

## **CITY OF DARLINGTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS JANUARY 7, 2014**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Dave Breunig at 7:00 PM. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited. Present at roll call were: Don Osterday, Steve Pickett, Bev Anderson, Cindy Corley and Dave Gough. Excused absence: John Sonsalla. Also present were: Mike Reuter, Carol McDaniel, Sue Cashman, Suzy Osterday, Dale Wiegel, Jason King and Phil Risseeuw.

Motion by Anderson second by Pickett that the meeting notice and agenda were properly posted. Motion carried. Motion by Gough second by Osterday to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Under unfinished business, Mike Reuter of Wisconsin Municipal Building Inspection attended the meeting to report on the property maintenance inspections he completed last summer. Mike stated he viewed all the properties in Darlington, and issued 82 violations under the City's property maintenance ordinance. Since the Council only hired Mike for 16 hours of work, he was not able to do follow-up contacts with the property owners who received the violation notices. Mr. Reuter suggested to do a better job in 2014; the Council should consider hiring someone for 120 to 150 hours in 2014.

Several Council members asked questions of Mr. Reuter regarding his work. Mr. Reuter was then asked to submit a proposal for the 120 to 150 hours of work in 2014. He stated he would do that within the next 30 days. Mr. Reuter also delivered a binder that contained copies of the 82 violations notices he delivered with the help of Mary Polkinghorn. Chief King suggested some enforcement needs to be done on the property owners who have ignored their notice of violations. Chief King took the binder prepared by Mike Reuter to consider the matter further. After his presentation and discussion Mr. Reuter left the meeting.

Under other unfinished business, Alderperson Osterday asked Mayor Breunig if Attorney McDaniel had prepared the ordinance changes related to historic structures as non-conforming structures. It was reported Attorney McDaniel will be reminded about this matter.

Under new business, discussion was held concerning the designation of Darlington as a Bluebird Community. Carol McDaniel, Sue Cashman and Suzy Osterday attended the meeting to present this request and answer questions concerning this possible designation. Carol McDaniel distributed handouts at this meeting regarding the Lafayette County Bluebird Society, Inc., Bird City Wisconsin; Bird City Wisconsin application for recognition; and proposed resolution to celebrate the observance of International Migratory Bird Day, to Mayor Breunig and Council members. Several questions were asked by Council members. Carol McDaniel stated there is an annual \$100 cost to the City of Darlington for the Bird City designation. Carol also reported on the advertising the City of Darlington would receive in exchange for the \$100 payment.

Sue Cashman then presented information on the Bluebird Nest Nature Center being established at 308 Main Street in Darlington. Ms. Cashman distributed suggestion cards to those present regarding the Nature Center. She also stated their open house will be held the Saturday of this year's Canoe Festival. And Suzy Osterday stated she thinks the Bird City designation is a positive thing for Darlington, as it will bring more tourists to our community. After discussion and consideration, it was the consensus of those present to place this matter on the agenda for the January 21<sup>st</sup> Council meeting to take action on this request. Carol McDaniel, Sue Cashman and Suzy Osterday then left the meeting.

Mayor Breunig then reported on nomination papers filed for Municipal Offices for the 2014 Spring Election. A copy of the nomination papers filing report was distributed to those present at this meeting. The following people have filed nomination papers for the following offices:

- Mayor – David J. Breunig (I) and Larry Burns.
- Alderperson, First Aldermanic District – Cynthia D. Corley (I) and Dale Wiegel.
- Alderperson, Second Aldermanic District – Stephen J. Pickett (I).
- Alderperson, Third Aldermanic District – John A. Sonsalla (I).

Under reports of committees, Mayor Breunig encouraged those present to attend several upcoming community events.

There being no further business for this meeting, motion by Gough second by Osterday to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 PM. Motion carried.

CITY OF DARLINGTON

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Philip A. Risseuw, Clerk-Treasurer