

**UNABRIDGED FEBRUARY 23, 2009 REGULAR
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the Prescott City Council was held Monday, February 23, 2009 in the Prescott Municipal Building, 800 Borner St. Prescott, WI 54021

Call to Order/Roll Call: Mayor Hunter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Eddy Wuorenma, Julie Arndtson, Deb Ganske, Rob Daugherty, Clair Eaton, and John MacLennan. . City Administrator Elizabeth Frueh, Public Works Director Jerry Killian and Zoning Administrator Jayne Brand represented staff. Also in attendance was David Schofield, City Engineer representing Cedar Corporation.

Arndtson/MacLennan motion to approve the consent agenda and the recommendation of the committee contained in the consent agenda which included approval of February 9, 2009 regular city council meeting minutes, acceptance of February 10, 2009 parks and public property committee meeting minutes, acceptance of February 16, 2009 public works committee meeting minutes, approval of payable and review of receivables passed without a negative voice vote.

City Engineer David Schofield discussed with the council the Safe Routes to School grant. The sidewalk will be placed on St. Croix Street from Canton to Campbell Street. The recommendation from the public works committee is to place the sidewalk on the south side of the street. The school district did request an eight foot sidewalk for the block that the school is on. There is also a question if there will be a need for a retaining wall between Linn and College Streets. Schofield stated that these decisions will be made during the design process. **Arndtson/Wuorenma motion to construct the sidewalk on the south side of St. Croix Street passed without a negative voice vote.**

Police Chief Mike Bondarenko discussed with the council and Mayor concerns that have been raised over noise, parking and open containers that have been expressed over motorcycle rallies in the downtown area. Chief Bondarenko stated that they have in previous rallies worked on containment with extra patrol rather than extra enforcement. Chief Bondarenko stated that a survey was done of downtown business and it was inconclusive. Chief Bondarenko also stated that there has not been a lot of crime or accidents during the motorcycle rallies. Chief Bondarenko discussed "Project Respect" which would involve motorcyclist, tavern owner, groups that organize the rallies and the Police Department to work together to improve the overall quality of life downtown during the rallies. The specific goals of the project would be to reduce noise made by motorcycles, decrease parking and traffic congestion, reduce open container violation and improve traffic flow. The Police Department would increase its presence on rally days with additional officer on patrol in the downtown area and would also have an officer assigned to traffic on USH 10 and STH 35. The meeting was opened for public comments.

Walt Weisbeck – Owner of the No Name Saloon – parking issues would like the city to take into consideration the large empty lot downtown for additional parking, asked about the number of complaints that were received, what are they complaining about, who is complaining and requested that the complaints be put in writing.

Scott Thom – Stillwater – how much business have they lost

Jon Solomon – Owner of The Boxcar – allowing only two cycles per stall would create greater parking issues, agree with the noise ordinances

Angie Swanson representing Scabs – noise issues, parking and motorcycles and other issues are summer time issues not just motorcycle rally issues

Dan Krech – Owner of Broad Street Bar – need to figure this out, business is benefiting, need to work with the Chief of Police on these issues

Bob Phillips – they don't just come on the runs they come and spend money at other times

Robin Parmeter – raises funds for various charities, parking concerns, questioned the car show and closing down Broad Street

Dwight Smith – SCVR – involved in the Stillwater issue, Stillwater did not talk about what they were going to do they just implemented ordinances – most bike have baffles – straight pipes without baffles are illegal, parking 1 or 2 to a stall would push the bike parking into residential areas, enforce the open container if it is an ordinance

Kristy Koethe – does the city receive complaints about boats, trains – some times cycles are not seen – there is all ready a speed limit to enforce – restaurants and gas station also benefit – has never seen an open container on the street – is there less calls in the winter to the bars than the summer, don't need to make more ordinances especially in this economic time, parking is an issue

Dave Hamenson – Stillwater has hand held decimal meter, Prescott needs to enforce laws equally, like the city, 4 or 5 bikes can fit into a parking stall, would like to see enforcement for people who do not follow the rules, parking very difficult, officers helping with traffic control would be helpful

Raena Odman – lives on Broad Street – leaves the city on the bike runs because of noise, loss of money for the city – clock and bell is more annoying, could drive people away in these economic times

Paula Weisbeck – Owner No Name Saloon – lots of concerns with the city's issues, operates her business with respect for the city and police – bike traffic good for the city, have had people on the sidewalks with open containers- they clean up after events – no one has been hurt – need this business in our city

Todd Langenfeld – need to slow down, have had fatalities

Melinda Berst – Orange & Dakota Street resident – likes seeing this money coming into the community – 5 bikes per stalls is good for business – Orange Street parking lot has boater taking up several spots.

Dillion Match – make the city inviting for the bikes – North Hudson did this in their community

Steve Burt – resident, rental property on Broad Street – bikes are parked 200 to 300 feet past his rental property – bring in disposal income to the city, more parking, possible diagonal behind The Box Car and Muddy Waters

Patty Maginer – has been coming to Prescott for 40 year – if parking is taken away would force them to park further away and a lot of bikers won't leave their bikes that far away Mayor Hunter – there hasn't been any real problems, look at issues that citizens have brought to the city's attention, there appears to be an abuse of noise, cooperative effort, quality of life issue

Aldersperson MacLennan – ordinances have been on the books since 1996 – citizens do leave their cars off the streets for the bikers during the rallies, can't always drive down the street

Mayor Hunter – with the budget problems and the police department being approximately 40% of that budget where does the additional money come from for extra patrol, the city does not directly benefit from these rallies

Administrator Frueh – we have heard comments that cycles are parked so deep that you can't get into the street

Aldersperson MacLennan – questioned the use of the empty lots downtown

Aldersperson Wuorenma – survey results very inconclusive, parking is an issue all of the time, need cooperation with the rally organizers

Scott Thom – how are the issues going to be enforced, Stillwater enforced before they discussed

Alderson MacLennan – asked if the groups could set up their own security to govern themselves

Chief Bondarenko – can leave the containment efforts or move forward with Project Respect

Paula Weisbeck – asked to see how it works with the spring run to do self patrol

Alderson Gankse – work cooperatively there are merits in working together

The consensus of the council is to have the Police Chief meet with business owners and concerned citizens, put the issue back on the council agenda for March 9, 2009 to allow for citizen input.

Wuorenma/Daugherty motion to recommend for consideration to the subcommittee of the parks committee for trees, Shawn Bernick, Beard Webster, Shawn Riley and Julie Arndtson passed without a negative voice vote.

Arndtson/Wuorenma motion to go into closed session per Wisconsin Stats. 19.85 (1) (f) considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific person, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific person except where par. (b) applies, which if discussed in public, would likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories, or data, or involved in such problems or investigations passed unanimously via roll call vote.

Arndtson/Wuorenma motion to come out of closed session passed unanimously via roll call vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jayne M. Brand