following the proper notice of the pending licenses. Mayor Bauer disclosed that he had received one complaint regarding the application with regards to the location. Mayor Bauer then closed the public hearing at 6:40 pm.

**Administrator's Report:**

Administration-

Consideration of Liquor and Alcohol Licenses. Motion by Council Member Polzer, seconded by Council Member Lieffring to approve the Class C Wine license as presented for Reflections Spa & Salon. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Consideration of approval of operator's licenses. Administrator Gurney reviewed the applications and indicated all applicants had met the background investigation requirements. Clarification was provided with one of the applicants. Motion by Council Member Schofield, seconded by Council Member Weissinger to approve the operator licenses as submitted. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Gurney distributed some preliminary budget information as well as the year-to-date financial assets information to the Council. He then briefly discussed the proposed 2009 budget, the impact of the levy limit, and the rising utility and fuel costs. Administrator Gurney then requested that a Special Council meeting be scheduled to take action on two façade enhancement grant requests and a picnic license request as well as conduct site visits of several of the storm sewer ravines in the City to determine how best to handle erosion issues. The meeting was then scheduled for Monday, October 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 pm.

Finance-

Motion by Council Member Gould, seconded by Council Member Schofield to approve the September Ambulance write-offs in the amount of \$977.58 Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Public Safety-

*Police* – Officer in Charge Sergeant Silberhorn-Anderson was present to provide the Departmental report. She began by updating the Council on the Click-It or Ticket grant. She indicated that the grant would help cover the purchase of approximately \$3200 in departmental equipment, with the City's portion running around \$1,500 as budgeted. Next, Sergeant Silberhorn-Anderson discussed several recent burglary and vandalism crimes in the City of Durand. One arrest was recently made with regard to the stolen ATV from Kyle Rental. Investigations are still ongoing on some of the other crimes recently reported. Finally, she indicated that officer Josh Larsen is doing a fine job and that Dusty Levasseur, the most recent hire, will begin full-time with the City on Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>.

*Fire* – Administrator Gurney reported on behalf of Chief Plummer that the Fire Dept has recently recruited four new firefighters to join the Department including: Matt Gilles, Keith Brantner, Greg Balow and Tony Weiss. He also reported that the grant application submitted to the Wisconsin DNR jointly by the Durand Fire Department and Rural Fire Department had been funded. The grant will fund 50% of the costs of new equipment and supplies estimated to be just over \$11,000.

#### Public Utilities-

Administrator Gurney reported on behalf of Utilities Superintendent Sabelko that the lift station on Country Lane would be finished by the end of the week. In addition, the ALLTEL antennae had been installed on the water tower. The council then reviewed a utility comparison for the swimming pool between 2007 and 2008 the impact the thermal cover has had on heating and chemical expenses.

#### Public Works-

Consideration of request to remove a portion of the guard rail on East Madison Street, from the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue East intersection westward. Motion by Council Member Schofield, seconded by Council Member Lieftring. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

#### Code Administration-

Consideration of Ordinance #492 to amend **Ordinance Section 12.1.1 Departmental Organization** of the Municipal Code for the City of Durand as it relates to the Police Department and scheduling. Motion by Council Member Schoonover, seconded by Council Member Gould to adopt Ordinance #492 as presented. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Consideration of Ordinance #493 to amend **Ordinance Section 5.4.2 Exit Interviews** of the Municipal Code for the City of Durand as it relates to separation of employment. Council Member Schoonover asked for clarification that the exit interview would include the Administrator and Mayor as well as the appropriate oversight committee. Administrator Gurney responded that given the fact that the Mayor is a member of every Committee of the City, he would be involved and that the City Administrator is considered a supervisor and therefore involved with the exit interview. Motion by Council Member Schofield, seconded by Council Member Lieftring to adopt Ordinance #493 as presented. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

Consideration of Ordinance #494 to amend **Ordinance Section 10.6 Cross Connection** and **Section 10.7 Well Abandonment** of the Durand Municipal Code for the City of Durand as it relates to correcting the Wisconsin administrative codes referenced therein as required by the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources. Motion by Council Member Schoonover, seconded by Council Member Schofield to adopt Ordinance #494 as presented. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried.

#### Engineer's Report:

Charlie Jones from Cedar Corporation was present to provide project updates. He indicated that the design work is on schedule for the first phase of the Chippewa River Enhancement Project and that they have submitted preliminary alignment information to the DNR and DOT for comment. He also congratulated the City on receiving a second Transportation Enhancement Grant from the WisDOT for the portion of the project from 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue West to 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue West for construction in 2010. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue reconstruction project's design should be completed in the next three months and ready to bid about the same time as the River Enhancement Project. Cedar Corporation has completed the utility portion of the mapping project for the City and will be meeting with staff to review the information thus far.

A proposed amendment to TID #3 was postponed at this time.

#### Mayor's Report:

Mayor Bauer announced that the City did indeed receive a second grant in the amount of \$516,000.00 from the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for the second phase of the River Enhancement project. He thanked Senator Vinehout and Representative Gronemus, as well as their staff, for all of their efforts. He discussed the overwhelming support he received from many of the state elected officials as well as Governor Doyle. He then extended a "thank you" to several community members for their efforts to make Durand more beautiful, including: Bob and June Schauls for all of their efforts with the flower

baskets as well as Leona Gruber, Delores Pittman, Deanna Ripley. On a final note, the Mayor indicated that he was extremely frustrated by the recent activities at the federal level, and in particular with the actions of the executives of AIG and their recent retreat. He discussed accountability at the local level and felt that it was absolutely time for the federal government to be held more accountable. He asked that all Council Members contact their elected federal officials and express their own feelings on the recent actions and activities. He felt that we must get involved and express our thoughts and urged all attending to do the same.

**Previous Minutes:**

Motion by Council Member Weissinger, seconded by Council Member Schoonover to approve the Council minutes from September 11<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

**Vouchers:**

Motion by Council Member Schoonover, seconded by Council Member Weissinger to approve the vouchers as presented with Voucher #11633 being removed. Roll call vote: 6 ayes, 0 nays. Motion carried unanimously.

Administrator Gurney addressed the Council with a proposal to convert the existing natural gas heating system to a geothermal heating system for the City Hall and Public Works Garage. The cost would be approximately \$100,000 with an expected yearly savings of \$8,000-9,000 resulting in a payback of 10-12 years depending upon various incentives. The estimated life expectancy of the system is 30-40 years.

Council Member Lieffring expressed a concern relating to renters in the downtown area using city-owned garbage cans for their own personal garbage disposal. She recently witnessed someone placing their garbage in a barrel and found out that it is relatively common in the downtown area. She wondered what could be done.

Council Member Schofield provided an update to the Council for the 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue project. He indicated that the project's cost came in under budget and that the street turned out pretty good. The Council agreed and extended a "thank you" to Steve and the Pepin County Highway Department for a job well done.

Mayor Bauer then presented a bill from Main Street Graphics to DIG for consideration of reimbursement by the City. The bill was from the printing of posters for the Budweiser Clydesdales. Motion by Weissinger, seconded by Gould to reimburse DIG for the costs. The motion was approved by voice vote with Council Member Schoonover abstaining.

Motion to adjourn by Council Member Schoonover, seconded by Council Member Gould at 8:09 pm. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Lance Gurney  
Administrator/Clerk