

**CITY OF DARLINGTON COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**REGULAR SESSION**  
**NOVEMBER 5, 2013**

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: Bev Anderson, Cindy Corley, Dave Gough, John Sonsalla, Don Osterday and Steve Pickett. Absent: None. Also present were: Dan O'Brien, BJ Fisher, Harold Douglas, Greg Bykowski, Doug Lindstrom, Phyllis Sonsalla, Bob Schultz, Dennis Murphy, Jeremy Williams, Jason King, Tallitha Reese and Phil Risseuw.

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

Under unfinished business, discussion was held concerning a proposed agreement between the Veterans Memorial Committee and the City of Darlington. A copy of the proposed agreement was included in the agenda packet. Dan O'Brien, Dave Gough, Mayor Breunig and Attorney McDaniel presented the information and answered questions from those present. The agreement provides for the maintenance and upkeep of the Veterans Memorial in Veterans Memorial Park. After discussion and consideration, motion by Sonsalla second by Corley to approve the agreement between the Veterans Memorial Committee and the City of Darlington as presented. By Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Representatives of the Veterans Memorial Committee then presented Mayor Breunig with a check in the amount of \$79,202.91. These funds are to be used for the care and maintenance of the Veterans Memorial. Those Committee members were then thanked for all their hard work on this project. The following people then left the meeting: Dan O'Brien, BJ Fisher, Harold Douglas, Greg Bykowski, Phyllis Sonsalla, Bob Schultz and Dennis Murphy. And Attorney McDaniel arrived at the meeting at 7:12 PM.

Under other unfinished business, Attorney McDaniel reported he is working with Mr. Jerry Rogers regarding the paperwork Mr. Rogers needs concerning his donation of the lights in Library Park and Veterans Memorial Park.

Under new business, discussion was held concerning proposed changes to the two triangle exterior signs at the Municipal Building. Copies of a letter and information from Lange Sign Group were included in the agenda packet. The proposed changes are being requested by and financed by the Aging & Disability Resource Center, managed by Kate Chambers. It was reported Job Center will be removed from the signs, since they no longer have an office on the second floor of the building; and Aging & Disability Resource Center will be added to the two triangle signs. Discussion was also held concerning the proposed sign color. Currently the signs are red; however the red color fades faster than other colors. Representatives of Lange Sign Group recommended painting the signs sapphire blue or burgundy.

Mayor Breunig stated he felt the signs should remain red, for the Darlington Redbirds. After discussion and consideration, motion by Gough second by Sonsalla to approve the proposed changes to the two triangle exterior signs as presented and requested by Kate Chamber; and repaint the signs the red paint color. Motion carried.

Discussion was then held concerning the Mayor's appointment to the Police Commission. Mayor Breunig reported Gary Ringen has resigned his position; and he is recommending the appointment of Brian Bennett to the Police Commission. After discussion and consideration, motion by Gough second by Pickett to accept Mayor Breunig's recommendation and appoint Brian Bennett to the Police Commission. Motion carried. Jason King then left the meeting.

Discussion was then held concerning a request from Darlington Canoe Festival, Inc., for a contribution from the City of Darlington toward the 2014 Canoe Festival event. A copy of a letter from Cindy Corley, Canoe Festival Committee President, was included in the agenda packet. The request is for \$4,000.00. After discussion and consideration, motion by Sonsalla second by Gough to approve the contribution request from Darlington Canoe Festival, Inc., as presented. By Voice Vote: Ayes: Sonsalla, Osterday, Pickett, Anderson and Gough. Nays: None. Abstained: Corley. Motion carried.

Discussion was then held concerning the following recommendation from Water and Sewer Committee:

- Approve changes in sewer department user fees by ordinance. Discussion was then held concerning proposed Ordinance 06-2013, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 18 of the Municipal Code of the City of Darlington. A copy of the proposed ordinance was included in the agenda packet. The proposed ordinance increases the sewer department user fees to the levels recommended by representatives of Ehlers Associates, based on their sewer department user rate study. The rate increases are necessary to produce sufficient cash flow to meet all operating expenses and revenue bond covenants. After discussion and consideration, motion by Anderson second by Gough to adopt Ordinance 06-2013, An Ordinance Amending Chapter 18 of the Municipal Code of the City of Darlington as presented. Motion carried.

Mayor Breunig then presented the final 2013 assessed values for the City of Darlington, which now includes manufacturing property values. The total 2013 assessed value for the City of Darlington is \$101,066,000 which is \$1,611,000 lower than the 2012 total assessed value. Also reported was the 2013 equalized value for 2013, which is \$94,514,400.

Discussion was then held concerning the following recommendation from the Finance and Personnel Committee. A copy of the meeting minutes was included in the agenda packet.

- Approve rate adjustment for garbage and recycling fees on utility bills. Jeremy Williams reported the current fee is \$10.35 per month per residential unit. That amount will be increasing to \$10.50 per month per residential unit. That increase will cover the increase in fees from Faherty, Inc., and administrative expenses. After discussion and consideration, motion by Osterday second by Gough to approve the rate adjustment for garbage and recycling fees as presented. Motion carried.

- Approve Notice of Public Hearing for the Proposed 2014 Budget for the City of Darlington to be held on Tuesday, December 3, 2013 at 6:45 PM. A copy of the Notice of Public Hearing and overall City budget worksheet was included in the agenda packet. After discussion and consideration, motion by Pickett second by Anderson to approve the Notice of Public Hearing for the Proposed 2014 Budget for the City of Darlington as presented. Motion carried.
- Discussion concerning wage increases for City Council members. Mayor Breunig reported this matter was discussed at the Finance and Personnel Committee, and forwarded to the City Council without any recommendation for change. Several Council members voiced their opinion on this matter. After discussion and consideration, motion by Gough second by Osterday to leave Council members wages as they are for now. Motion carried.

Discussion was then held concerning the following recommendation from the Park and Recreation Committee. A copy of the meeting minutes was included in the agenda packet.

- Authorize sale of three exercise bikes by sealed bids.
- Approve proposed 2014 employee wages for pool, recreation, parks, concession stand and Wellness Center.
- Approve proposed 2014 fees for pool, shelter house, recreation programs, camping and Wellness Center.
- Approve hiring of a part time employee for the Wellness Center for 20 hours per week.
- Approve pay increase for Wellness Center Director.

Aldersperson Osterday and Doug Lindstrom presented this information and answered questions from those present. The proposed wages and fees were attached to the meeting minutes. The part time employee for the Wellness Center is to replace the position Amy Prine held prior to her promotion to Wellness Center Director. And the pay increase for the Wellness Center Director is based on her successful completion of her probation period. The pay increase will start with the current pay period. After discussion and consideration, motion by Osterday second by Pickett to approve all the recommendations from the Park and Recreation Committee as presented. Motion carried.

Motion by Pickett second by Anderson to approve the payment of the following October, 2013 vouchers: City vouchers #34150 thru #34252 in the amount of \$395,377.34; Payroll direct deposit vouchers #3195 thru #3269 in the amount of \$49,165.20; Water Dept. vouchers #4790 thru #4807 in the amount of \$13,312.04; Sewer Dept. vouchers #5562 thru #5585 in the amount of \$65,555.95; and Library vouchers #5038 thru #5045 in the amount of \$10,488.36. Motion carried.

Under reports of committees, Aldersperson Anderson reported on the Library Board meeting held October 28, 2013. A copy of the meeting minutes was included in the agenda packet. Mayor Breunig encouraged those present to attend several upcoming community events. And Aldersperson Sonsalla and Anderson reported on a League of Wisconsin Municipalities meeting they attended in Madison.

Motion by Gough second by Sonsalla to go into closed session in accordance with Section 19.85 (1) (e) Wis. Stats., to consider offers to purchase on pump house property. Roll Call Vote: All Ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Anderson second by Gough to reconvene to regular session in accordance with Section 19.85 (2) Wis. Stats., to take action if necessary concerning offers to purchase on pump house property and adjourn the meeting. Roll Call Vote. All Ayes. Motion carried.

After discussion and consideration, motion by Osterday second by Pickett to accept the offer to purchase from Ted and Angie Thuli, for the pump house property, in the amount of \$3,000.00 as presented. Motion carried.

There being no further business for this meeting, motion by Sonsalla second by Anderson to adjourn the meeting at 8:22 PM. Motion carried.

CITY OF DARLINGTON

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Philip A. Risseuw, Clerk-Treasurer