

**CITY OF NEW BERLIN
PROCEEDINGS OF COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
Tuesday, October 23, 2007**

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by the Committee of the Whole at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Council President Harenda indicated that Holy Apostles Weblo Pack 93 is in attendance this evening and they are working on their Citizens Badge. They presented the colors and lead those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Council President Ken Harenda called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM in the Mayor's absence. Present were Aldermen Hopkins, Augustine, Seidl, Poshepny, Moore and Ament. Also present were: City Clerk Marilyn Gauger, City Attorney Mark Blum, Finance Director Mike Holzinger, Facilities Maintenance Supervisor Ernie Giesegeh, Police Chief Joe Rieder, Police Captain Frank Zsohar, Streets Supervisor Don Ullman, IT Director Nick Roethel, City Engineer JP Walker, City Assessor Paul Koller, Fire Chief Ed Dobernig, Asst Fire Chief Tom Dobernig, Asst Fire Chief Scott Gillard, Fire Department Administrative Coordinator Deb Delikat, Community Development Director Greg Kessler, Streets Office Coordinator Sue Hanley, Municipal Court Supervisor Mary Ann Rozman and Parks, Recreation and Forestry Director Mark Schroeder.

Council President Harenda read the following statement: "Mayor wants to apologize for his absence tonight. He still plans on being here later this evening and he does not discount the importance of the Budget or issue of continued paramedic service at hand. Certain things are important in life and family is one of them. The Mayor's son is playing in Eisenhower's Playoff game tonight and it is important that he be there. He will be here as soon as his obligation permits and extends his thanks for understanding his temporary absence."

This meeting was noticed on Friday, October 19, 2007 in accordance with the Open Meeting Law.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Alderman Hopkins to approve the October 9, 2007 Committee of the Whole minutes as printed. Seconded by Alderman Seidl and carried unanimously.

Motion by Alderman Ament to approve the October 16th Special Budget Session as printed. Seconded by Alderman Hopkins and carried unanimously.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR APPROVAL OR DENIAL BY THE ALDERMEN WITH A RECOMMENDATION TO COMMON COUNCIL ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

UTILITY AND FINANCE

Claims

Motion by Alderman Seidl to approve the Water Utility claims in the amount of \$23,870.70, Sewer Utility claims in the amount of \$9,077.00, and Bi-weekly claims in the amount of \$915,007.74, all of which represents payment to vendors. Seconded by Alderman Moore and carried unanimously.

LICENSES/PERMITS

Bartenders

Motion by Alderman Hopkins to approve the Bartender Licenses for the year 2007-2009 Kristi M. Prokop and Renee M. Larson. Seconded by Alderman Ament and carried unanimously.

MISCELLANEOUS

Proposed 2008 City of New Berlin Operating Budget and set date for Public Hearing

Finance Director Holzinger brought the Council up to date regarding the current levy amount and the allowable limit with the proposed 2% levy limit from the State.

Council President Harenda indicated in the last 6 years the Council has increased the Fire Department budget by almost 200% and their CIP increased \$3-4 million. He gave a brief overview of changes made for increasing personnel to accommodate higher levels of services from the Fire Department and where we are now. Alderman Harenda and Alderman Seidl, who met with Mayor Chiovatero, per the Council's motion from the last meeting, indicated this is not a simple task with being held in by State mandates and trying to control taxation within the city.

Alderman Hopkins indicated since he became an Alderman the Fire Department went up 40%. He commended the Fire Department personnel for bringing us as far as we are today based on the percentage of increases.

Motion by Alderman Hopkins to reduce Fire Department Accounts #50030 Salary Paid-on-Call by \$340,037; #51010 Retirement by \$51,260 and #51020 FICA by \$26,013 for a total amount of \$417,311 and \$100,000 from the Building Maintenance Fund and \$147,382 (monies available per Mayor towards this project) an amount to meet the 2% levy cap which would be used to offset the cost of \$664,692. (19 Fulltime personnel) Seconded by Alderman Poshepny and carried with Alderman Harenda voting no.

Finance Director Holzinger indicated we are now at: Levy of \$22,901,085 and still need to cut \$294,764.

Finance Director Holzinger indicated he could wait and issue the debt in September of 2008 which would take out \$150,000 interest payment for 2008.

Motion by Alderman Hopkins to remove the \$150,000 from interest on city debt. Seconded by Alderman Moore and carried unanimously.

Finance Director Holzinger indicated we are not at: Levy of \$22,751,085, an increase of 6.55% and still need to cut \$144,764 because we are over the 2% levy limit and the State would take that out of our Shared Revenues from the State.

Motion by Alderman Ament that we refer the budget to the Mayor to reduce the 6.55% levy increase to 2% with debt service and have him report back to us at a special meeting. Seconded by Alderman Seidl and motion failed with Aldermen Seidl, Harenda and Ament voting yes.

Motion by Alderman Moore to forward the Operating budget at \$33,148,570; levy at \$22,751,085 and tax rate at 5.2876. Motion withdrawn by Alderman Moore.

Finance Director Holzinger indicated we need to cut \$144,764 to get to the 2%.

Motion by Alderman Moore to forward the Operating budget at \$33,148,570; levy at \$22,751,085 and tax rate at \$5.2876. Seconded by Alderman Poshepny and motion failed with Aldermen Moore and Poshepny voting yes.

Finance Director Holzinger indicated the Council could apply Impact Fee revenues towards debt service for capital projects in the amount of \$144,764.

Motion by Alderman Hopkins to apply Impact Fee revenues towards Debt Service for capital projects in the amount of \$144,764. Seconded by Alderman Moore and carried with Alderman Ament voting no.

Motion by Alderman Moore to forward to Council and public hearing with the Operating Budget at \$33,148,570; with a general tax levy at \$22,606,321 with 5.87% increase and a Tax Rate at \$5.2540 per \$1,000 with a 4.13% increase. Seconded by Alderman Poshepny and carried with Aldermen Seidl, Harenda and Ament voting no.

DEFERRED, REFERRED & TABLED ITEMS

Resolution No. 06-42 A Preliminary Resolution Declaring Intent to Levy Special Assessments and Directing the City Engineer to Prepare a Report for the Installation of Sanitary Sewer System to Service Areas on the North Side of Howard Avenue (west of Sunny Slope Road)/TABLED 11-14-06

This item remained on the table.

ADJOURN

Motion by Alderman Augustine to adjourn at 9:02 PM. Seconded by Alderman Seidl and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted:

Marilyn Gauger, CMC/WCMC
City Clerk