

Minutes of the Public Safety Committee Meeting – April 30, 2018

Members Present: Phil Wedekind, Tom Kolb, and Mike Plautz. **Others Present:** Wade Peterson, Ed Geick, Mike Palm, Mark Schauf, Tony Gilman, Tom Clark, Attorney Truman, Mike Hardy, Kevin Stieve, Robert Spencer, Pat Liston, Seamus Geoghegan, Jim O’Neill, Dana Sechler, Jeff Roemer, Jesse, Messer, Mike Carbonara, Ben ?Bromley, Al Symanski, and Kris Jackson.

Call to Order - Committee Chairman Phil Wedekind called the meeting to order at 1:30 P.M. at the City Services Center, 450 Roundhouse Court, Baraboo, Wisconsin. Compliance with the Open Meeting Law was noted. Kolb moved, seconded by Plautz to approve the agenda as posted. Motion carried unanimously. It was moved by Plautz, seconded by Kolb to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2018 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

- a. Consider revising posted speed limits on Taft Avenue (CTH T) north of 8th Street (STH 33) – Chief Schauf said that the goal is to cleanup due to some changes in the code that did not meet up with some of the existing signage. It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to revise posted speed limits of requested. Motion carried unanimously.
- b. Consider the proposed US Bike Route 30 through the City of Baraboo – Mike Hardy presented the background to the Committee. He said the US Bike Route 30 stretches from Milwaukee to LaCrosse and is looking to come through Baraboo. Hardy presented the recommended map to the Committee. He said that this Bike Route 30 go from the East Coast to Idaho. He said the Park Commission is recommending the route. Hardy said that there are no requirements from the City to do anything with this. He said as far as any signage, it would be at the City’s cost, but that is not a requirement. He said that the Park Commission has talked about installing some signage in the future; therefore, it would more than likely be at the Parks expense. Schauf said that by approving this, it then gets on the national map. It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to approve the proposed US Bike Route 30 through the City. Motion carried unanimously.
- c. Consider Wisconsin DOT’s request to detour traffic onto South Blvd., Parkway, and Walnut Street for the duration of the 2021 STH 136 bridge replacement project over Skillet Creek – Geick said that this is a follow-up on the agreement that the City worked out with the State when the City originally took over that section of highway that has now been designated as 136. It was moved by Plautz, seconded by Kolb to approve the DOT’s request to detour traffic as presented. Motion carried unanimously.
- d. Discuss Baraboo Bluff’s ATV Club’s request for an ATV route through the City of Baraboo – Chief Schauf said that there is a movement in all of the Sauk County to try to make areas more accessible to all-terrain, or U-train utility terrain vehicles. He said that there have been quite a bit of movement in some of the local townships, and the Village of West Baraboo just enacted an ordinance allowing, or opening certain roads to UTV use. Discussion took place regarding policing of the UTVs and route, and whether insurance would be required. Wedekind asked the age for operating an ATV, Schauf said that he believes it is 16, which the proper completed ATV safety course. Mike Spencer said that by DNR standards, anyone born after January 1, 1988 is required to complete a Safety Certification Course. He said that no one under the age of 16 is allowed to drive a UTV, which is a side-by-side on any highway routes. He said that a person that is 12 years old and older could ride, by DNR rules, as long as they are within physical or vocal command of their parent. He did say that there is no mandatory insurance. Spencer said that presently in the State of Wisconsin there are 12,000 miles of paved ATV routes, in Sauk County along there is 603 miles of legal ATV routes. He said that Reedsburg just opened a route through the City and looking at expanding it. Mauston has opened all their streets and routes, including county highways, and state highways, because they have jurisdiction over 193. He said Reedsburg is the only City at this time to have a route through the City; presently there are six villages that have all roads open. Spencer then gave the death statistics involving ATVs. Attorney Truman said that anytime this type of traffic is brought into a municipality where is never existed before there are safety concerns. He said that he could not give an answer today, but she would be happy to look into it if the Committee so directed. Seamus Geoghegan said that he is in opposition. Pat Liston said that he is in opposition. He does not feel that the activity is compatible with City activity with all the vehicular and

foot traffic. He said that the proposed route in itself is problematic because Crawford Street is a narrow street, ditched on both sides, then proceed through 9th Avenue, which is a major residential neighborhood, and then go out Washington Street, which he feels is one of the busiest streets in the City. He said that the problem would be enhanced when activities take place at the fairgrounds. He said that Effinger is a heavy used street, traffic travels too fast and there is a blind corner at 507 Effinger. Jim O'Neill addressed the Committee saying that he opposed it for the same reasons as Liston. Kolb asked if Spencer had queried residents along the route. Spencer said that he had one man who lives in Baraboo that campaigned and received 85 signatures. He said there are four businesses, Jose's, BP, Thunderbird Lanes, and 4-Star Restaurant that would like to see the route go through. Spencer said that he is at the meeting to seek information and guidance. Mayor Palm stated that the majority of citizens coming to him regarding the ATV routes coming through the City have been opposed to it. Kolb said he does not like the idea of an ATV route coming through a City of 12,000 people, and he worries about the mix of pedestrians, bikes, cars, motorcycles, and ATVs. Plautz said that he is open to the routes, thanked Spencer for the information, and invited him to come back if he had alternative routes. Kolb and Wedekind do not want to see ATV routes through the City at any time. (NOTE: The Clerk's office has 94 signatures in favor of ATV route, and one email request in opposition).

- e. Consider extending the contract with RW Management for Implementation Management Services of Operations Study Recommendations for the Baraboo Fire Department – Stieve said that the process has been controversial at times, which is expected and can be worked through. He said that he feels that it is helpful to have an outside party to provide another perspective to guide the department. Geick said that there has been some head pounding on a solid wall from time to time, and there are many younger firefighters who are very encouraged about making some changes and looking forward to the future. He said the Fire Department also has other firefighters that are dead set against any change at all, which has been a large part of the discussion. Geick said that RW Management has made a lot of headway, there is a lot that has been completed, or in the process of being done at this time. He said there are many issues that need to be sorted through to complete the project. It was moved by Plautz, Kolb seconded to extend the contract with RW Management on a month-to-month basis, and Chief Stieve will present a monthly progress report to the Committee. Motion carried unanimously. Kolb said that he had just received a letter from Mark Stewart stating that he did not think extending this contract is a good idea.
- f. Review Progress to-date on Implementation of Fire Department Operations Study – Kevin Stieve gave a detailed summary to the Committee regarding all items of the study. Jeff Roemer of RW Consultants introduced himself to the Committee. He said that this project has been a challenge there have been disagreements, and project team members that do not want to see the recommendations move forward. Chief Stieve introduced two project leaders to the Committee, Jesse Messer, and Mike Carbonara. He said that Tom Clark was also in attendance for informational purposes.
- g. Review Baraboo Fire Department's Standards to Response Coverage – Stieve gave the Committee a detailed summary of the Standards of Coverage.
- h. Consider Authorizing the Baraboo Fire Chief to initiate negotiations for Automatic Aid Agreements with surrounding Fire Departments – Stieve said that this has been talked about before and he specifically highlighted Delton because of talking with Chief Jorgenson. He said that he is requesting that the Committee authorize him to enter into discussions based on what has been determined in the Standards of Cover to talk with other fire departments. Wedekind is still against the mutual aid. He said that until a system is set up with five dedicated people instead of the call going out and the entire department goes, it is an extra burden on the firefighters and their families. Plautz said the issue for him would be the extra cost. Mr. Roemer said that he understands the concern with dedicated people and they are working on the staffing. He said at this time, the way that the department responds and the number of personnel that can be expected to show up is not enough equipment and resources to fight the fire. What Auto Aid does is that there are two sets of alarms, a still alarm, which is the first call that comes in and then a working still, these are all prior to MAVIS, so prior to that, there has to be an Auto Aid Agreement in order to get additional help. He said that this also helps the ISO rating to know that there is another engine or tender coming on the first initial alarm. He said that this also gives the department a sense of

what kind of response that they are going to have, what kind of equipment and resources that they are going to have. He said that it could be cancelled before they get there if not needed. Stieve understands Wedekind as far as staffing, and he said that the department has backed down off the 25% rule and he actually sees a drop in the number of responders coming to calls. Kolb asked why they should approve this now before the Standards of Cover and staff decisions are worked out on an internal level. Roemer said that he feels that the Department needs the help now either way. He said the Standards of Cover are pretty much done, they have a good sense is needed, what kind of response is needed, so they know what resources are needed, what the risks are in the community and the entire coverage area. He went on to say that a discussion on staff took place last week and is trying to be worked out. He said based on what has been heard today both of their focus will be on completing that discussion on duty crews and putting in that we need that for these types of responses. Kolb said that he would like to see the details worked out before it is brought to the Committee and approved. It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to allow the Fire Chief to initiate negotiations with surrounding Fire Departments regarding Auto Aid Agreements. Motion carried unanimously.

- i. Review MSA's initial report on the Remodeling of Former City Hall Building at 135 4th Street for the Fire Department and BDAS as a prospective tenant – Al Szymanski, MSA Professional Services introduced himself to the Commission. He said that MSA was charged with looking at the former City Hall for expanding the Fire Department, the vacated spaces, and with the potential with bringing in BDSA as a tenant in the building. He said that the goal in going through the project with being minimalistic and cost effective. He then presented the report and drawings of the work that had been done. He said that the 1st and 2nd floor remodel would cost \$265,000. He then explained the proposed remodel of the lower level (basement) for a cost of \$475,000. Plautz feels that it would be most cost effective to leave BDAS where they are. Kolb said that BDAS would still be covered in part without remodeling the basement. It was stated that Chief Sechler gave his input to Szymanski, but Geick has not had a follow-up conversation with him at this time. It was stated that the Fire Department would like sleeping quarters as well. Chief Stieve said that currently, what is in writing in a new fire station in ten years, 2028. Szymanski stated that the sleeping quarters that are in the Alma Waite Building now do not comply with State Code because they do not have the fire rated construction required by Code, nor do they have a sprinkler system. Geick said in terms of the financings, the cost of the library building is about the same as the new fire station. Geick felt that the Committee needed this information in order to make decisions in regards to the Committee sees as policy. He said that funding this is possible, whether it is this year or next year. Dana Sechler said that he just received the plans on Friday and is still looking through it. Plautz asked if he had a preference. Sechler said to go from the most extreme to where they are, Stieve has already stated that the best idea is to have a station that everyone is under one roof. Szymanski said that the biggest shortage for both fire and BDAS is the storage of vehicles. Szymanski said that it would have been easy for the cost to be double the amount, but many things have been taken out to get the cost down as low as possible.
- j. Review and approval of monthly Billing Adjustments/Credits for Sewer and Water Customers for March & April 2018 – It was moved by Kolb, seconded by Plautz to approve monthly billing adjustments/credits as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Reports

- a. Utility Superintendent's Report – Peterson said they are moving forward with the lead services. He said that Well #2 is complete and back on line. The annual Utility audit went great. He said that the department is cleaning sewers, hauling biosolids, and exercising valves. He said they received quotes for the sewer cleaning truck, which will go to finance committee for approval.
- b. Street Superintendent's Report – Gilman said the departments has been grinding stumps and filling, and sadly the department has plowed snow seven times in April. He said that there are some items on the surplus auction, hopefully they will bring top dollar. He then gave a status report on items budgeted for capital equipment replacement, and the paint machine came in \$3,300 under, one-ton dump \$10,000 under, plow truck \$5,000 under. He said the key point is the preferred product being looked for as far as a garbage truck goes is going to be over

the expected amount, so in the scheme of things it will be cutting it very close on cost on what was budgeted, compared to buying all the items; however, that cost does not account for the sale of any vehicles sold or trade-in.

- c. Police Chief's Report – Chief Schauf presented the report received from the Sauk County Highway Safety meeting. He said it is a snapshot of what traffic safety is in Sauk County from 2012-2017.
- d. Fire Chief's Report – Stieve said as part of the ongoing process to prepare our City staff in an event of a manmade or natural disaster, everyone one through, either a refresher or a new training on ICS 100, and Stop The Bleed. He said that working with Sauk County Emergency Management and some other community partners there has been some ALICE training done in the community.

ADJOURNMENT – Kolb moved, Plautz seconded to adjourn at 3:58 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Phil Wedekind, Chairman