

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Thursday, October 25, 2012
(Open Session)

Committee of the Whole met at City Hall on Thursday, October 25, 2012, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall in the First Floor Common Council Chambers.

Present: Alderpersons Jason Sladky, Dave Soeldner, Allan Schema, Jill Hennessey, Scott McMeans, Tyler Martell, Collin Braunel, Jim Brey and Christopher Able.

Absent: Alderperson Eric Sitkiewitz and Mayor Justin M. Nickels.

Also present: City Planner David Less, City Attorney Straun Boston, Deputy City Clerk Deborah Neuser and news media.

Council President Jason Sladky called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

The first order of business was discussion and possible action regarding request for a conditional use permit for The Haven to operate a transitional/emergency shelter. President Sladky stated he would allow each side to talk for approximately 15 minutes.

Rebecca Watt, as representative for the neighborhood, spoke first urging the Council to deny a conditional use permit. Their main concern is not that they are against a homeless shelter but rather placing the shelter in a residential neighborhood. Ms. Watt also addressed several questions left unanswered by The Haven group and asked for a more detailed business plan.

Next, Mark LeGreve, The Haven's board president, stated the their Board members have deep respect for the community and would not do anything that is unsafe. He also noted that the CUP can be revoked at any time.

Alderperson Sitkiewitz arrived at 6:45 p.m.

Committee conducted a question and answer period with Ms. Watt and Mr. LeGreve. Some of the topics covered were a fence, parking on the street, smoking on the property, etc. It was noted that the CUP cannot put unreasonable restrictions in place.

Ms. Watt suggested the Committee take a field trip to the warming shelter in Appleton and also possibly talk to Ms. Whittiker of HUD. It was noted that a lot of things still need to be addressed.

Moved by Martell, second by Sladky to deny the request. Discussion followed. Some alders wished to make amendments to the CUP. However, it was noted that there would need to be a motion to approve the CUP before it can be amended. Alderperson Martell withdrew his motion and Alderperson Sladky withdrew his second.

Since the document is at the Council level now, it was suggested the two parties get together and come back to the Common Council with a report. Committee of the Whole did not take action on the CUP.

The next order of business was discussion relative to ordinance (12-621) creating Section 2.100 of the Municipal Code, establishing city-wide aldermanic seats. Alderperson Braunel spoke to his proposed ordinance.

After a brief discussion, it was moved by Brey, second by Able to place the ordinance on file. Discussion followed. Alderperson Braunel called the question. Upon a vote: Ayes, 9. Nays, 1. Motion carried.

Discussion was then held relative to proposed ordinance (12-622) creating Section 2.110 of the Municipal Code establishing term limits for Alderpersons and Mayor. Alderperson Braunel spoke to his proposed ordinance.

After a short discussion, it was moved by Able, seconded by Schema to place the ordinance on file. Ayes, 7. Nays, 3. Motion carried.

The Committee agreed to hold the last closed session item on the agenda relative to employee performance evaluations for a future meeting.

Moved by Hennessey, second by Able, and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Alderperson Jason Sladky, Chairperson
Committee of the Whole

By: _____
Deborah A. Neuser
Deputy City Clerk

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